

## September 28, 2017

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

# Scappoose City Hall, 33568 E Columbia Ave. Regular meeting at 6:00 pm

#### **Committee Members**

David Powers, Chair Peter McHugh, Vice-chair

Beth Zelfer (absent) Jeannine Duehren (JJ)

Jolene Jonas Alyse Lansing

Cara Heinze (absent) Grant Carpenter, Ex-Officio (Absent)

## **Elected Officials, City Staff and Guests**

Megan Greisen, City Councilor Bryan, North West Trail Alliance

Alex Rains, City Staff Garett Peterson, RARE Participant

Joel Haugen, City Councilor

#### **Minutes**

## 1. Dave Powers called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

- 1.1. Three sections were added to the agenda: 2.5 Scappoose Flood Plain Grant, 2.6 Scappoose Creek Trail Master Plan, 2.7 Potential conflict with proposed Industrial park and CZ Trail
- 1.2. The meeting minutes from August were approved without modifications.
- 1.3. Public comments

Bryan with North West Trail Alliance mentioned tree thinning in LL Stub Stewart State Park from November-March possibly meaning that there may be some trail closures.

A Teacher from Scappoose Adventist Christian School came to discuss about possibly organizing a community service project in the City's parks for her students. Possible projects could include



picking up trash, weeding, simple planting, digging holes for trees, or other types of beautification and restoration projects. She mentioned how the community service project would have to occur during school hours to accommodate the student's schedules. She said the parents are supportive of the proposed community service idea and would be willing to sign a waiver of liability.

The Parks Committee showed strong support and enthusiasm for organizing a clean-up project for the students. Committee members suggested creating an adopt-a-park program or CZ trail clean-up project.

The Committee said that they need more time to speak to City Staff to clarify the legal questions regarding allowing under-age students to volunteer. The Committee would also have to coordinate with the Parks Department to figure out possible projects for the students.

Alex Rains said she would help coordinate with the necessary staff members and then let the teacher know of the decision.

## 2. City Updates and Discussion

- 2.1 The new RARE Participant Garett Peterson was introduced to the Committee.
- 2.2 Parks Committee members David Powers, Joel Haugen and other City Staff met with three County Commissioners and some of their staff last week to discuss the possibility of the County transferring Chapman Landing to the City. Dave and Joel said that County Commissioner Alex Tardiff, the County's attorney and Parks Department head stated that they are open to the idea of transferring the property to the City on the condition that the City creates a development plan that gives the County a "high degree of certainty" that the park will actually be developed in a timely manner. This is an important factor in the land deal because the land was originally transferred to the County with the stipulation that the land would only be used for park land, so transferring the land to the City would be contingent on achieving those same goals. Dave and Joel stated that they walked away optimistic that a deal for Chapman Landing would be reached between the City and County within the next few months.
  - Alex Rains suggested that the County should rezone the land to Community Development before transferring to the City or waive the fee for the City to rezone it once it is received because the current zoning of RIPD is undevelopable for recreation.
- 2.3 Alex Rains and David Powers went to Salem last week to make a presentation for the RTP grant for the Bella Vista trail head project. Unfortunately the grant application was denied. However, the grant committee were overall very supportive of the project and told Alex that the project



has a strong chance of being approved next application period if the City included more information on the trails themselves instead of only including information on the trail head. The grant committee suggested the City develop a Recreational Trails Plan that explains in detail the design of the proposed trail system within Bella Vista Park. The grant committee then said that resources are available from the National Park Service to help cities preform such plans. Alex said she would research the specific in more detail and report on her findings at a later date.

- 2.4 David Powers was re-elected as Committee Chair and Peter McHugh was re-elected as Vice-Chair at a vote of 5-0 with 4 votes absent due to 3 unfilled positions on the Committee and one absence.
- 2.5 Scappoose floodplain restoration project's grant was approved. The grant will help pay for salmon habitat restoration along North Scappoose creek and to help reshape the banks along the creek near Seely park to decrease the risk of flooding. The project will also benefit the community because they will be able to access the creek more easily with the gradual sloped banks instead of the current steep banks.
- 2.6 Nick Sund, a previous RARE Participant, offered to work with the City to create a Scappoose Creek Trail Master Plan next summer for his master's thesis project. Nick will meet with City Staff in January to further discuss this opportunity.
- 2.7 An issue was raised about the proposed Industrial Park near the airport negatively impacting the CZ trail near West Lane Road and Crown Zellerbach Road. Concerns were raised about how close the proposed road would be to the CZ trail and how that could potentially impact the users of the trail (safety, health, aesthetics, etc.). It was suggested that the proposed road could be as close as 15 ft. to the CZ trail. Committee members stressed that they support the overall Industrial Park project, but they want to ensure the quality of the trail is preserved. Committee members suggested possibly asking for vegetation barriers to be placed between the road and trail to mitigate some of the impacts to the trail.

Another issue with the trail is that Port of St. Helens might have plans to extend one of their runways which may conflict with the construction of the proposed road and CZ trail.

The Committee decided that no further action is needed at this time and instead decided to wait

until the next Planning Commission meeting to learn more information on the two projects.

Members of the Park Committee will be present at the next Planning commission meeting to ensure their concerns are addressed.

#### 3. Announcements



3.1 The Parks Committee has received one applicant for the three open Parks Committee positions. The committee discussed potential applicants that they personally know that would be a good fit and all members agreed to contact potential applicants to urge them to apply before the deadline. Interviews will be held during City Council work session on November 6, 2017.

## 4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned 6:50 pm. The next meeting will be held on October 19, 2017 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers.

For questions about these minutes, contact Garett Peterson, 503-543-7184 or <a href="mailto:gpeterson@cityofscappoose.org">gpeterson@cityofscappoose.org</a>.

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