



Thursday, April 18 2024

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA - Regular Meeting at 6:00 pm

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format. Please submit public comment to

cbaker@scappoose.gov or ibutman@scappoose.gov in writing or via email by noon on April 17, 2024.

Public comment can also be made in-person during meetings.

Topic

1. **Call to order** **6:00 pm**
 - 1.1. Agenda; April 18, 2024
 - 1.2. Meeting Minutes; March 21, 2024
 - 1.3. Public Comment

2. **Old Business**
 - 2.1. JJ Updates: Earth Day, Summer Festival

3. **New Business**
 - 3.1. Grabhorn Park Brainstorming Session

4. **Announcements and General Discussion**
 - 4.1. Grant Opportunities

 - 4.2. Next Meetings
 - May 16, 2024
 - June 21, 2024
 - July 18, 2024

5. **Adjourn** **7:30 pm**

This meeting will be conducted in a handicap accessible room. If special accommodations are needed, please contact City Recorder, Susan Reeves at 503-543-7146, ext. 224 in advance. TTY 1-503-378-5938



Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024 6:00 pm

Recording: Yes

Attendees: Staff: Charlotte Baker

Members: Ian Holzworth, JJ Duehren, Michael Sykes, Nathan Haner, Paul Fidrych, Bryan Hammond (virtual), Scottie Meinke

Council: Marisa Jacobs

Absent: None

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Chair Michael Sykes.

1.1. Meeting Minutes

- JJ moved to approve the minutes, Ian seconded. Passed unanimously

1.2. Meeting Agenda

- Approved

2. Old Business

2.1. Earth Day Update

- JJ stated that Earth Day has received many sponsors. It will be from 8-3, with the first part of the day dedicated to beautification efforts. The latter part of the day will consist of a street fair with live music. Volunteers who engage in beautification will receive free food. There will be a drawing for an e-bike at 2:30 PM. There will also be electric tools available for raffle. The OSU Master Gardeners will be there, and free seeds will be available. She encouraged potential volunteers to reach out. The event will be held April 20.
- JJ also shared that the Outdoor Festival is coming along. The Bigfoot Museum will have a table, and a local rockhound will be sharing information on rocks. There will be a children's art show and a local plant presentation. This event will occur on June 8.

3. New Business

3.1. Pickleball

- Paul gave this presentation alone because Terry has quit the SPRC.
- Paul stated that Scappoose has no pickleball courts, and the courts in St. Helens does not have adequate nets. He sent information from USA Pickleball to Dave. Paul and Terry worked together to put together drawings of where the courts could go in Veteran's Park. Dave suggested that the pickleball courts go at the entrance of Veteran's Park South of the baseball fields. The design proposed and included in the packet is the least expensive option. Paul stated that the area is flat enough to accommodate the pickleball courts, by his estimation. USA Pickleball estimates that the price for a 2 court setup is approximately



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\$35,000. Paul estimated that a 4-court setup like the one in the mockup would be approximately \$50,000.

- Mike asked if he felt the pickleball courts were worth pursuing. Paul said yes, because pickleball is a fast growing sport and there are no facilities in the area. He also mentioned that it is a relatively cheap sport to pick up, as the paddles are inexpensive.
- Nathan stated that he plays pickleball a few times a week and would enjoy having a place to play in town. He said that he has met a community through pickleball and it is popular with all ages.
- Bryan said that he was concerned about the layout and if the courts were in an area that would flood. Marisa shared that she is at the park regularly and the area where the pickleball courts were proposed does not get particularly wet.
- Ian agreed that pickleball would be a good amenity for the City, but wondered where the little kids soccer teams would play. Charlotte shared that Doug and Dave had suggested that those teams could play in Grabhorn park.
- Ian also asked if the price that Paul gave included the fences. He said that it does.
- Lastly, Ian recommended adding benches around the pickleball court so it is a comfortable area for people to play and spend time.
- Mike suggested that they recommend to Council that staff move forward with this and also consider where the little kids soccer teams would play long-term. The SPRC agreed.
- Ian asked if Paul had come across any grants that could possibly fund this project. Mike asked if Paul could identify some of those grants and bring them to the next meeting.
- Scottie suggested that paddles could be rented by the library. Nathan said that in his experience, parks have lock boxes that hold the nets and paddles.

4. Announcements and General Discussion

4.1. Grant Opportunities

- Michael suggested that the SPRC look into grants for next week. He also stated that he spoke to Dave about Grabhorn, and Dave is concerned about the price and the fact that a portion of the park is a wetland and needs to be mitigated. He suggested that the City goes after the Grabhorn grant next year, and expressed that he thinks it is a waste to not use the purchase price of the property as the matching funds for the grant. He shared that he spoke with Larry about it.
- JJ stated that she also spoke with Larry about writing grants. She stated that Larry felt positively about SPRC members writing grants. JJ stated that she and Michael have the skill set to successfully apply for grants.
- Paul stated that he found 45 grants that could be applicable for parks and rec projects. He asked how the SPRC felt about the commercialization of grant funds, and the possibility of receiving grant funds and then having signage indicating the name of the grantor. JJ stated that she felt that it was wise to tread carefully. She suggested working with foundations as opposed to businesses directly, because they are able to be more discreet and tasteful. Ian stated that it's not uncommon for public spaces and public amenities to be openly sponsored by private entities. He suggested that guidelines could be put forth to prevent excessive commercialization of the parks. Paul asked if there were best practices that could be drawn on. Ian stated that he has seen small plaques or bricks. Paul stated that any commercialization shouldn't be evergreen, because businesses go out of business. Scottie



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stated that the City should set limits on what commercialization looks like in the parks. JJ suggested having memorial benches or plaques.

- Marisa stated that she's happy to see grants as a permanent agenda item. She stated that is going to be most helpful to tie grant opportunities to the Parks Master Plan.

4.2. Other discussion

- Michael asked if Council had approved committee goals yet. Marisa stated that they had not yet done so, but the committee would be invited to a work session on April 15.
- Paul suggested that the SPRC tee up the discussion on Grabhorn for next month's meeting. He asked the group if they thought it would be helpful to brainstorm ideas or alternatives for the April meeting. Ian said he doesn't think throwing out the design is worth it, because it is a reflection of what the citizens want. He thinks it is a better idea to wait until the City has enough money to achieve the park in its entirety, and that the SPRC should not be paring down the design on their own. He suggested coming up with a phasing plan instead of reducing the design. Paul offered that amenities could be added to the park that could be removed at a later date, or would not impact the ability to construct the park at a later time—for example, disc golf. Mike stated that he wanted the group to spend 45 minutes to an hour to discuss how the City could use the \$750,000 purchase price to create the park. He reiterated that it would be "a tragedy" to not use the \$750,000 grant.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42 pm.

For questions about these minutes, contact Charlotte Baker, 503.543.8404 cbaker@scappoose.gov
The SPRC conducts its meetings in an ADA accessible room. If special accommodations are needed, please contact City Recorder Susan Reeves at 503.543.7146. TTY 503.378.5938

