

City of Oregon City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting Thursday, (10/28/2021) at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

Members: *Shawn Dachtler; Tim Wuest; Karin Morey; Troy Bolinger; Derick Cogle; Brent Haverkamp; Andy Crump*

Staff: *Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director; Denise, Conrad, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Melissa Sebastian, Interim Aquatic and Recreation Manager; Jonathan Waverly, Parks and Cemetery Maintenance; Justin More, Administrative Assistant*

Guests: *No guests were present.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the (date) PRAC Meeting

Troy Bolinger called for questions from PRAC Members regarding the approval of the September 23, 2021, PRAC Meeting Minutes. No questions were asked. Tim Wuest moved to approve the September 23 meeting minutes. Andy Crump seconded the motion.

All Approved: Tim Wuest, Karin Morey, Troy Bolinger, Derrick Cogle, Andy Crump, Shawn Dachtler, Brent Haverkamp

All Opposed: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Mitchell was previously going to share regarding the Tyrone S Woods Dog Park but did not show due to the issue being addressed earlier in the week.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations on the agenda.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Oregon City Operations Complex Development Project – October 28, 2021 Update

Mr. Bolinger asked Kendall Reid if John Lewis was present. He was unable to attend due to an emergency. Denise Conrad filled in for the presentation. Mr. Bolinger gave Denise time to present. Denise presented the overview of the building, what has happened since the previous update that was given to PRAC and described the progress in the pictures displayed. Denise also outlined what the next steps are for the building barring any setbacks.

Denise opens the presentation for discussion and questions. Brent Haverkamp begins the discussion by thanking Denise for the update and asking if the building will be LEED certified. Denise said it will not be LEED certified due to cost, but they are doing a lot of reusing of materials. Mr. Haverkamp's second question was if the city has any project managers, in which Denise stated the city does not have project managers. Karin Morey stated that the building has undergone an incredible improvement. Karin said that she knew of storage space for equipment or tools and was curious if that would be utilized. Denise responded by stating that the situation is fluid, and it depends upon the amount of space that is available after the move-in is complete. Shawn Dachtler asked a question regarding equity amongst the departments for the change in spaces. Denise responded to Shawn's question by outlining how each department should receive the same amenities throughout the city. Mr. Dachtler asked for clarification on the financial equity amongst departments. Kendall Reid answered Shawn's question by understanding the disparity between funds invested in the project but looking in the long term, Kendall acknowledged that he knows it is not a long-term solution to some of the existing issues in parks. Tim Wuest wanted to recognize Karin on her honor for the American Revolution Daughters. Tim wanted to know if the parks department has any plans to use the storage space besides storing gravel. Denise stated that there are no current plans to change the storage space as it is all they got. Denise also said that there is an area that has been constructed but has the opportunity to expand in the future.

3. Filbert Run Park Naming Committee Update

Mr. Bolinger transitioned to Brent Haverkamp to provide an update on the naming process for Filbert Run Park. Mr. Haverkamp expressed his gratitude for the team that he worked with and what they were able to accomplish in a short amount of time. Mr. Haverkamp discussed the process of how they involved the surrounding community to provide name suggestions. In total, 52 names were submitted and 27 of them were variations of Filbert Run Park, Hazelnut, or Hazel Grove Park. The committee set parameters for names that would be considered and vetted the suggestions. Mr. Haverkamp stated that the consensus from the committee was to name the park "Hazel Grove Park". Mr. Bolinger asked for clarification from Mr. Haverkamp on if he was asking for name approval from PRAC. Karin Morey provided commentary stating that she approves of the idea of naming the park, Hazel Grove Park. Karin motioned for PRAC to support the naming of what has been known as Filbert Run Park as Hazel Grove Park as a permanent name. Andy Crump seconds the motion.

Mr. Bolinger opens it up for discussion. Shawn Dachtler asked what the purpose of another naming committee meeting is. He also expressed his disappointment in how part of the process unfolded by stating it as a “renaming” of the park rather than “naming”. Mr. Bolinger strongly encouraged Brent to be the presenter at the next City Commission meeting.

