

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
City of Brookings
898 Elk Drive, Brookings, Oregon
April 24, 2003

Call To Order

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order. Commissioner Parrish led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Pat Sherman, Nina Canfield, Dori Blodgett, Bill Boynton, Daryn Farmer, and Tony Parrish.

Commissioner Absent: Paul Prevenas

Staff Present: City Manager Blodgett, Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance-Public Works, and Community Development Secretary, Cathie Mahon.

Minutes

A motion was made; it was seconded and carried, to approve the minutes for February 27, 2003

Public Appearances - Presentation

Bill Youngman updated the Commission on the Azalea Park *Volleyball Project*. He reported contact with Freeman Rock resulted in getting a price of \$1275 for sand to fill-in the court. They are currently getting donations to meet the \$1275 goal. He explained they figure 300 cubic yards would complete the project with a target completion date the end of April.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Youngman stated the real problem is drainage. Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance for Public Works, entered into the discussion. He explained to keep the sand in the court area because the court is lower than the surrounding ground area, the court should have a layer of gravel at the bottom and around the pipe, followed by some sort of fabric to separate the pipe and gravel from the sand. This would take care of the drainage by having the water drained to the bottom and out the pipe.

Mr. Youngman concluded stating *Wild River Pizza* has a net for them. The nets will stay up from Spring until October; anyone can use the court except when a tournament is scheduled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stout Park: Commissioner Parrish reported the park continues to be clean of litter. He commented that Public Works had recently sprayed weeds in certain areas.

Chetco Park: Commissioner Sherman reported recently she lead Hospitality group for a tour of the park plus plant identification. During the tour a lot of *poison oak* was noticed along the path. (note:Public Works will spray). She also noticed a camper was using the upper park of the park for overnight camping. After further discussion, it was agreed a *No Overnight Camping* sign should be placed at the entrance.

Kidtown: Commissioner Dori Blodgett reported the *senior class project* to paint the whale has fallen through. She added the bark looks good.

Bud Cross Park: Commissioner Farmer reported the fields look good and are getting a lot of use. He commented on how fast the league prepared the new field and constructed the new dugout at Easy and Fern Street.

Parks Master Plan: Commissioner Boynton reported it is still an active project.

LIASON REPORT

Azalea Park: Commissioner Canfield reported after a meeting with Buzz Hansen, Project Engineer, the shed had a few minor changes: the metal door was changed to wood, and a ramp was constructed for easy access when putting the equipment into the shed.

She concluded they have been deterred from cleaning up the park due to increment weather. Hopefully the rain will stop in time for them to spruce up the park in time for the *Azalea Festival*.

City Manager Blodgett commented on the tool shed. The *Seabees* have been called to duty, and we need to find an alternative to finish up the project.

STAFF ANOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOW-UP

Financial Report: City Manager Blodgett reported the *Budget Committee* is working on the 2003-04 Budget. He noted *Azalea Park* would be separated out in order to track it, similar to how the swimming pool expenditures were taken out from the Parks and Recreation 2002-03 budget.

City Manager Blodgett discussed rules at the *Skate Park*. He stated the present sign should be posted particularly emphasizing wearing helmets. The insurance company made the recommendation requiring helmets be worn. If the warning is posted, and we see someone does not have a helmet on, then we could be libel. He added when he was recently in Salem, a law is pending requiring children under the age of 16 to wear helmets.

Discussion ensued on security at the parks. Commissioner Canfield commented they (the Azalea Foundation) are still very interested in some kind of security to curtail vandalism. She added they have had to re-shingle the gazebo (again) because kids climb to the roof, damaging the shingles. Commissioner Dori Blodgett stated it is going to take the community to make an effort of organizing to watch the parks. City Manager Blodgett stated "security in the parks" is one of the council's goals.

Summer Program:

Pam Calloway discussed the *Summer Recreation Program 2003*, which will start on June 4th with a fishing derby and end August 15th with a party celebration in the park. Summer interns will be instrumental in designing the programs. All leaders and interns will attend *first-aid* classes. Ms. Calloway anticipates participation to exceed last year for a number of reasons: those that attended last year will probably return, the number of classes offered has doubled, and the school year ends the end of May with no summer school schedule for the children. The facility will be a portable building behind the Brookings Harbor High School, which is a convenient location because most of the children can either walk to the school or ride their bikes.

The program schedule and additional information will be on-line on the City web page the first week of May. Registration for the classes is scheduled between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21st and Saturday, May 24th.

Ms. Callaway introduced fees for discussion. She reported during a recent visit to California she spoke to representatives from three (3) different municipalities: Yucaipa, Pomona, and Riverside, about funding for their summer recreation programs. Riverside and Pomona are "self-funded", and Yucaipa actually makes money. Without the financial help of scholarships and silent partners, Brookings would not break even. She explained, although we have a high percentage of below poverty level families, she would not want to exclude those children from participating in the program. On the other hand, fees should be reflected by residency; Brookings property owners who pay for parks and recreation out of their taxes versus those that are out of the district pay an increase in fees. She concluded, her visits and research to the 3 cities resulted in discovering all three adjust fees according to residency.

After further discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to increase fees twenty-five percent (25%) for children out of the district. For instance: if a Brookings child attended 4 classes at \$1.50 each, it would be \$6.00; anyone out of the district (and visitors to the area), would pay \$7.50. The Commission unanimously voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Callaway emphasized they do not turn away any children; scholarships and silent partners help with those who cannot afford to pay.

Chairman Boynton asked if anyone in the audience had any issues for the Commission. Representatives from *Tailwaggers* stated their group would like to be on the May agenda. It was noted and the group will be first on *Presentations*.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathie Mahon,
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission
May 22, 2003 (date)