

MINUTES  
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
City of Brookings 898 Elk Drive, Brookings  
March 25, 2004

**Before the meeting began, Lorraine Williams fondly remembered former Commissioner Nina Canfield who passed away March 14.**

**Call to Order**

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. After introducing new Commissioner April Gothard, he asked her to lead the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll Call**

*Commissioners Present:* Dave Gordon, Pat Sherman, April Gothard, Bill Boynton, Daryn Farmer and Tony Parrish.

*Commissioners Absent:* Dori Blodgett.

*Staff Present:* Councilor Frances Johns Kern; Dave Lentz, Parks Foreman-Public Works; Randy Mitchem, Parks Worker; Jeanne Nelson, Pool Director; Leroy Blodgett, City Manager; and Linda Barker, Administrative Secretary.

There were approximately 22 members of the public present.

**Minutes**

Commissioner Farmer moved, a second followed, and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the February 26, 2004, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, as written.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

Quincy Coons, candidate for Eagle Scout, presented his qualifying project. Using overhead transparencies, Coons laid out his plans for a staircase from the parking area on Lundeen Lane to the softball fields in Azalea Park. To earn the rank of Eagle Scout, Coons needs to plan and execute a project that will help the community, involve other Scouts and show his leadership. After discussion about using railings that will deter skateboarders, landscaping, and if adult supervision will be on site, Commissioner Sherman moved, a second followed, and by voice vote, the Commission approved Coons' project as outlined.

DeeDee Christensen, 15865 Hwy 101 S, addressed the Commission about the swimming pool and the effects of its closing. Chair Boynton assured her the pool will not be closing this year. Discussion ensued about options of running the pool as is, constructing a new center, repairs to the current pool and forming a district. Nelson said she felt replastering the current surface would last approximately 8 years. Blodgett said the problem with a new pool is not so much securing funds to build it but finding enough funds to run it once built. Commissioner Gordon requested a copy of the pool summary. This will be sent to the Commissioners. No action was taken on the pool matter.

Jeremy McVeety, 17249 S Passley, a fan and player of Frisbee golf, addressed the Commission with concepts of a course for Azalea Park. McVeety said the course would use areas of the park that are currently unused but also being abused. Councilor Sherman asked if the park Masterplan

addressed preservation of wild areas of the park. Lorraine Williams, speaking for the Azalea Park Foundation, said the Foundation has concerns with taking up the amount of land needed, the fact that many in the community want the park left untouched, and safety of players and other park users from flying disks. Doug Baldwin, 96421 Foxglove Way, spoke in support of the Frisbee golf concept and offered his services in designing and construction of a course. The Commission asked McVeety to design a general lay out a course at the park. A date for a Commissioner walk through of the proposed project will be set.

Jack Hawkins, PO Box 4362, presented a tennis program that he is starting at Bud Cross Park for junior high and high school girls. He has approached the schools and received a high degree of interest in the program which would be run under the US Tennis Association umbrella. He said the courts are more than adequate for this use and he asked the Commission for help in getting the courts cleaned regularly and screening for the courts. He has secured sponsors for start-up money and will be holding fundraisers to obtain additional funds as needed. At some time in the future he hopes to establish tournament play with teams from Eureka, CA to Coos Bay. Bill Youngman, 418 Pine Street, will be helping Hawkins with the program and he echoed the need to establish a "tennis environment" at the courts. Hawkins will be looking into getting the desired screening and he will contact Lentz regarding this. Discussion about adults' and boys' programs and parking problems ensued. Blodgett explained the normal application process for use of City parks and Hawkins said he has begun the process. He hopes to start the program in two to three weeks.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Stout Park:* Commissioner Parrish suggested he and Commissioner Sherman get together to draw up a plot plan for new plantings in the lower area. Sherman brought up a sister city idea. Parrish said a distinctly Japanese garden may not be the absolute answer. Many flowers and showy plants could be used that grow well here. Blodgett said at the next Rotary board meeting, April 5, Rotary will consider whether to take on Stout Park as a project. If they do they will want a sign recognizing Rotary's contributions to be posted at the park. Ideas were discussed for ways to get more volunteer help in the park.

*Chetco Park:* Commissioner Sherman said she hopes to get the porta-potty moved to where more people can see and utilize it. Lentz said it will be moved after landscaping. Sherman also requested she be contacted before more graveling is done to insure no endangered plants are damaged.

#### *Bud Cross Park and Softball Fields:*

Commissioner Gordon reported the fields look good and he would like to see Coons get his stairway project underway.

*Kidtown:* Lentz said the old chips will be removed from Kidtown April 5 and the new ones put in April 6.

*Bud Cross:* Commissioner Farmer asked about a florescent green pipe at the new restroom building. Lentz said it was the old drinking fountain. Farmer also asked why the Second Street entrance to the parking lots had been blocked off. Blodgett answered traffic concerns in the neighborhood prompted residents to request the closure. The parking lot is currently accessed from Hassett Street.

Lentz reported plans for a dirt bike course were submitted to the American Bicycle Association who would not sanction the course because of its small size. This summer Lentz will build the course as a fun place for kids to ride.

*Azalea Park Foundation:* Williams said the Foundation is going "great guns." They will be planting 2,000 annuals the third week in April. They will be using rocks recovered from the old storage building to build a wall and are working on a children's garden through the schools.

Blodgett said sealing for the Azalea Park parking lot has been scheduled and new curbs and striping should be down by the end of April.

#### **STAFF ANOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOW-UP**

*Financial Report:* No discussion

#### *Commissioner and Staff Comments:*

Lentz reported culverts at the top of Stout Park near the Presbyterian Church will be replaced during the church's remodel project.

Lentz also said the azaleas at Azalea Park are in need of pruning and requested a Saturday work parking to remove dead wood and blackberry vines that are growing through the azaleas. He would like this done before Azalea Festival. Ways of getting this work done were discussed.

Blodgett said there have been requests to use the new concession building in Azalea Park but no fees for its use have been established. Commissioner Gordon moved, a second followed, and by voice vote, the Commission set a \$75.00 per day use fee and a \$100 refundable deposit. American Music Festival will not be charged these fees since Rotary runs the concessions during the concerts and the club was instrumental in the construction of the building, contributing both money and labor.

Discussion on options for Richard Street Park followed. Blodgett will research the title to the property to see if the city can sell it.

Commissioner Farmer commented it was nice to see so many people attend a Parks and Recreation meeting. Commissioner Parrish said he had just returned from Monterey and hoped Brookings did not grow that big or expensive. Commissioner Gothard expressed her thanks for being appointed to the Commission.

With no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Gordon moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Barker  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission

4-22-04 (date)