

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM CONFERENCE ROOM
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1) **ROLL CALL:**

- a) Commissioners – Brad Bafaro, Ralph Brown, Kenneth Cobleigh, Mackenzie Johnston Carey, Susan Taylor, Jeremiah Toews, Glenn VanBlarcom and Paul Waterstreet. Absent: Howard Sullivan
- b) Staff – Tom Gamble and Matt Baum.

2) **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None

3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting were approved.

4) **ADDITION/DELETIONS:** None

5) **PRESENTATION: WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS**

- a) Carl Switzer, Washington County Parks Superintendent came and updated us on what's happening at Hagg Lake, which receives about one million visitors a year.
 - i) The County is looking at future water needs and will decide in the next two years if they should raise the current dam 25 feet or build a new dam further downstream. Both options have good and bad points.
 - ii) The road around the lake provides access for residential and commercial use as well as park visitors. The east side has been resurfaced. In August the engineering work on the slide area will take place and then the west side of the road will be resurfaced.
 - iii) There are currently three grants being utilized.
 - (1) US Bureau of Reclamation
 - (a) ADA bathrooms.
 - (b) Updated pathways to the bathrooms.
 - (c) New entrance sign.
 - (2) Oregon State Marine Board
 - (a) Expanded parking.
 - (b) Improved walkways at ramps.
 - (3) Oregon Parks & Recreation
 - (a) New tennis and basketball courts.
 - iv) There are now two full time Park Rangers.
 - v) Special events include triathlons, master swims and rowing events.
 - vi) May 25 will be a Water Safety media event at the lake.
 - vii) New signs will be installed in the second half of the year. Based on the "Wear It" program that encourages you to always wear a life jacket.
 - viii) The lake is being stocked with fish, so this is a good time of year to get out there.

6) **OLD BUSINESS:**

a) **Thatcher Park Signage**

- i) Ken is on the fifth revision of the signs. He has had input from a couple of middle school students and a lot of help from Jan Curry, the Fernhill steward for volunteers.
- ii) Ken and Matt will meet to determine where the signs will go once completed.

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b) Budget 2017-18

i) Parks

- (1) We will discuss the SDC's at our July meeting.
- (2) Rogers Park project has a \$650,000 budget. The playground will be a nature scape and a very large (12 ½ foot in diameter) sequoia tree has been donated to use in the project.
- (3) Trail development will involve the Gales Creek terrace, adding a little more than a mile.
- (4) Added a full time staff person, rather than several part-time seasonal employees.

ii) Aquatics

- (1) Replace the front desk.
- (2) A new t.v. monitor has been installed behind the front desk to inform patrons of new activities, special closures, etc.
- (3) Fees will increase 7 ½ % to help offset the \$25,000 impact the increase in the minimum wage will cause.

7) NEW BUSINESS:

a) C.E.P. Grant

- i) The new grants will be announced at the end of May.
- ii) The current grant project is winding up, with one last sign being placed at Hazel Sills.

b) Summer Program

- i) Programs will include CBAP, Forest Grove Youth Baseball and Co-Ed Softball.
- ii) The turf field at Lincoln Park will be down at least a month for resurfacing.

8) COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS: None

9) COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: None

10) STAFF REPORTS:

a) Tom:

- i) Clean Water Services will be doing a presentative for the Rec Commission and the City Council proposing a "Grant of Rights" for the Kyle Recreation Area. This area will include a trail, natural areas and possibly a BMX area.
- ii) Attended the Parks Directors meeting where the main topic was homelessness and the city wide perspective on the issue.

b) Matt:

- i) The addition of new staff is great, along with new equipment things are rolling along.
- ii) The hanging baskets are being hung and will be finished today.
- iii) The new sign is going up at Hazel Sills.
- iv) Getting caught up on fields and assigning staff tasks that fit their specialties.
- v) On June 15 seventy-five goats will begin their 5 to 6 day task at Thatcher Park.

11) ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.

12) ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 a.m.