

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2022, at 3:30 PM**  
**Council Chambers**

**Member Attendance:**

Chad Thorson (Chair)  
Michael Sellers (Vice Chair)- Absent  
Jan Battersby  
John Blackett  
Cliff Kuhlman - Absent  
Shane Hickman  
Brad Converse

**City/Staff/Council Liaisons:**

Curt Collins- City Councilor  
Brad Clark – CD Director

**Guests:**

Jason Schneider  
Christine Walker

**1. Roll Call:**

- o Chair Thorson called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm and roll was taken. Welcomed new member Shane Hickman.

**2. Introductions:**

**3. Approval of Minutes:** February 10, 2022

**MOTION/VOTE**

**Member Battersby moved, and Member Blackett seconded the motion to approve the minutes as amended from February 10, 2022. The vote resulted as follows:**  
**“AYES”:** Chair Thorson, Members Battersby, Blackett, Hickman, and Converse.  
**“NAYS”:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Members Kuhlman and Sellers.  
**The motion passed.**

**4. Public Comment:**

- a. No Public Comment.

**5. Action Items:**

**a. Basic Project Updates:**

- 1. **Caveman Pool:** Brad Clark discussed the Caveman Pool updates. Painting and decking bids are in. They are on the Council Agenda for Wednesday for approval. If approved, we will move forward with the pool covers.

Council approved the motion to keep the pool at the current location. The City needs to find someone who can give solid estimates for demo and building new pool.

Member Battersby asked if we have looked to other cities to see if they know of people to bid.

- 2. **Loveless Park:** Fundraising was done to improve the trails at Loveless Park. \$15,000 was raised and the City put \$10,000 towards the project. Earthworks is the contractor.
- 3. **Court Resurfacing:** Council approved acrylic surface on the tennis and pickleball courts. There is a plan in place to set the pickleball posts on

Monday. The change over from Tennis and Basketball to Pickleball will begin at Reinhart Volunteer Park with 'fence posts' installed to separate the pickleball courts.

4. **Skate Park:** The City is publishing a bid for repairs to make the Skate Park safer. The Pre-Construction meeting will be done by March 31, 2022.
5. **Westholm:** Drainage problems were looked at by the City Engineer. Thornton Engineering completed the engineering and Playcraft designed the playground. We are waiting on a new bid by next week. Council will review the playground bid on April 6, 2022.
6. **Baker Park:** The City received a \$100,000 grant for resurfacing and striping the parking spaces and boat ramps.

Member Battersby asked if the grant covered the restrooms. It does not.

A lady named Christine Walker asked to speak. She stated that she is a homeless person living at Baker Park and she thinks that the City needs to provide showers, water and electricity there for the homeless people instead of fixing up the parking lot and boat ramps. She thinks it would reduce the crime rate.

7. **Lawnridge Park:** The pickleball and tennis court work has begun.

**b. Dollar Mountain Update:**

1. Brad Clark discussed the fire mitigation work that Grayback Forestry has done over the past two years and will continue to do through a \$450,000 grant. A grant from Travel Oregon was used to hire a contractor to design and flag the pilot project trails. A fire and rescue plan is being developed to apply for a Conditional Use Permit required to develop trails on County land. The Parks Department and City Council have received many letters in support of the project.
2. Member Converse asked what types of trails are planned for the trail park. Brad Clark responded that the trails will be for hiking and biking. No motorized use. They had over 1500 responses to surveys with 78% in favor of hiking and biking trails, 6% in favor of equestrian and less than 3% in favor of motorized use.
3. Member Thorson explained that it was determined that the Dollar Mountain Trail Park is a City Park where motorized and equestrian use is prohibited. At a public meeting in 2020, the president of the Motorcycle Riders Association stated the trail park is too small and too close to the urban interface to support motorized use. The cost and area required for an equestrian trail head is prohibitive compared to the low interest from survey responses.
4. Brad Clark showed the engineered plans for the Crescent Drive parking lot. Construction should begin this fall.
5. Member Converse asked if the trails were ADA. Brad Clark stated they are not.

6. Member Battersby asked if the trails are going to be maintenance friendly and easy for Parks Staff to maintain. Member Thorson explained that properly built trails require very little maintenance. Brushing can be done with volunteers similarly to what is done at Cathedral Hills in Grants Pass and Mountain of the Rogue trail park in Rogue River. Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association has given a Letter of Intent to provide up to 300 hours of volunteer work yearly as needed to help maintain the trails.

**c. Presentation on Committee Procedures ~ Aaron Cubic:**

1. Continued to next meeting.

**6. Matters from Committee Members and Staff:**

- a. Member Thorson brought up the member rosters and the expiration dates. He was a little confused on how that worked. He did some research and explained the process to the rest of the members.
- b. It was asked if Parks had a computer program for scheduling recreation reservations. Brad Clark explained that we have a new program that is being implemented for Parks scheduling.

**7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:**

- a. Presentation on Committee Procedures – Aaron Cubic
- b. Project Updates

**8. Adjournment:** Chair Thorson adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

**Next scheduled meeting: April 14, 2022**

Minutes prepared by Jayme Hyatt, Community Development Department.