

CITY OF COOS BAY
MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION

March 11, 2010

Parks Commission members present: Beverly Meyers, Jon Eck, Chris Coles, Patty Scott,

Not Present: Cindi Miller, Floyd Vandervelden, Bill Otton, Nathan Clausen

Staff present: Steve Doty, Amy Carlson, Jim Hossley

Guests present: Lindi Quinn, Karina Smith, Mike Vaughan

APPROVAL OF January 28, 2010 MINUTES

Ms. Coles called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm. The January 28, 2010 Parks Commission meeting minutes were unanimously APPROVED.

Empire Lakes – Ford Leadership Project

Ms. Karina Smith, a participant from the Ford Leadership Program, gave an overview of the Ford Leadership Project. The program has identified multiple issues at John Topits Park that they would like to address, including park users getting lost on the trails due to lack of trail markers and maps, benches, and pet waste disposal.

Ms. Lindy Quinn, a member of 2009 Ford Leadership class, gave an overview of the “Trails and Tails” project proposal. There will be interpretive signs at John Topits Park, trail markers that mark outer and inner trails and any forks, 1/8 to 1/4 mile markers, pet waste bags and dispensers at John Topits Park and Eastside Park, and they are considering placing benches at each park and utilizing memorial plaques on the new and existing benches for fundraising purposes.

Ms. Coles discussed bench selection and design. There are already 39 benches in the park.

Mr. Doty suggested picnic tables be placed since there are already many benches in the park.

All members supported idea of placing memorial plaques on existing benches.

Ms. Smith stated they would like to have a celebration when the project is finished.

Pedway Conceptual Designs

Mr. Doty introduced the conceptual designs that are being presented as ideas for the Pedway. Prices range from \$500,000 to \$1.5M. Even though it technically isn't a park, he wants to keep the Parks Commission apprised of the project.

Mr. Eck noted that the Urban Renewal Agency is looking at many projects right now, so this project may end up being delayed.

Restroom at Empire Boat Ramp

Mr. Doty stated that the Empire Boat Ramp restroom is completed. It is heated, but has been turned off because of the large power bill. The budget was \$102,000, but the project came in at \$79,000.

Mingus Trails

Mr. Doty stated John Lemmons' team from Harding has been doing a lot of work at Mingus Park. The area around the old park house has been cleared and cleaned. Now they are working on the trails. The group wants to get money to build some creek crossings.

PARKS COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Coles stated she would like more uniformity or have standards regarding memorial plaques and other memorials in the parks. She doesn't want the parks to start looking like cemeteries. She also commented that if downtown buildings are demolished, the city should think about turning the areas into green space that would draw people into the downtown area instead of creating another parking lot.

Mr. Meyers stated she would like to see the central dock area cleaned up and beautified.

After no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Carlson