



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Monday, June 13, 2022, at 4:00 PM

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT

Chair Lynne Pettit
Vice Chair Brandon Sundeen
Commissioner Howard Blumenthal
Commissioner Jacob Woodruff
Commissioner Jerry Belcher
Commissioner Dana Lathrope
Commissioner Paul Barlow
Commissioner Carmin Dunn

STAFF PRESENT

Shanna Duggan Parks and Rec Manager
Sheri Ingram Public Works Office Assistant
Councilor President Doug Morten
Erin Bird Parks and Rec Admin Assistant
John Walsh City Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT

Emily Martin Scappoose Bay Watershed

CALL TO ORDER

4:01 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of the 05/06/2022 Meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Dunn, Seconded by Commissioner Belcher.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Dunn, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Blumenthal, Commissioner Woodruff, Chair Pettit, Vice Chair Sundeen, Commissioner Lathrope, Commissioner Jacobson

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR: From attendees not otherwise of the agenda
Limited to five (5) minutes per speaker

City council agenda coming forward, vacation of public right away. it effects trail access to the river; it is within our system. The road that is First St, there has been a walking trail proposed.

The planning commission is talking about it, and it is on the agenda for July 12th. Columbia Blvd and 1st St drops onto N River. What is being proposed is for that property to be given to the landowners around, if this is given to them, it limits public access. Morten asked what the proposal is, she does not know the specifics, they are not paying the city for the property, the owners will give it to the city for development of condos. They won't be able to see their view. Morten said trail would be going down to the lower area and it would be paved. Belcher uses the trail frequently; it is public property, and it is taken from the citizens. Once they give it away, it will be developed on, there needs to be easement to allow public access to continue, this hearing is important. Sundeen wants the landowners can keep the property, the landowners will be taking land from the city for free and making money off it by selling condos on it.

Dimsho said the public hearing will be July 12th at 7:00 P.M. The whole process of this will take about one and a half months. Woodruff added that Pettit mentioned how does this effect Parks and Recreation Commission, he explains the description of Parks and Rec commission, and this applies. Belcher asked if City would like to vacate the property with trail going through and sell to others. Morten said if it is loaded with people who are uninterested in the city's plan. Martin would like addressed next weekend. If the maintenance of trail falls onto the city or the landowners. Morten said it is unknown and to come to the planning meeting. Martin asked if there are areas to locate to go on that are wild and rugged. There are a couple of areas that say City of St Helens property, is there any public land that is accessible the reservoir can it be opened for recreation, it must be looked at as if who would maintain this.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Dimsho did a great presentation and thanks everyone for coming to cleanup.

STAFF REPORT

Duggan said:

- They have partnered with school district to assist with their registration and there has been a total of 1200 registrations.
- Adult softball launched and some games were cancelled due to mud.
- Still battling at Campbell Park, do a police report and clean it up.
- They had an appointment with security systems on June 20th. Wi-Fi is a problem out there, so it'll be more expensive to use.
- There will be an open house for community center, few more projects, guard rails need to be put in.
- Urban trail email, not too much has been done with it yet. Summer will have a small capacity.
- New benches in the playground, along with new grass, weather is making it difficult to maintain and concrete will be poured near pavilion four and to the zipline.

-Sports courts at Campbell Park are getting more signs and will be fixed.

-Parks staff is busy, and it is difficult to mow with mud, normally there are four to five summer help and this year we have one-30-hour summer employee.

Pettit said she found out her sign was stolen again, and two benches under water on the 2nd and 3rd trails. Duggan asked about replacement. Pettit said she would like a different sign that's not metal. Pettit would like a sign made with different material, Duggan asked her to email her about it. Dunn noticed the signs are easy to screw in and unscrew, make it harder to unscrew. Duggan said she will check with maintenance. Sundeen asked about summer help numbers, now that we are not folded into PW, we get less funding. There has been a huge increase in costs. Sundeen would like to know how to advocate for more help. Things look rough, look at the library and ball parks, they need help. That is part of the Columbia County work crew, no one has been showing up. Duggan said the budget will update month to month. Mowing has been impacted by the weather. The library has been done, but without the work crew, it has been less. Morten said it would be a benefit to lay out the budget to everyone. Lathrope agrees and she said she'd like to make sure to support and maintain our public spaces. She is concerned about how much is going on and the low staff is not overloaded. Duggan said we are budget run; with parks it must be certain projects. Blumenthal asked about a full-time parks position

Blumenthal is concerned things will get overrun to a point. Sundeen mentioned there is more inventory but less staff. Blumenthal said that Boise used to donate to our parks when they left it's a lot of money lost.

