

CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION

October 19, 2010

Parks Commission members present: Beverly Meyers, Bill Otton, Jon Eck, Chris Coles

Not Present: Patty Scott, Cindi Miller, Floyd Vandervelden

Staff present: Jim Hossley, Randy Dixon, Joanna Volz

Guests present: Earl & Barbara Landon, Connie Gerling, Mike Vaughn

APPROVAL OF August 12, 2010 MINUTES

Mr. Eck called the meeting to order at 4:07 pm. The August 12, 2010 Parks Commission meeting minutes were unanimously APPROVED.

REQUEST TO LEASE PORTION OF MINGUS PARK PROPERTY ON WEST SIDE OF PARK AVE ADJACENT TO BARHAM TERRACE

Mr. Hossley stated that Earl & Barbara Landon had came to him a few months ago requesting the possibility to purchase the land just east of their property. This particular piece of property is all a portion of Mingus Park. To the north of the property that they would like to purchase, the City had already approved an easement several years back for the residents to have access to some of their lots. The Landon's already maintain a portion of this property. Mr. Landon stated that there is a retaining wall on the property that is in need of repair and he would like to have it re-engineered and repaired. He would prefer to purchase this property instead of leasing it.

Mr. Eck asked if there was any benefit to the city to retain ownership of this property. Mr. Hossley said it may open up issues in the future as far as setting a precedent regarding selling or leasing park land. However, the city does not make any effort to maintain this portion of the park property. If the city were to sell or the lease the property, it would be his recommendation to put the money into a pot for Mingus Park. If the city were to sell the property, it would have to go through the process of subdividing and creating this parcel and then the parcel would have to be auctioned off so that any one in the public would have the opportunity to buy it. If were to be leased it may be possible to create an agreement for an individual to lease it.

Mrs. Landon stated that the area they wish to purchase isn't technically part of the park, it's just the same parcel of land. The reason they would like to purchase the property is because in order for them to have the existing retaining wall repaired, they would have to encroach on the city's property quite a bit. Several years back, the city offered to lease the property to them for \$1.00 a year, however they were then and are now more interested in purchasing it.

Mrs. Coles said she would like to have more time to take this request into consideration as she feels there is a concern for setting a precedent.

Mr. Hossley stated an easement would be another possibility. And Mr. Dixon stated that a property line adjustment may also be a possibility.

Mr. Eck stated he has concerns over that property because the road and land are shifting and the city previously had issues with a pipe in the roadway near the property and is concerned that the city may need that land for access to stabilize the area. He isn't particularly interested in selling it, however would

be willing to consider creating an easement so the Landon's and the city can both have access for needed maintenance.

CHOSHI GARDENS VANDALISM

Mrs. Myers stated that the cost for cameras could be 15 to 20 thousand dollars. She is discouraged by the vandalism because they work to keep it up, and then to return and see the damage is difficult. Mrs. Myers stated that after talking with the Parks Dept. employees she has realized its not just the plants, the bathrooms, lights, etc are also being vandalized.

Mr. Dixon stated he was interested in a motion-sensor camera that will turn on and start recording once it is triggered. Right now the city is estimating costs involved for these kinds of cameras.

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AT EMPIRE LAKES

The Ford Family Leadership Program Project targets are John Topits Park and East Side Park. Connie Gerling handed out a map of the 3 doggie stations, 2 new benches with plaques, 40 post markers, 1 large interpretive signs, and 2 smaller interpretive signs that are being proposed for John Topits Park. For East Side Park they are proposing 1 doggie station, and a 1 park bench with plaques. The target date is Oct 31st.

Mr. Hossley stated the Eastside Neighborhood group is going to maintain the doggie stations.

EASTSIDE PARK UPDATES

Mr. Dixon stated that the new playground equipment has been installed and it too has already been vandalized. Crews went out to assess the damage and found a metal deck was damaged and are determining to how to repair it.

After no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Volz