



**Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 5:00 PM
Remote Meeting Participation**

NOTE: Please see the published Agenda Packet for all item file attachments

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2. Residents can send public comments to publiccomments@cityofcamas.us (limit to 300 words).

These will be entered into the meeting record. Emails received by one hour before the start of the meeting will be emailed to the Meeting Body prior to the meeting start time. During the meeting, the clerk will read aloud the submitter's name, the subject, and the date/time it was received. Emails will be accepted until 1 hour received after the meeting and will be emailed to the Meeting Body no later than the end of the next business day.

CALL TO ORDER

Randy Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Irving, Katy Daane, Cassi Marshall, Steve Lorenz, Randy Curtis, Melissa Smith

Absent: David Dewey

Staff: Jerry Acheson, Jamal Fox, Susan Newlove, Denis Ryan, Steve Wall, Cathy Nickerson

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Presenter: Eric Hovee

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hendrick Vanderberg - 1504 NW Benton Street. Vanderberg suggested making Grass Valley Park tennis courts the new home of the Pickleball players instead of Crown Park. He mentioned that Grass Valley Park has more amenities than Crown Park: restrooms, a parking lot and a playground area for children.

Laryn Arvidson – 8100 NE Winters Road. Arvidson is concerned about the current maintenance of the Camas Cemetery and stated that she has seen no maintenance improvements since April.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the Minutes of the Parks Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Marshall, seconded by Lorenz, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of February 26, 2020 as written.

MEETING ITEMS

1. Leadbetter House Reuse Plan
Presenter: Eric Hovee, Principle, E.D. Hovee and Company

Jerry Acheson introduced Eric Hovee, who will do a presentation on the Leadbetter House Reuse Plan. Hovee reviewed the reuse feasibility study. The Leadbetter House property was built in 1901 by Henry Pittock and was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1979. The house on the property has three floors plus a basement. There is also a barn on the property.

Hovee displayed a chart of potential facility uses and added that Parks & Recreation manage similar facilities to this one. He stated that renovation and ongoing maintenance are very important. When reviewing local comps, it is difficult to find comparisons with the Leadbetter House due to its smaller size.

In response to Irving's question about Capital Costs, Hovee stated that the study includes renovation costs and grounds improvements. In response to Irving's question regarding ADA and seismic upgrades, Hovee stated that historic preservation requirements must be considered when looking into these upgrades.

Marshall stated that the local community will be eager to use this facility for public meetings and added that the Leadbetter study is broad, provides great recommendations and overview.

A motion was made by Lorenz, seconded by Irving, and carried to accept the Pittock-Leadbetter House Reuse Feasibility Study as presented and to move forward to City Council as is.

2. 2021-2022 Budget

Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Finance Director, Cathy Huber Nickerson, presented the 2021-22 Proposed Parks & Recreation budget. Huber Nickerson reviewed the Mayor initiatives: Honesty(Community, Equity), Land(Legacy Lands, Facilities, Climate Change) and People (Programs for younger people in the city's, Services for Older Adults).

The budget will coincide with the Washington Governors Phased Approach – currently in phase 2. She reviewed 2021-22 Budget highlights and displayed the proposed operating budget for Parks and Recreation, Capital funding and capital decision packages. The budget will be presented at the Oct 5th City Council meeting.

In response to Curtis, Huber-Nickerson stated that its important to find a balance with capital and operations.

3. Public Works Parks Maintenance and Operations updates

Presenter: Steve Wall, Public Works Director

Cemetery Maintenance – Wall stated that they have received several comments regarding the cemetery maintenance this year. The Cemetery budget has varied over the years and available funds have fluctuated. Budget cuts and no volunteer groups due to COVID 19 this year have had impacts on the maintenance at the cemetery this year. They hope to see improvements to the budget.

Lacamas Lake Water Quality – This topic includes Lacamas Lake, Round Lake and Fallen Leaf Lake. There was an increase in the algae bloom in all three lakes this year. This frequency has continued through the summer and has been monitored by Clark County Public Health. There might be opportunity to open up the lake for recreation activities short-term but long-term improvements to the water quality will take a long time. The end result will require ongoing management. They will be partnering with Clark county on an interlocal agreement.

Curtis stated that he will be a liaison for the Parks Commission on this committee and added that this was a goal in the annual report for the Parks Commission.

Canal Bridge – This is the new utility/trail bridge at Round Lake. Wall stated that people have been jumping off the bridge since it was installed. In 2019, a 14-year-old boy drowned. Communication with WCIA and the City Attorney are recommended when working on fixing this issue. Posting signs or a change in design are possible options. Curtis stated that this topic will be back on the agenda in October.

3rd Avenue and Baz Park Sewer project update – Wall Displayed photos of the project at 3rd Avenue and Lacamas creek trailhead. Wall suggested some fencing while the landscaping grows in for screening. New additions to the trailhead include; a paved access that is much wider, concrete sidewalk, pipe removal and the foundation of the old pump station removed.

Baz Park – Improvements were made to the parking lot and sidewalk. Further improvements include an additional picnic table and improvements to the park sign. Marshall thanked Steve Wall and Jim Hodges fulfilling their requests in these projects. Curtis agreed that this was a good process.

Eagle Scout Kiosk project – Denis Ryan stated that Eagle Scout, Will Jolly, proposed a project to place a map kiosk at the 3rd Avenue Trailhead. Curtis stated that Ryan was very helpful with this project. Marshall displayed a photo of Will Jolly and the finished project.

Miscellaneous – Wall discussed levels of service. The amount of infrastructure built recently has been greater than the operations/maintenance ability of the city. He stated that this is a vital discussion and added that there is a proposal for an additional maintenance worker in the upcoming budget.

PROJECT UPDATES

4. Presenter: Jerry Acheson, Parks and Recreation Manager

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan Process - Acheson stated that this project is proposed to be back in the budget in 2021

Skate Park Grant – They will resubmit the grant application with Parks Foundation.

Curry Trail – They applied for an RCO grant and did a final presentation on Tuesday for this project.

OTHER ITEMS

Partners update – Marshall stated that they received a skate park grant through the C/W Community Chest, but a return was requested since it wasn't going to be used this year. Turkey Bingo is cancelled this year. They showed appreciation to the Parks Maintenance Crew in March and the Parks and Recreation Department in July. Marshall thanked Jerry for completing the Legacy Lands project.

Ivy League - The last Ivy League event was held on March 7th with 50 volunteers.

Parks Assignments – Curtis stated that Park assignments will be reallocated in 2021.

Camas Cemetery – Curtis recommended that one of the Parks Commission members volunteer to be the liaison for the Camas Cemetery.

Parks Commission 2020 Annual report – The annual report for 2020 will get rolled over to 2021.

Washougal River Greenway Trail Overlook – Curtis recommended that a plaque be placed at the overlook in recognition of the donation made.

38th Avenue – Curtis stated that there is no bike path on 38th Avenue and this creates a traffic hazard. He suggested posting signage.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28th at 5:00 pm.