Lathrope asked Parks and Rec separately come from two sources, from the general fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome new Commission member, Scott Jacobson

Riverwalk Phase I Project Update - Dimsho

Dimsho said this is advancing to 60%. Basalt is a theme in the area, and it will be incorporated into the park. There will be water, steel and other warm things included. This will be larger story telling as it continues to grow. The roundabout will be the expanded part, the splashpad will be left be. This does not work doing the events, it gets packed, the playground will be expanded. Lathrope asked about the current structure, it will be removed. This is the storm water area; this is an overlook feature of the area. This is the berm, and it encloses into the event space. It will have a slight slope and you can feel like you're in the event/roll down as a kid. there will be a dance floor, it will be sunken, it will not block the views. The existing gazebo will be removed, the new one will be set back more, it will allow more space for gathering. The materials used will be, concrete seat all, stacked rock seat wall, basalt rock, black not yellow. There will be moving walls, it will enable wind blockage during events but when there is not events, they'll slide open and shut. it will block the wind or even partially. There is transparency to the roof, the glue land beam will be iconic. Focusing on the circled area. There are banister slides, half balls. pole climber slides and a hill climber rope. The

whole area will be a play area. Multi-level play structure, somewhere kids can hang out in for a while. The current play structure doesn't accommodate much. Pavilion-Painted glass roof, it will invoke winterlike texture. There are more components to the wall structure, they are on the blue areas. There will be concrete texture, will be stone pavers, large concrete paving areas. Railing will be weathered steel. There will be a concrete seat wall will not have railing. vehicle will be used so there won't be climbing. Interpretation will be fill. This was a deep-water port right next to the courthouse, provided by the museum association. interpretation, will be onto of the rail or would be on wood like you'd see in a nature park. This is at 60%, it will be seen again, and it will be getting more and more in depth. Blumenthal asked about when, Dimsho said next summer. Dunn asked about the pavilion, about seating under, there will be picnic tables fixed into it. Duggan has been helping find what will be in this park, benches, garbage cans etc. Dunn said hopefully things will be positioned correctly with the pavilions so people can turn and see their kids playing or watch the event from the pavilion, make sure this is not the only seating area options. Orientation of bigger berm might be a barrier to the street, could create a barrier to the park, you couldn't see the kids playing though. Sundeen is worried of vandalism. Morten said to create signage with artificial materials something easily replaced and not desired. Lathrope asked about the dance floor, the current one gets swampy out there, what will the drainage be like. Dimsho said that they will be grading, and the engineers are thinking about it. A new catch basin will most likely be in place. Where would the redirection be. Could the water used in the splash park be used to water the plants. it is just dumped into the river why not use it for the plants.

The current state of bicycle lanes and sidewalks in the community and how they can be more user friendly- Barlow

Barlow first question is violators could park on the sidewalk multiple times. Can it be complained about if it isn't on someone's property. Morten said it is a nonissue to this point, skateboards for example. Barlow said he hears from customers in his shop all the time, they can't police it, there are people who park on the sidewalk, does he need to mention it to the police or mention it to people. Morten said this is code enforcement, we don't really hear about these complaints, 1st street was grandfathered in, and people weren't supposed to park on the sidewalk, and it's been like this for years, and they put an end to it about four years ago. Duggan said to call nonemergency and let them know where it's at and they will enforce it if it is something.

Bike lanes having garbage cans and cars parked in them, Duggan said again code enforcement could be notified about this. Morten noticed about this on 5th street. Liability is also something to think about with this.

Blumenthal said the bike lane is unusable due to the construction. there should be signs saying that bikes are in the road.

