

CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION

January 28, 2010

Parks Commission members present: Beverly Meyers, Jon Eck, Chris Coles, Bill Otton, Patty Scott, Nathan Clausen

Not Present: Cindi Miller, Floyd Vandervelden,

Staff present: Steve Doty, Amy Carlson, Jim Hossley

Guests present: Cricket Soules, John Ambrosini, Gene Melton, John Lemmons

APPROVAL OF October 8, 2009 and December 8, 2009 MINUTES

Mr. Otton called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The October 8, 2009 and December 10, 2009 Parks Commission meeting minutes were unanimously APPROVED.

Mr. Lemmons from the Job Site Program at Harding Learning Center stated he would like to do a community service work project to address the elk problem at Mingus Park. The project will include cutting in paths and trails, clearing ivy and brush, and picking up garbage. He added that they are interested in making the trail a hiking/biking trail.

Mr. Hossley commented that the Oregon Hunter Association and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are both interested in the project

Ms. Soules presented the draft management plan for the IOF Pioneer Cemetery. She also expressed concern about the liability and security of people working in the cemetery.

Eastside Park Improvements – John Ambrosini

Mr. Ambrosini stated he would like to improve Eastside Park by installing four picnic tables, either made from heavy lumber or recycled materials, and four barbeque pits along the tree line. He agreed to submit a plan to Mr. Hossley showing the layout of the tables and barbeques.

Consideration of Eastside Park Signage and Name change

When Mr. Melton asked about rehabilitating the existing plaque, Mr. Doty responded that the Parks Department crew does not know of a way to refurbish it.

MOTION – Jon Eck – Rename Eastside Park to Richard T. Whitty Eastside Park

SECOND – Patty Scott

VOTE - Unanimous

There was some discussion of the Eastside Park drawings submitted by Hilary Baker at the last meeting.

MOTION – Nathan Clausen – Proceed with the bench with roof-sign design

SECOND – Jon Eck

VOTE - Unanimous

Ford Leadership Project in John Topits and Eastside Parks

Mr. Melton and Ms. Coles gave an update of the current Ford Leadership class. They have decided that John Topits Park doesn't need as many benches as they had originally estimated, so they may look at putting benches in other areas. The design committee is still looking into cost of mile-markers and interpretive signs for the trails. They have decided there will be four dog-waste bag stations.

Status of Scout Cabin Refurbishing Project

Mr. Hossley stated that Andy Nasburg is heading the group working on the scout cabin at Mingus Park, which includes the Coos Bay-North Bend Rotary, Boy Scouts, and area contractors. They discovered more rotten wood than anticipated, so it is being worked on. They have finished rat-proofing access vents in crawl space. It was discovered that the roof has another 5-10 years, but does need some shingles replaced. They are currently getting quotes on some electrical and other work.

Empire Boat Ramp Project Status

Mr. Doty said the new solid concrete restroom was put in place about two weeks ago. Pacific Power and Light will set the power meter soon. They still need to pour sidewalks for the entrance approaches.

John Topits Bridge Project

Mr. Hossley said the cost estimate is about \$165,000. Heather Laird with Energy Trust is trying to find grants and thinks having dedicated funds would improve the chances of getting a grant.

Proposed Projects for Consideration in the FY 2010/2011 Budget

Mr. Hossley asked commission members to prioritize projects for the FY 2010/2011 budget. The following is the list of projects, estimated cost, and possible funding source that was agreed upon by the Commission:

- Informational signs on the South Dock - \$14,000 - Urban Renewal
- Stairway to fishing dock – unknown - Urban Renewal
- Eastside Park parking area - \$23,000
- Dog Park - \$12,000 - \$15,000 – donation line item/matching funds
- Bridge at Empire Lakes - \$165,000 – donation line item/matching funds
- Mingus Trails/clearing - minimal cost, mostly volunteer – may be able to cover costs with the Operations and Maintenance budget
- ~~Windy Hill Park fix up~~ (removed from list by commission members)
- W. Park tennis court resurface - \$20,000 - matching or 1st year contribution
- Pool house flooring - \$12,000 - \$15,000 - donation line item/matching funds
- Boardwalk pavilion fix up (lighting, pitted glass) – unknown cost - Urban Renewal

Mr. Eck suggested and commission members agreed to create a donation line item for the bridge at John Topits Park and for the city to start matching those funds.

Ms. Meyers suggested advertising and/or soliciting donations for the dog park.

PARKS COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Eck requested some gravel be placed on the trail from 14th Street to Choshi Gardens. Mr. Doty stated the city is in a quandary as to how to stabilize the gravel so it doesn't slough off.

Ms. Scott suggested placing a sign at the bridge at John Topits Park to generate donations

Ms. Meyers stated that Mr. Lemmons has been very helpful and easy to work with when she has associated with him at Choshi gardens.

After no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Carlson