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Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, July 20, 2022
Aquatic Center Training Room, 2300 Sunset Drive

Minutes approved as presented by Parks and Recreation Commission 09.21.2022.

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 a.m. by Brad Bafaro, Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission committee.

ROLL CALL: Brad Bafaro, Vice Chair; Joe Offer; Aaron Johnson; Mackenzie Johnston Carey; Susan Taylor; Glenn VanBlarcom; Howard Sullivan; MayInda Wenzl, Council Liaison

ABSENT: Paul Waterstreet, Chair (Excused); Tammi McLaughlin (Excused), Sherri Mead, Aquatics Supervisor (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Anne Lane, Parks and Recreation Director; Tom Martin, Parks Supervisor, Jasmine Oliver, Administrative Specialist

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE (In-person & Zoom): None

GUEST PRESENTERS: Carl Switzer, Washington County Parks, Hagg Lake

STAFF INTRODUCTION: Jasmine Oliver, Administrative Specialist

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approve Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022.

MOTION: Howard Sullivan moved, seconded by Glenn VanBlarcom, to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

- b) Approve Consent Agenda

MOTION: Howard Sullivan moved, seconded by Glenn VanBlarcom, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: None.

5. DISCUSSION/DECISION/PRESENTATION ITEMS:

Goal: Expand recreation opportunities

Objective is to develop a cost recovery methodology and rate structure for recreation programming. Currently assessment of fees citywide taking place.

6. COMMUNICATIONS:

a) Special Guest: Carl Switzer, Washington County Parks, Hagg Lake

Switzer opened with a brief overview of the history of the Washington County Parks system and how there have been increases in capital, public utilities, and parking. An additional area of focus to improve upon for Washington County is service delivery to unincorporated counties. Switzer took time to briefly provide updates on the three parks they manage: Clackamas Metzler Park, Eagle Landing Park, and Scoggins Valley Park.

Washington County will be looking to put more resources into developing recreation program opportunities. Switzer indicated that many county parks, don't offer recreation programs. His hope is to collaborate, not compete with local entities like the city to provide outdoor recreation options.

Washington County is excited to bring back their concert series, which began back in 2019, but due to COVID was halted. Saturday, July 23rd Washington County will host Hit Machine at Hagg Lake from 7 – 9 p.m. The August concert series is coming up soon. More information about the concert series can be found at <https://www.washcoparks.org/>.

Switzer informed the group on how Washington County is working with Metro on two areas: improving access to the Tualatin River at Eagle Landing Park and creating a day campground area at Scoggins Valley Park. 2.5 million will go towards the day campground project with an expected completion date of 2023, and two-year extension date of 2025 if needed. The goal is to be self-sustaining through revenue generated, that would cover expenses such as personnel, public safety, camp hosts, etc.; general funds will not be accessible.

Washington County is working with the Bureau of Reclamation to focus on dams and the increase of water storage capacity to address the growing population in the county. Efforts right now are being focused on safety and the ability for dams to be able to withstand seismic activity (60 – 120 second seismic tolerance). Construction is expected to go through 2028 but will not impact park operation and access to the public. The goal will be to establish new dam construction on top of existing infrastructure.

7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

- a) **Parks and Recreation Director Update** – Director Anne Lane started by introducing the department's new Administrative Specialist, Jasmine Oliver, to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Director Lane proceeded to inform the commission that Pacific University student, Sydney Rusin, will be interning with the department this upcoming Fall. She will be focusing on policy writing (i.e. cancellations, refunds, behavior, etc.). At the end of her internship, she will be presenting newly written policies to city council for adoption.

Director Lane gave an update on the Kyle Property (B-Street). Along Gale's Creek, the crew is looking to create a park. Over the last year however, the area has seen increases in homeless activity, fires and criminal activity. Steps have been taken to clear out debris from Kyle Property. The Forest Grove Foundation was able to remove seventy tons of debris in four hours, but according to Director Lane, this only made a small dent in the overall debris problem on the property. A meeting has been scheduled with Washington County on Thursday to coordinate next steps. An environmental analysis will need to be coordinated. Fire fuel reduction and continued debris clean-up efforts to be coordinated as well. Clean water services will be instrumental to bringing back the habitation of the property. While a lot of efforts are being made to move the Kyle Property forward, the Director brought the group's attention back to the importance of remembering the people that will be displaced during this process, and the need to work with Washington County to research housing options.

- b) **Parks Update** – Parks Supervisor Tom Martin provided an update on the Parks division. Forest Grove has joined The National Fitness Campaign to "build a free outdoor fitness court within a 10-minute bike ride of every American." This fitness campaign will take place at Bard Park. Construction begins this week and will be completed in four phases: 1) Asphalt work to include the removal of the existing wall and expansion of the eastern basketball court; 2) concrete work installation of the pad for the fitness court (expected to start the 1st week in August); 3) resurfacing of the court with new basketball lines; and 4) fitness court installation.

Tom also updated the group on the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle problem. Work is being done to allow a process for obtaining permits to remove Ash trees.

Stites City Park is going out to bid this Friday, July 22nd.

- c) **Aquatics Update** – Aquatic Center pumps experiencing problems causing main pool to be closed July 11th for the latter part of the day. Local service providers able to address the problem and get the main pool back up and operational mid-day of July 12th. Annual pool closure for maintenance will be August 29th through September 18th. Closure will allow time for retiling of the hot tub, repainting of the warm water pool, curing for grout work, and temperature and chemical rebalancing. During closure, staff will go through renewing First Aid and CPR/AED training certifications, focus will be given to records retention, training will be sought out for point of sale system, CivicRec, and clean up of department files and share drives will occur.

8. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Youth Summit will occur on July 23rd from 12 – 2pm. This is event will be comprised of youth councils from Cornelius, Hillsboro and Forest Grove. There will also be a Celebration of Life for Ralph Brown on this same day.

Festival Street update – 21st street has been identified as the likely location to serve as a plaza for gathering and events in Forest Grove. The discussion topic currently on the table involved the possible design of one-way access to 21st street or maintaining two-way access. The response from local businesses in the area indicated that the maintenance of a two-way access point to 21st street would serve businesses better. Council liaison Wenzl reported that the city council opted to go in favor of the community decision of maintaining two-way access. The Economic Development Committee voted to allow the formation of a taskforce. Commission member Sullivan recommended that the taskforce seek out input from other successful grassroots models, like McMinnville, when moving forward on the Festival Street initiative.

There will be a Corn Roast on September 17th.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

There will not be an August meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 7:00 a.m. at the Aquatic Center Training Room.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 a.m.