

**GRANTS PASS PARKS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2019 at 3:30 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**

**Members in Attendance:**

Dick Matti (Chair)  
Cliff Kuhlman (Vice Chair)  
Jan Battersby  
Brian DeLaGrange  
Robert Cartmell  
Rick Chapman - Absent  
Mark Collier  
Stephen Ware

**City/Staff/Council Liaisons:**

Tyler Flaming – City Council  
Lora Glover – PCD Director  
Wendy Giordano – Parks Superintendent  
Aaron Cubic – City Manager

**Guests:**

Shaun Hall – Daily Courier

1. **Roll Call** – Chair Matti called the meeting to order and roll was taken.
2. **Items from Public:**
  - None
3. **Minutes**
  - **Approval of Minutes:** March 14, 2019

**MOTION/VOTE**

**Member Cartmell moved and Member Kuhlman seconded the motion to approve the minutes from March 14, 2019. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Matti, Vice-Chair Kuhlman, Members, Battersby, Cartmell, Collier, DeLaGrange, Ware. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Chapman**  
**The motion passed.**

4. **Action Items:**
  - a. Deferred Maintenance –
    - Chair Matti discussed final action on deferred maintenance and the Caveman Pool. He feels it is not the committee’s job to micromanage all the items on the deferred maintenance list. He proposes they consider the list and discuss any amendments then approve the list, as a whole, with cost estimates for City staff. Member Collier mentioned based on population served and safety items; Lawnridge Park courts should be moved to priority 1. Unofficially, they voted to approve member Colliers’ suggestion to move to priority 1 on the deferred maintenance list.
    - Member Collier asked if the bathrooms at Lawnridge Park will remain closed? Wendy answered that bathrooms are closed only during the winter and may already be open again. He also asked if Baker Park is off the list noting it no longer had a dollar figure associated. Wendy indicated they do not have plans to rebuild that restroom facility. Lora Glover added that if they do rebuild it will be on the upper level to avoid flooding. He asked if there is any way to move parking lot repair over to streets? Lora answered “no”.
    - Councilor Flaming asked if the lights at Lawnridge are part of the court upgrade? Member Collier answered that the pickle ball community has asked for the lights since the wiring is already there. The lights do need to be upgraded on the basketball and pickle ball courts. The lighting would be a priority 1 at that location. The committee agreed and changed their list to reflect the change to priority 1. They discussed LED lighting and potential

funding from the Energy Trust of Oregon. Wendy will get an electrician out to have a look at what the costs would be.

- Chair Matti asked for a motion to amend the original priorities of the deferred maintenance list. Those items were to improve the courts at Lawnridge Park for safety reasons including appropriate LED lighting on the basketball and pickle ball/tennis courts.

#### **MOTION/VOTE**

**Member Ware moved and Member Collier seconded the motion to approve the Deferred Maintenance list to staff with the items and priorities as amended. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Matti, Vice-Chair Kuhlman, Members, Battersby, Cartmell, Collier, DeLaGrange, and Ware. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Chapman  
The motion passed.**

- b. Caveman Pool – Chair Matti feels committee will need more time to discuss specifics about recommendation for the Caveman Pool. Member Collier mentioned the value of the pool and hearing from many that they want the pool. He asked if a general statement from this committee to the City Council, saying they want continued outdoor swimming recreation rather than the alternative of having no pool for the kids. Chair Matti asked the members if they feel they should have an outdoor public pool available to the community during the summer months or do we feel that is money we should spend elsewhere? Councilor Flaming mentioned to consider not limiting the pool to outdoor. If the pool is going to be rebuilt at some point, it could be a year-round facility. Member Battersby asked if we make money on this pool? Wendy indicate they spend about \$85,000 a year. They talked about how the pool is not a money maker and that is how the park system in general works. They don't have a cost recovery system. They discussed what they want from the pool. Where is the loss generated? Would it be better to have lessons at the “Y”? Could there be a joint venture? Wendy has had a meeting with the YMCA to get the contract issue resolved. They feel they are losing money with the City pool as well. The contract does not cover all of their costs. They would like a flat rate then a 50/50 split of any revenue. They want to do more promotion of it as well. City Manager Cubic added that pools are not a revenue generator. It is always a loss. Member Kuhlman asked if we would be the only city without a pool if we closed it? Aaron added that the splash park is now available and attendance was huge during the small time it was open. They discussed the pool being of value for older kids and how it enriches the community. There are a lot of aquatic recreational activities. The question of how recreational projects are prioritized. Aaron added they have already been prioritized by the City Council in their strategic planning process. It could be added into process in the future.

