

**CITY OF COOS BAY**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION**

August 12, 2010

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

**Not Present:** Patty Scott, Cindi Miller, Floyd Vandervelden

**Staff present:** Jim Hossley, Randy Dixon, Amy Carlson

**Guests present:** Gene Melton

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**APPROVAL OF May 13, 2010 MINUTES**

Ms. Coles called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm. The March 11, 2010 Parks Commission meeting minutes were unanimously APPROVED.

**Introduction of Randy Dixon**

Mr. Dixon comes to Coos Bay as the new Operations Superintendant from the City of Salem. His background and experience was discussed.

**Eastside Park**

Mr. Dixon stated they are waiting for a connecting part for the playground equipment, but the set-up is about 95% done.

**Update on Ford Foundation Project in John Topits Park**

Ms. Coles met with Jim & Randy to get a final quote on the benches and is getting a final quote on the signs. Mr. Hossley stated city crews will be used to set up holes, then volunteers will place the signs in the holes.

**Budgeted Items for Parks this Fiscal Year**

Mr. Hossley distributed and explained the approved FY2010/2011 Operations Budget that comes from the general fund. Litter Patrol and Beautification has less budgeted than last year because the flower baskets have been moved to Hotel/Motel tax funds. Building Grounds and Maintenance includes money for heating costs at the scout cabin and for concrete maintenance at the skateboard park. There is added money to Mingus Park Pool for utilities; the management group is paying for the chemicals. The approved FY2010/2011 Parks Improvement Budget, which comes mostly from the Major Capitol Fund, was distributed and explained.

**Assessment Plan for Park Land**

Mr. Dixon plans to do an assessment plan which would include site inspections and acreage accumulation. Included in this would be some long-range planning and budget forecasting. He said he will bring the plan to the Parks Commission for approval.

**Park Maintenance Management Plan**

Mr. Dixon explained that a Park Maintenance Management Plan is a tool that helps project maintenance needs and costs, and will help the city plan for the future

## **City of Coos Bay Trails Plan**

Mr. Dixon stated that a Trails Plan links parks with sidewalks, schools, county/state parks, etc. This would include working with other agencies to assess and establish connectivity for longevity. An example of this would be possible connecting the Coos Bay Boardwalk with North Bend. He stated that increased connectivity in a community will help with grant development.

### **PARKS COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Eck wondered if we could use the left-over money from the sidewalk project to seed into the Empire Lakes bridge project. Mr. Hossley stated it would be a matter of amending the SDC master plan.

Mr. Melton asked if there was an accurate estimate on the cost of the bridge. Mr Hossley stated that the most accurate one he has seen is \$250,000.

Mr. Hossley stated the scout cabin is not finished and the volunteers are still working on it.

Mr. Clausen asked if there is a long-term plan for the wooded area by Choshi Gardens in Mingus Park. Mr. Hossley stated that he isn't aware of any plans, beyond what is already there. The group of young people working on the trails is wanting to do some brush maintenance in that area this year. He also stated that this is one of the issues the assessment may address, assessing the current use and community interest. Mr. Dixon stated that interest trends and management plans change about every 20 years or so. Mr. Clausen stated he would like a long-term plan to open up that wooded area, which would also help cut down the vandalism at Choshi Gardens and Mingus Park.

Mr. Otton stated that there is interest to have a Frisbee golf course that will be able to support tournaments, not just casual recreational users.

Ms. Meyers stated that Choshi Gardens is doing well, except for the vandalism. Vandals have shredded a new tree at the base, ruined some of the bamboo, and trashed the waterfall. She is open to any suggestions to combat vandalism

After no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Carlson