All Approved: Tim Wuest, Karin Morey, Troy Bolinger, Derrick Cogle, Andy Crump, Shawn Dachtler, Brent Haverkamp

All Opposed: None.

4. Vote to Remove Filbert Run Park Naming Process from PRAC Goals

Mr. Bolinger wanted to change the agenda topic. In the past, PRAC has not removed goals once they have been completed. Instead, the goals have been kept but only marked as completed. Mr. Bolinger asked that we do the same for the Filbert Run Park Naming Process. Mr. Bolinger asks for nods or head shakes for approval. The consensus was to mark the goal as “complete”.

5. PRAC Committee Member Selection Process

Mr. Bolinger asks Kendall Reid to provide an update on the PRAC Committee member selection process. Mr. Reid stated that the new process will include the Mayor, PRAC Chair, PRAC Vice-Chair, Parks and Recreation Director, and at the discretion of the Mayor, an additional City Commission member. The selection committee will also establish the interview questions and make an appointment based on input received.

Mr. Reid opens the topic for discussion. Mr. Bolinger proceeds to ask who will initiate the process with interviews. Mr. Reid responds by stating he will initiate the submission of the questions. Mr. Bolinger asks for the questions to be emailed to Mr. Dachtler and Mr. Bolinger before going to the Mayor. No further questions were asked.

6. Introduction of New Administrative Assistant for Parks & Recreation Department

Mr. Reid introduces Justin More as the new Administrative Assistant for Oregon City Parks and Recreation. Mr. More gave background about his life and education. Mr. More came to Oregon City from UCP Mentors, an adults with disability service provider, with 8 years of parks and recreation experience with Corvallis Parks and Recreation before his relocation to Oregon City. Mr. Bolinger opens it up for questions for Mr. More and no questions were asked.

7. Next PRAC Meeting in December

Mr. Bolinger explains that the November and December PRAC meetings occur near the holidays this year. In previous years, the meetings have been held in the first week in December and counted for both November and December. Mr. Bolinger states that the next meeting will take place on December 2, 2021. Mr. Bolinger asks for comments or questions. No questions were asked, and approval was given for the next PRAC meeting to take place on December 2, 2021.

STAFF REPORTS

Kendall Reid, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that Rochelle has left the City to be the Director of Sandy Parks and Recreation. Melissa Sebastian will be the interim Aquatics and Recreation Manager. Mr. Reid also references the recent article on the I-205 project where there was land condemnation needed to move forward with the project. Negotiations are still ongoing between the City and ODOT. Mr. Reid provided an update on the Clackamette Park Boat Ramp repairs with an RFP going out and is hoping to encourage public engagement on how to address the longevity of the park. An additional RFP will be going out next month regarding the Parks Master Plan. Mr. Bolinger opens the report for discussion and questions. Karin Morey asks if Sportcraft Landing owns anything besides what is floating on top of the water. Mr. Reid responds with Sportcraft Landing owning a strip of property between the city and ODOT which is also in negotiation. Mr. Dachtler asks the next set of questions beginning with if the condemnation is city-owned property. Mr. Reid states that the property is parks owned. Mr. Dachtler follows up the response with ODOT has presented numerous times to PRAC but never mentioned the condemnation. Mr. Reid responded by saying in order to move forward with the project, ODOT needs to make modifications to the land at Sportcraft Landing and the Dye's property while also already having approval from the people. Karin Morey added additional input that Jon Storm was deemed a charter park, but Sportcraft Landing was not due to commercial leasing, thus not needing a need to go to a vote of the people regarding the condemnation. Tim Wuest asked about the Northside property being a permanent change or a temporary change. Mr. Reid responded by saying it is temporary and ODOT is to return the property to Oregon City after use. Mr. Wuest's second question was asking the city to look beyond Clackamette Park and use a more long-term fix rather than a temporary fix, specifically with the boat ramp. He states that due to the most recent high-water event, the sandbar has moved 30 ft downstream and into the Cove and Kendall Reid acknowledges that the planning is considering long-term solutions. Brent Haverkamp asks the next question about what it means to have ODOT condemn the land. Kendall Reid, states that it just provides the necessary privileges to move forward with the project and is only temporary. Karin Morey asks that we also involve the stakeholders regarding Clackamette Park to receive their input.