Chair Matti asked if this committee feels we should have a public pool? Member Battersby noted that even though she felt using the pool at the Y might be a good alternative, noting all the types of recreational opportunities that Tyler mentioned. Wendy added that getting a thorough report as to the condition of the pool would be about \$5,500. Tyler asked to hear something from committee members that has some weight as to what you would like to do as far as a recommendation to the City Council. Member Collier made a motion that the Parks Advisory Committee go to the City Council with a preference to maintain a public pool.

## MOTION/VOTE

**Member Collier moved and Member Ware seconded the motion to recommend the City of Grants Pass provide a public swimming facility. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Matti, Vice-Chair Kuhlman, Members, Battersby, Cartmell, Collier, DeLaGrange, and Ware. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Chapman  
The motion passed.**

They further discussed reasons for keeping the pool open and some of the nicer pools they have seen. There may be a lot of passion in this community to keep the pool going and build a new facility.

- c. SOTA Dollar Mountain Trail Work Day on June 1 –
  - SOTA (Southern Oregon Trail Alliance) is a group that is very passionate about trails. They are planning a trail work day on June 1 which is National Trail Work Day. They will work on the section from Crescent Drive up to the tower. Then everyone will meet at Weekend Brewing when the work is complete. Also, on April 17, RVMBA (Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association) is also hosting an event to celebrate the City’s vision of purchasing Dollar Mountain and the recreation potential. Everyone is invited.

## 5. Information Sharing

### • Items from Staff

- Wendy and Lora met with Grayback Forestry. They will proceed with the fuel reduction services for about 80 acres pending contract approval by the City Council. The timeframe of their work can be done into July and completed this year. Tyler asked about the cost and Lora indicated it is about \$1,000/acre. It will be about a 4-5-year project. They can also perform continued maintenance as well.
- Wendy attended a webinar for an RTP grant. It is funded by state gas tax dollars. It would require matching funding.
- Wendy and Lora also had a meeting with Sarah Garceau, County Parks Director. She would like to consider some parcels on Dollar Mountain as part of a trade or similar.
- Lora mentioned that Chad Westbrook got his certification for pool operation so they now have 2 employees certified. Also, they attended the recent School Board meeting.
- Lora talked about a grant at Gilbert Creek and at Portolla parks play areas. Both are school district property so they will be working with them on the grant(s). Wendy mentioned they did turn in a grant application for rebuilding the playground at Westholm Park. They will also turn in a second grant application for Lawnridge Park for the play structures by the end of the month.

### • Items from Committee Members -

- Member Collier talked about putting temporary fencing at Morrison Centennial Park. The fencing is in and behind the box that is already installed. Striping will be finished as soon as the weather incorporates. He

has been getting questions about the lights and noted they aren't coming on correctly.

- Chair Matti talked about Rotary. This Saturday they will be painting the restrooms at the Harry and David Shelter. Volunteers welcome. They will add more projects in the future.

- **Items from City Council Liaison –**

- None

6. **Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting**

- PAVE Committee update.

7. **Comments from the public -**

- None

8. **Adjournment**

- Chair Matti adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

**Next meeting: May 9, 2019**

Minutes prepared by Donna Anderson, City Administration.