



# Parks, Trees, and Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes October 16, 2024

**Committee Present** Jan Diamantine, Linda Ziedrich, Anna Creel, Rodney Sell, Cindy Kerby, and Rick Barnett

**Committee Absent** City Councilor, Dave Workman

**Staff Present** Interim City Manager Ron Whitlatch, and Public Works Operations Manager, Jason Rush.

**Call to Order** Chair Barnett called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Santiam Travel Station Board Room.

**Approval of Minutes** The committee approved the meeting minutes from July 17, 2024.

## **Discussion**

- City of Lebanon Update

Jason Rush and Ron Whitlatch provided the City of Lebanon update:

- Lebanon Public Works and the Police Department cleaned up approximately 1600lbs of trash / debris from the Eagle Scout Trail (before photos included).
- Rush would like to clean up the tree line at Cheadle Lake, and asked that BLT and the Strawberry Festival to relocate any items they would like to keep for their events.
- The city partnered with Pacific Power to remove walnut trees located on Williams / Oak Street that were impacting power lines, the street and sidewalk. Crews were onsite for approximately 12 hours.
- A tree removal request was turned in for a tree on Williams / Dodge Street, the tree was rotten and located on top of a water line so replacement will not be required.
- Ziedrich had asked via email about the number of trees being removed with the development of the River Park trail extension. Rush worked with Gaylan Morris from the City Engineering Department and determined currently there are (11) trees planned to be removed, but there is a potential realignment of the trail that could reduce the number of trees needing to be removed.

- Cheadle Lake Park Development

Whitlatch provided an updated map that included what is proposed in the next phase of construction at Cheadle Lake. The next step is to begin designing and determine cost with the goal for construction to begin after the Strawberry Festival in 2025. The priorities for this project are the restroom, pathways, stage, and ADA parking.

Kirby asked questions regarding the map provided:

- She asked if the design shows a pathway around the stage and stated this could be a safety concern for pedestrians, Whitlatch stated a realignment could be looked at to better accommodate around the stage.
- If the restroom is still going to be installed in the center of the park and will the existing building (well pump house) be removed. Rush stated the pump house is currently expected to stay and will not interfere with the restroom installation.
- Will there be lighting on all pathways? Whitlatch stated this lighting is pending what is available for funding in this phase of construction.
- Can the ADA parking stalls located at the stage be relocated to by the pathway, this gives them easier access and the stage more room for turn around.
- What is the goal? Whitlatch stated the current goal with development is for multi-use, events and sports (with removeable fencing).

Barnett agreed with Kerby that there needs to be enough turn around space at the stage.

Ziedrich asked if the committee determined that there is more baseball fields needed as she believed it had been talked about before and there was not a further need for fields in this development. Whitlatch stated it would be for multi-use sports. She then asked is a public meeting would be appropriate to see what the citizens would like to see the park used for. Whitlatch suggested if the committee believes there should be changes to the master plan for Cheadle Lake a recommendation should be taken to City Council and the Parks, Trees and Trails meetings can be used as listening sessions to obtain citizen recommendation.

Rush believes with minor modifications to the existing plan; all sports field decisions can be decided at the next phase as additional recommendations and funding become available while keeping this phase moving forward and functional.

Barnett asked the city to send a copy of the next updated Cheadle Lake map, the committee agrees that minor changes need to be made to move forward with design and would like further discussion. Whitlatch stated revisions can be made to the sitework and he will have Udell Engineering start on that to provide to the committee at the next scheduled meeting.

- Street Tree Project – Williams Street

The garden club was able to successfully plant (9) trees, including one at Pioneer Cemetery with the funding they had. The city delivered them to the planting locations along with additional supplies.

- BLT Update – Rod / Jan

- BLT will be planting trees at River Park, no exact location at this time, the watering crew has agreed to water these trees as well.
- BLT volunteer Art has been leading hikes for the Chamber of Commerce.
- 44 North adopted the Eagle Scout Trail and works on the trail quarterly.

- Georgia Pacific donated 1.54 acres to BLT, 1.26 will be used for a new trail that has been approved by the County. Donations have been received for this trail and it is planned to be named the Georgia Pacific Mill Race Trail.
- The Gills Landing Connector Trail is complete.
- BLT would like to thank the city for keeping up on the removal of graffiti under Grant Street Bridge as well as getting the lights repaired at the Century Park Tennis Courts.

- **Public Comments**

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

**November 20, 2024 (2:00 – 3:30 p.m.)**

**Adjournment**

Rick Barnett Adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.