Denise Conrad, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, announces another RFQ that is published for the WES Good Neighbor Agreement Project Management Services.

Oregon City has an agreement with WES regarding Clackamette and the surrounding areas to make improvements. Each year we get an allotment, and we have three years to spend it. Submissions are due November 5th for qualifications. Following the submissions, a presentation will be given at City Commission on December 1st regarding the contract so the city can move forward with that project. The city will be going from 2.5 FTE to 1.5 FTE for 6-8 weeks due to leaves.

Jonathan Waverly, Parks and Cemetery Maintenance, reported that the parks crew has been mainly focused on the cleanup of trees, leaves, and limbs. The city is partnering with Friends of Trees to help plant trees at Rivercrest Park and other sites. The event takes place on November 20th. JROTC is doing a cleanup at Mt. View Cemetery. Mr. Waverly also provided an update on the Veterans Memorial, which recently received a generous donation from the VFW Hall. He stated they also are applying for an additional grant to help with the completion of the project. Parks has been receiving a lot of interest in shelter reservations and the RV Park with those two areas being busy this time of year. Kendall Reid added that KOIN 6 stopped by to interview Jinny King and the Commander General regarding the progress of the memorial.

Kathy Wiseman, Pioneer Center Supervisor, provided a report on the Pioneer Center. The Pioneer Center is hosting a Halloween movie this weekend and has good RSVP numbers for that event. Ms. Wiseman also stated that their annual appeal letter went out which highlighted Meals on Wheels and asked for donations regarding the Veterans Memorial project. The Pioneer Center has started their Christmas Wreath Sales and their social services have ramped up resulting in the hiring of another bus driver. Transportation is becoming in higher demand as they are beginning dine-outs again. Kathy Wiseman also stated that they are collecting donations for food baskets and utilizing frozen meals for Meals on Wheels as they have saved money in doing so. For Thanksgiving, the Pioneer Center is partnering with St. John's to help provide hot meals for the holiday.

Melissa Sebastian, Interim Aquatic and Recreation Manager, updated the committee on continuous onboarding and hiring of new employees in an effort to get to full staff. Swamp Swim is taking place on two nights this year to keep participants more distanced. High school swim team season will be beginning in the coming weeks. Melissa also updated the team on the Ermatinger House with the hiring of Holly Swogger as the new Recreation Programmer for the house.

Kendall Reid provides one more update that the cost recovery plan was passed by the City Commission and wanted to thank his team for all their hard work in getting it approved. Karin Morey asked if WES stood for Water Environmental Services. Denise Conrad affirmed that WES stood for Water Environmental Services. Tim Wuest asked if Kendall Reid would be presenting on the Parks Master Plan, but Kendall stated it is in the very beginning stages of development so a presentation to PRAC will not take place for a while.

MEMBER REPORTS

Tim Wuest reported on the planning of a new development near Holcomb Avenue. He was under the impression that the development company offered green acreage to the city, but the city decided against acquiring the land. Tim asked Kendall for his input on how that area, with the least amount of park space in the city, can be assured that they will have trails and parks in the future. Troy Bolinger stated that this is a future agenda item for December 2nd and there would be no comment at this time.

Karin Morey reported that the turnout at the City Commission meeting for the VFW check was tremendous and was happy that progress was being made on the Veterans Memorial. She also stated that an additional hundred thousand dollars is needed to complete the project and asked that if people know local business or veterans' group that is willing to donate, the city is going to have a beautiful Veterans Memorial.

No other members provided reports.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Sears Farm Development

Parks and Recreation Funding

Clackamette Park Master Plan

WES Good Neighbor Funds

Joint Operations Center

Willamette Falls Legacy Project

Property Acquisition

The Cove

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING – December 2nd, 2021, at 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.