

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City of Brookings 898 Elk Drive, Brookings
February 24, 2005

Call to Order

City Manager Blodgett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Daryn Farmer, Haley Farr, April Gothard, Frances Hartman, Tony Parrish, Kathy Viola, Jan Willms, and *Ex Officio Commissioner* Paul Cleary

Staff Present: City Manager Leroy Blodgett, Councilor Frances Kern.

Media: Brian Bullock for *The Pilot*.

Introduction of New Members

The seven commissioners, Councilor Frances Kern, and *Ex Officio* Cleary introduced themselves. Commissioner Farmer, owner of an insurance company, said he came on board at the beginning of 2003. Commissioner Farr, an event planner, stated she would like to see a community center built. Commissioner Gothard, manager of a medical center, said she wanted to give back to the community and serving on the Commission supports that objective. Commissioner Hartman, who has a teaching background, stated she loves the area, especially the parks. Commissioner Parrish, chair of the Library Board and an avid golfer, explained he has been on the commission since 2001. Commissioner Viola, explained she wanted to be active in the community and believes there is a need for a recreational center for the children and residents of Brookings. Commissioner Willms, currently a teacher at SWOCC, is active with the Azalea Park Foundation. Student *ex officio* Paul Cleary, a junior at Brookings-Harbor high school, began serving on the commission last year. He is the liaison between the school and the Commission. Councilor Frances Kern explained she attends the meetings as the City Council liaison. She welcomed the new commissioners.

City Manager Blodgett also extended his welcome to the new members: Commissioners Farr, Hartman, Viola, and Willms.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Parrish made a motion; it was moved and unanimously approved for Daryn Farmer to serve as Chairman. Commissioner Willms nominated Commissioner Gothard for Vice-Chair; a second followed, and the Commission voted unanimously for the motion.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gothard moved, a second followed, and the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of December 16, 2004, by a voice vote.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOW-UPS:

City Manager:

City Manager Blodgett briefly reviewed the Financial Reports.

Commissioner Farmer stated he has one of the new trash cans but unlike most of the other cans, lacks the decorative tiles on the sides. Blodgett said the Pelican Arts Association has the tiles. Commissioners Farr and Gothard agreed to work together to have their children do the artwork for the tiles.

Blodgett reported the City Council is in the midst of the 2005-06 budget. The Commission should start thinking about what items are needed to include in the 2005-06 budget. One of the goals that came out of the goal-setting session was to have a Master Plan for Azalea Park. In 2001-02, the city contracted with the University of Oregon's Community Planning Workshop (CPW) students to help with the *Parks Master Plan*. We may contract with them to help us with the *Azalea Master Plan*. He inserted there is no money in the 2004-05 budget for that project.

Currently the process of designing the new restrooms at Azalea Park is in the works. As mentioned at a previous meeting, the restrooms will be modular, pre-fab structure similar to those used by ODOT. The downtime is minimal: a bulldozer removes the old, and places the new ones in the identical spot.

Later in the meeting, Commissioner Gothard made a motion relating to Azalea Park. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed, that no other projects be proposed for Azalea Park until a Master Plan is in place. She added that will be a goal for the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Open Discussion:

Discussion ensued and reference made to the *Parks Master Plan*. Commissioner Farmer began discussing the swimming pool. Blodgett stated his research has found that even if the money can be raised for a pool, it's the operating costs that have to be considered. Our swimming pool is running in the red as are other pools like the one in North Bend, because of operating costs. Following the discussion on the pool led to a recreational center. Commissioner Farmer stated it would be advantageous to have land donated for a center. Discussion ensued on the realm of a community center: should it be a multi-purpose facility to include the performing arts, a pool, basketball, etc. Commissioner Farr questioned if someone donated money would a separate account be set up by the City.

Blodgett suggested the commission have a clear idea of what the community center will be before discussing finances; survey the residents of the community to see what they would like, and then have a strategy to complete the goal.

The discussion concluded with a decision to hold a special meeting on March 16th at City Hall at 7:00 p.m, to gather input from residents. The regular meeting will be held on the last Thursday of the month, March 31st.

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Gothard mentioned the 7-week golf lessons offered by Salmon Run Golf Course for young adults for \$25.00. She also wanted to extend her appreciation for whoever contacted the business on Oak Street to remove their industrial vehicles. It is easier for drivers and it opens the view of Stout Park.

Commissioner Frances stated she looks forward to being involved with the survey.

Commissioner Viola stated she appreciated her notebook but would like to have maps of the parks.

Commissioner Willms announced the *Oregon Beach Cleanup* on March 23rd. She also applied for a grant to SOLV (South Oregon Litter Volunteers) which pays for the litter bags.

Chair Farmer commented on the recreation/community center. He said we need to have a clear idea about what the community wants, and having a special meeting will address that concern. It has been discussed for the past years; perhaps we can get specifics from this meeting.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Mahon
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission
March 31, 2005