

GRANTS PASS PARKS ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – February 09, 2017 at 3:30 PM
Courtyard Conference Room

Members in Attendance:

Dick Matti (Chair)
Cliff Kuhlman (Vice Chair)
Jan Battersby
Gary Still
Marian Szewc – Absent
Robert Cartmell
Rick Chapman
Bill Reinert - Absent

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Valerie Lovelace (City Council) - Absent
Lora Glover
Jeff Nelson
Susan Seereiter - Absent

Guests:

Julie Imhof (CoPA)
Curtis Kramer
Elizabeth Kramer

I. Business – Continuing:

A. Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2017 meeting.

MOTION/VOTE

**Member Cartmell moved and Vice Chair Kuhlman seconded to approve the minutes as written of the January 12, 2017 meeting. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”:
Members Battersby, Chapman, Cartmell, Kuhlman, Matti, Still.**

“NAYS”: None. Abstain: None.

Absent: Board members, Szewc and Reinert.

The motion passed.

B. Riverside Master Plan

- PCD Director, Lora Glover updated the Board regarding lottery funds that should be available in April, earlier than projected.
- Justin Gerlitz is working on the Master Plan. He is looking into a portable stage for use in the park. He will come back with options for the board to look at. It could be stored at the City Yard.
- The Spray Park is moving along and could be completed by the end of the summer. The goal would be to have it complete by the Duck Derby.
- The Community/Concert Center is moving forward as well.
- Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will go out for the Design/Build for these separate projects.

II. New Business:

- Lora talked about the results from Strategic Planning. Council Goals are, Keep Citizens Safe, Provide Cooperative Shared Leadership, Encourage Economic Opportunities, Facilitate Sustainable Management Growth, Maintain, Operate and Expand our Infrastructure.
- Riverside Master Plan was priority number 7 on the top 12 list. Construction of two of those projects will move forward this year as discussed.

- The Tree Canopy Program is number 12 and is part of the Urban Tree Committee. This would be provision of trees in the commercial zones such as parking lots.
- The topic of sidewalks came up. Lora mentioned they are the responsibility of the adjacent property owners to maintain and repair. However, the City does have a program to assist property owners with the costs.
- The Military Flag Memorial at the E & F Street confluence is in the artwork stage. The newly planted Redwood trees would need to blend with the flags.
- The Balloon Festival for the River Road Reserve will occur but this board will not be part of the decision making process.
- The Vintage Trailer Rally is Jon Bowen's project and is scheduled for Riverside Park as a several day event. Vehicles can't be located under the trees so they will use the old soccer field. This project will have impact on many departments. Lora will schedule Jon for the next meeting agenda.
- Improve hiking/biking access to Dollar Mountain Trails (at the end of B Street). This project would likely be just to provide some parking.
- Parks within residential developments. This project would involve this Board in the implementation process. There are quite a few areas that could use these types of parks. This would need to be discussed with the development community.
- Bike Trail Development (with Bikeways and Walkways Committee).
- Provide bike connectivity in the northeast area.
- Jeff Nelson provided updates:
 - Geocaching in Reinhart Volunteer Park. This is an outdoor treasure hunting game using a GPS. A citizen wanted to place one off the end of the dock. There is no policy but it is a liability issue.
 - Concession stands at Reinhart and Morrison Parks. Little League has run the 4-plex at Reinhart Park in the past but is having challenges. Jeff spoke to Recreation Northwest is interested in running the stands while games are in play. Jeff created a draft plan but the City would have to provide some of the equipment and we would get money back. Recreation Northwest would have to pay for the staff. There can't be volunteers. The board discussed the potential and would like to try it out for period of time.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Still moved and member Cartmell seconded the motion to authorize staff to negotiate a contract with Recreation Northwest for the purpose of running the concession stand at Reinhart Volunteer Park. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES":

Members Battersby, Chapman, Cartmell, Kuhlman, Matti, Still.

"NAYS": None. Abstain: None.

Absent: Board members, Szewc and Reinert.

The motion passed.

- Discussion continued with the Judy Reinhart Memorial at River Vista. There will be a memorial service for her at the River Vista on May 6 at 1 pm. The fee for using the space has been waived. Lora will provide some flowers or similar on behalf of the Parks Board.

- ROW maintenance at five locations, Rogue River Highway, Redwood Ave, Hubbard Lane, Darneille, the Soundwall, Baker Park, including the corner landscaping, E & F Triangle, Washington Blvd. Those went out for bid and they are currently rewarding that bid. It will be two different contractors doing the work.

III. Other Business:

- Chair Matti mentioned his conversation with the Parks and Community Development Audit. He provided feedback to the auditor on a variety of issues.
- Lora mentioned the auditor had asked if there was interest in splitting off the Parks department. Lora indicated that they were not.
- Rick Chapman asked for clarification on Recreation Northwest having a volunteer Vs. an employee serving at the concession stand. The answer was that it is a labor law issue.
- Jan Battersby asked about renting the River Vista and expressed the importance of returning funds back to the parks. Lora explained that it went to City Council about 8 months ago. The overnight rentals were determined to not be a permitted use. It will not be used as an overnight rental until the Development Code is changed by text amendment. The Parks and Community Development Department has full control over the River Vista. Lora further explained that the City has to follow its own rules and consider all the reasons and impacts of returning the house to overnight use.
- There was further discussion about river properties that could become rentals and the costs vs. benefits of renting the River Vista overnight. It has to be a permitted use and the City must go through the process.
- Gary Still asked if we should get a permit to do this. The Board would like to pursue this issue.

IV. Next meeting: March 9, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm

Minutes prepared by Donna Anderson, City of Grants Pass Administration.