6. Park Update/Godfrey Park, Civic Pride Park

Dunn said:

- Civic pride; 1.2 acres, pocket park. masterplan: visitation is the lowest, only 7%. improvements could be splash garden, covered picnic area, restrooms, partnership with pool. There are no signs or kiosk leads to low visitor rates. History should be highlighted, more trees, water playground, sport court. Don't expect this to happen in the next year. Sundeen said he could see it a lot the other day and it is kind of a waste and has so much potential. Pettit said there is no signage for it, it doesn't help, the gardens at Heinie Human Park seems to bring in people, so just fencing and a garden.

Godfrey Park- Main access point and trail, 3.6 acres, neighborhood park. Pavilion, horseshoe, picnic tables, free library, playground equipment from 1963, outdated. There is a 19% visitor percentage,

masterplan restrooms, new shelter, new equipment, handicap swing, unleash pet area. Two invasive species clean ups in the past year. There has been a donation for cleanup of invasive species. In the wooded area there is a lot of ivy, there should be cleanup in there. The ivy is dying a lot from the cleanups in the past. Pettit thought maybe the playground from the waterfront could go to Godfrey, Dunn thought they'd like a nature themed playground. They thought maybe civic pride could take it. Duggan said the pricing for locating old playgrounds could be costly. Lathrope said there is a lot of damage, rust, and age to the Columbia view playground. Dunn thought with a nature playground, you could use the old slide in the hillside.

Park for Baseball – Woodruff

There is no park for baseball, he said they use the high school field for baseball, many other schools have turf and there's nothing for High School. 6th street park is pitching machine, for middle school. The High School could play at the Middle School. Could they be modified, how many different sized fields. T-ball McCormick, minors play at Middle School. The Middle Schoolers play at fairgrounds, Juniors have nowhere to go. The 8u and 10u fields are going to go. The JRS need somewhere to play or else they will move forward to Scappoose or other places. He would like a sports complex somewhere, a baseball field, track etc. Pettit asked about where the Rec Center is, they could maybe make a big baseball field out of that. Duggan said that they cannot displace the softball that is there. It is equitable between the two. Duggan said they are far out from a sports complex. The high school is working towards getting playable fields, the Middle School field is not playable and not big enough, someone put them in incorrectly. Taking a field from one group is not a good plan. Duggan mentioned fairgrounds, Sundeen said they're too big. Morten said it is true there is true that there could be something if the sewer gets filled in, it could be a sports complex and concert area. No buildings can be built on a landfill, but it can be a park. This is far out. Sundeen said it is embarrassing when a school comes out and turns away because it's no good. Lathrope said is something temporary to do, and that is a huge budget item. Morten asked if there's any property at the port and the county. Little league came out and offered to be errated. Softball had to cancel at Campbell Park and at the rec center. Sundeen would like to clarify what happens to the fields on the Boise property. Duggan said she doesn't know right now. Morten said there could be access on the Ross Road.

Martin said that the property near the Rec Center is slated for industrial, Morten said that is the upland area, all of it is set of to be developed.

Drainage at BMX Track- Barlow

Barlow said that a few months back a few people came and asked about the walking path near the BMX track, it is flooded out. When the track was put in there is the culvert that runs under that, before the track was in it was just woods, the woods got hauled out, the culvert that runs under the road, in 2002, the requirement was the culvert ran into the wooded area, it went along the walk path and into a trench, does it just end back there. When the track was put in, it was required to burrow the pipe in, he does not know if public works and parks should be aware of this, it is a 16 inch pipe and it runs from the road to the new building. He said he would like to everyone to beware of the pipe there. Morten directed him to Zaher, he will hear this out.

OLD BUSINESS

Update: Commissioner's Preserve Tour

Pettit said there was a good tour at Dalton Lake, Sundeen and Jacob would like to go. Pettit would like to ask about a different park. Blumenthal asked about Sand Island. Morten said tourism is buying a boat, 30 passengers. Blumenthal asked about calling Brad at the marina for the shuttle.

Citizens Day in the Park – Volunteers

Pettit put in for a 10X10 spot, on June 25th. She would like volunteers. Sundeen can be there. Dunn has a parks and trails banner. Duggan said we won't really have a tent, they'll be mobile.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Belcher brought up Godfrey cleanup, Dunn was there with two kids. Dunn took care of holly, glass and vines off trees.

ADJOURNMENT

6:24 P.M.