



Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Council Chambers, 33568 E. Columbia Ave., Scappoose, OR 97056

October 8th, 2019 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

Attendees:

Cara Heinze, Lindsey Goodwick, Bryan Hammond, Dana Pricher, Pete McHugh, JJ Duehren, Kristin Person, Councilor Joel Haugen, Huell White

Absent:

Alyse Lansing

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Committee Chair Cara Heinze.

1.1 Review Agenda – No additions made to agenda.

1.2 Approval of prior meeting minutes – Meeting minutes from 09.19.2019 approved unanimously and without modification.

1.3 Public comments – none.

2. **City Updates and Discussion**

2.1 City Updates

Huell White delivered the City's update. Public Works has discovered that their mower is in far worse shape than first expected. The City expects mowing along the CZ Trail to be on hold until the mower is repaired or can be replaced. At the October 7th City Council meeting, the Council motioned to approve the Committee's recommendation to name the new trailhead "Trtek Trailhead." Pete McHugh asked if the City has contacted the Trtek family yet. White replied that the City has not to the best of his knowledge, but that he would discuss contacting the Trteks with the City Manager to coordinate.

White raised an issue that the City has been asked about on a number of occasions recently – Miller Rd. and its relationship with the new portion of CZ Rd. White mentioned that while it currently appears as if Miller Rd. will connect with CZ Rd., the City intends to restrict through access – what exact option for restricting access has not yet been determined. Dana Pricher



commented that the Fire District may have a different perspective about access through this road. White commented that the Fire District will be critical to deciding how restrictive access is for the connection.

McHugh asked White about PCC and if the City had any updates. White replied that he had only heard fragments about the situation and was not informed enough to provide an answer. White informed the Committee of the newest member of the Parks Committee – Kim Holmes Kantrowitz. Kantrowitz was unable to attend this meeting, but she is excited to start serving with the Committee. White reached out to Nathan Mapes, a current PSU undergrad who was interested in serving, but Mapes' school schedule conflicts with the Committee's meetings.

2.2 Friends of Scappoose Fundraising

Cara Heinze stated that she wanted the group to start thinking about this topic again – as the June meeting resulted in some productive and creative thinking as far as fundraising is concerned. During that meeting, the Committee discussed both large and small ways to fundraise. In June, the Committee tossed around the idea of holding an auction (a la the School District), however, such an event would be formal, large, and take time and effort to organize.

Lindsey Goodwick asked what the funds would be for? Goodwick mentioned that in her experience managing fundraising for a large nonprofit organization, having a goal/project to fundraise towards is critical to actually raising money from donors. Goodwick's advice was that the Committee and City need to figure out what exactly needs funding assistance – after that, FSP can work on creating a donor base and momentum around the effort. Goodwick said that when she thinks about Chapman Landing, she sees an opportunity for a large capital fundraising campaign.

White told the Committee that any funds raised through charitable giving would most likely be focused on the multi-phased effort to develop Chapman Landing as a waterfront park. Due to the scope and cost of developing the site, aspects of the project will be funded in portions over time. White stated that currently the focus is on re-zoning the property and preliminary engineering work, as for what comes next depends on several factors. Additionally, the City Manager is interested in reassembling the Chapman Landing Ad Hoc Committee, however, at which point in the process that will happen has yet to be determined. Heinze asked to have the Chapman Landing discussion added to the next meeting's agenda.

2.3 Harper's Playground Discussion

Goodwick mentioned that the Harper's Playground nonprofit organization is doing a two-day intensive workshop on inclusive playground design – design that is accessible to all children of across a broad spectrum of ability. Often, they design and construct playground in-memoriam.



While several members commented that it does not seem like the City is at that point right now, but that they would be interested in learning more, especially ahead of the next playground that gets built (likely years down the road). Harper's playgrounds are all inclusive in the sense that *all aspects* of the play are an inclusive, not just certain components. Additionally, Harper's assists with funding by offering grants.

Pricher asked if it would be possible to partner with the Scappoose School District on something like this. Heinze mentioned that Grant Watts' playground is probably the most heavily used one in the City – a fact that warrants some sort of inclusivity options. Heinze asked the Committee what the next step the Committee should take. Pricher agreed that there is a need, but it remains to be seen if there is community support for it and, ultimately, what the long-term perspective is.

JJ Duehren mentioned that it might be doable with the pool fund. The Committee asked if it would be possible to discuss the pool fund at the Annual Town Meeting. McHugh mentioned that it is imperative to figure out the pool fund money, as some folks have lost trust in the City over how the pool funds have sat for years. White stated that repurposing the pool fund would require a ballot referendum to the best of his knowledge – as that fund was originally established under such circumstances. Councilor Haugen mentioned that the City should consider this for the Town Meeting soon. Duehren asked if the Committee could write a letter to the editor (newspaper). White interjected that the Committee's role is one of an advisory board to the City Council. The Committee members asked about recommending the issue of the pool fund to the Council, which all members were supportive of. Goodwick mentioned that the Committee will be undergoing the goal setting process in a couple of months – during which this issue should be raised instead.

The Committee expressed interest in a Parks District – similar to the one that was formed and shortly thereafter disbanded several decades ago. McHugh mentioned that the largest challenge faced by that entity was a lack of funding. Duehren asked if the City could spearhead such an endeavor. White replied that a theoretical parks district (i.e. special district) would be a separate governmental entity, with its own boundaries, independent elected body, and taxing authority. Pricher also commented that, in Oregon, taxing districts (i.e. government jurisdictions) are restricted by the compression rate, or the maximum total government permanent property tax rate. Essentially, if a special district is formed, the new district could be hampered in its ability to raise revenues.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm. The next meeting will be held on October 8th, 2019 in City Council Chambers at 6:00 pm.

For questions about these minutes, contact Huell White, 503-543-7184 or hwhite@cityofscappoose.org.