



## **Grabhorn Park Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **Virtual Meeting**

**June 3, 2021 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

**Attendees:** Cara Heinze, Kim Holmes, Michael Leipzig, Paul Fidrych, Mary Hindal, Andrew LaFrenz, Joel Haugen, Isaac Butman, Jim Lykins, Rocky Schwalge, Nicole Ferreira, Monica Ahlers, Huell White, Brian Hoag, Dina Eaglestone

**Absent:** JJ Duehren, Dana Pricher, Bryan Hammond, Ivy Freimuth,

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Chair Cara Heinze.

##### **1.1. Agenda**

Cara stated that the City couldn't get answers from ODFW about the culvert in time for the meeting and wants to add a presentation from the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council to the agenda. Paul gave feedback about some of the work done around the Public Forum planning at the last meeting and stated that the committee needs to proceed cautiously with regard to how the committee goes about that work.

Kim made a motion to approve the Agenda with the changes as stated. Jim seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

##### **1.2. Prior Meeting Minutes**

Jim made a motion to approve the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Paul seconded. Motion passed unanimous.

##### **1.3. Public Comment Recognition**

There were no public comments made to report to the Committee.

#### **2. New Business**

**2.1. Updated Amenities Slides:** Cara gave an update for the Amenities group. The group looked at the top 5 most requested additional amenities from the city survey, and did some cost estimating for different types of sports courts. Other amenities the group considered included benches and tables. Lastly, the group looked at natural environment inspired playground equipment, as this was mentioned to integrate open-ended play and the natural world.

Jim stated that with Frisbee golf you can leave the anchors in place around the park and remove them at other times to increase the multi-use nature of the area. Cara stated that this will be good to know moving into the next phase of work.

Kim gave an update on the road and pool issues. She talked about the initial considerations the group looked at, and that the group spoke with the police and fire chief about their needs in relation to a road. Kim stated that while the Chief's indicated the need for connectivity in terms of service provision, there is strong public opposition to the road. Kim stated that interconnectivity is an issue for emergency services, but there are other options to a two-lane



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road. Kim stated that the Chief's responded that speedbumps and bollards are major impediments for response time, but locking gates are less of a barrier. Other considerations relating to the road include environmental concerns, safety concerns, best practices, and opportunity costs.

Regarding the pool, the proposed pool may not be sufficient for the community, and costs may need to be looked at in more detail. Splash pads could be a suitable substitution for a pool, and there is new information about these that will be presented later during the presentation.

One of the groups new proposed recommendations is to preserve the natural area along the road as much as possible. The group did research on similar park developments. Kim noted that current City Master Plans may need updating, and that future development plans for parks should use a transparent public input process. Paul mentioned that splash pad infrastructure is similar to pool infrastructure in terms of operation and maintenance costs.

Kim talked about the Heritage Park Fountain, and asked Huell to get information for the group about the construction and operation of the fountain. Huell stated he would check on this. Kim showed the meetings notes from the emergency services meetings and stated that there are a number of lots being planned on the Buxton property, and nothing planned on the Wesco property. This was verified by the City.

Nicole reviewed the natural environment groups work regarding the natural areas of the property, and the benefits that they can provide to the community. Andrew stated that there is a unique opportunity to integrate the natural environment and the park space and talked about how the natural environment can positively influence health through physical and mental health benefits and mentioned that this is an excellent opportunity to tie in multiple important positive impacts to physical and mental health with the committees' work.

Nicole gave an overview of opportunities for integration of the natural areas with the park development, including natural play areas, passive recreation, trails, trees and shade, and conservation opportunities present on this property, and showed pictures of examples of how these opportunities could be integrated into the committee's recommendation.

Nicole also talked about the constraints and other considerations when enhancing and integrating natural areas into development. Potential permitting bodies who may add additional constraints are Department of State Lands, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Scappoose, and the Department of Environmental Quality, among others. Additional constraints are the natural features of the Creek and Wetlands, and the impacts of these on the property.

**2.2. Public Forum Planning Discussion:** Cara stated that a former Committee member, Liz, offered to help outreach with a booth at the Farmers Market, and asked Paul to continue his thoughts on the public forum.

Paul stated that the minutes seemed to state that the focus of the outreach is only about the potential recommendations, and not about the park writ-large, and wants to make sure that people can talk about their thoughts about the system/parks at large. Kim mentioned that she



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thinks that structure is useful, and that she thinks that integrating open ended feedback is also important. Cara stated that one of her goals with the public comment forum is to make sure that the feedback the group gets is constructive to crafting the recommendations and completing the work of the committee. Jim stated that the group should exercise caution with public comment and the reason for this, as he originally stated, is to try and get input before presenting any work at the risk of being seen as making decisions without input. Nicole stated that this group has been tasked with listening to public comment and acting as public representatives and is in position to do research above and beyond what the average person may not do, and then asked pointed questions based on research and community feedback, about what the community wants, rather than more open-ended questions.

Cara asked about how the committee might want to utilize Liz's offer of outreach. Kim stated that her thoughts are that Liz's offer is incredibly generous and noted that the sensitive nature of the GPAHC's work, the data given out and returned to the committee should be as accurate and complete and transparent as possible, and that might best be achieved by having a committee member present to represent the group. Cara asked if surveying at the booth would be useful. Kim asked about what the opportunities for communication with the City are. Isaac responded that there are many avenues through which people can provide input and feedback throughout the process. Cara stated that the Saturday groups should have some of the basic information and information guiding people to the City's multiple outreach platforms and feedback opportunities, and information leading up to the larger public forum. Huell stated that the newsletter deadline for July (released end of June) has passed, but that the August newsletter is an option, and the deadline for that is the first week of July.

Cara stated that it seems like Mid-July would be a good time to hold the public forum and give enough time for the groups to be able to integrate the data into their work before the recommendation is due. Huell stated that the 5th of July is a City holiday. Cara asked for a motion to adopt July 10th for public forum, one member motioned to hold the public forum July 10th, another member 2nd. The motion passed unanimously. Cara asked to discuss this during each session leading up to July 10.

- 2.3. Preparation for Progress Report:** Cara stated that Kim and herself will be attending Council Monday, June 7 to present the groups work so far, what their path forward looks like, and what significant considerations are being taken into account as the committee prepares its recommendations. Cara previewed the information that they will be sharing with City Council and asked the Committee for feedback and input on the materials.

Paul stated that there seems to be a divide between the Schools and the City and is curious as to how this has been addressed. Joel agreed with Paul that there is a need for greater collaboration between the two groups, and this is an important question.

Brian stated that there is an issue with community groups using school fields for multiple reasons, and there is a need to have better communication and cooperation, but this is in tension with other factors, including that sports are becoming year-round, and usage restrictions on the playing spaces.



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### **3. Announcements**

#### **Next Meetings**

- June 17, 2021
- July 1, 2021
- July 15, 2021

#### **Meeting Adjourned at 7:03 pm.**

For questions about these minutes, contact Isaac Butman, 503.543.7184 [ibutman@cityofscappoose.org](mailto:ibutman@cityofscappoose.org)  
The EDC conducts its meetings in an ADA accessible room. If special accommodations are needed, please contact City Recorder Susan Reeves at 503.543.7146, ext. 224 TTY 503.378.5938

A full recording of this meeting is available on the City of Scappoose YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqIXU5AgJ5Q-rkw7HoJTzFQ>