

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
City of Brookings  
898 Elk Drive, Brookings, Oregon  
May 22, 2003

**Call To Order**

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

**Roll Call**

*Commissioners Present:* Pat Sherman, Nina Canfield, Dori Blodgett, Bill Boynton, and Paul Prevenas.

*Commissioners Absent:* Daryn Farmer and Tony Parrish.

*Councilor Liaison Present:* Councilor Frances Johns Kern.

*Staff Present:* City Manager Blodgett; Dave Lentz, Parks Foreman-Public Works; Leo Lightle, Community Development Director; and Community Development Secretary, Cathie Mahon.

**Minutes**

A motion was made, it was seconded and carried, to approve the minutes for April 24, 2003.

**Public Appearances - Presentation**

Kevin Roeckl, facilitator for the *Tailwaggers Dog Club*, gave a presentation and explained their request for a fenced in area to train and run dogs. He explained the history of the club. Dog owners wanted to train their dogs and organized from an interest in having *Canine Citizen Classes*. He explained the past few years, the group met at Azalea Park with their dogs, on Sunday afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. It was an opportunity to get together for both dogs and owners. He further explained socializing with other dogs teaches them to develop good behavior skills around other dogs. Included in the presentation was a video showing dogs being trained, socializing and playing with other dogs.

Mr. Roeckl explained when they met at Azalea Park they always cleaned up afterwards. The city received complaints about dog owners not cleaning up at the park. Those complaints resulted in the City posting a sign at Azalea Park requiring dogs be leashed and a reminder to clean up. He expressed they were penalized because of irresponsible dog owners. After the sign was erected, the group has had no place to exercise and train their dogs. He appealed to the Commission for a fenced in area or field they could use, so they can resume getting together on Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Discussion ensued. City Manager Blodgett entered into the discussion, stating he was of the opinion having the dogs in the ball fields was not an appropriate use. Dave Lentz, Public Works Maintenance Supervisor, vouched for constant complaints he fields from residents complaining about dogs owners not cleaning up, particularly in the ball fields.

The idea of a City dog park was discussed. Dave Lentz suggested an area behind *Easy Manor*, an undeveloped area approximately 150' x 100', but it is not fenced. Commissioner Sherman also suggested the possibility of an area at Chetco Park. City Manager Blodgett and Chair Boynton emphasized that they could oversee a dog park, but funds are limited and no money could be spent on the fencing materials. Another area discussed was McVay State Park. It was

pointed out, to place a fence around an area at McVay Park would require permission from the Oregon Department of State Parks.

Chair Boynton concluded the discussion reiterating, the Commission could assist the group in finding a location but would not provide the resources for the fence. He requested the group return at next month's meeting for an update of their findings.

Whitney Vincent entered the podium stating she was a member of *Tailwaggers Club*. She stated the club owners are responsible dog owners, they need a venue to train their dogs, and having a dog park would be a nice public service.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Stout Park:* Dave Lentz, Public Works Parks Foreman, reported they are placing rocks in the wet area closest to the street, planning to thin out some of the trees and plants, seed with wildflowers, and get rid of the old stumps.

*Chetco Park:* Commissioner Sherman reported many plants are in bloom. The illegal campsite has been eliminated.

*Kidtown:* Commissioner Dori Blodgett commented on the construction of the *tool shed*. The Seabees could not finish the project because they were called to duty. Lonnie Drahiem stepped forward to volunteer building it.

*Bud Cross Park:* Dave Lentz, Parks Foreman, updated the Commission. He reported the Little League State Regional tournament will be played in Brookings, and for 3 weeks in July, three divisions will be here competing. City Manager Blodgett commented a lot of people come to our city to participate in sport events, particularly baseball. He added the swimming pool is scheduled to open June 2, 2003. Jeanne Nelson has been busy hiring people to work over the summer at the pool.

*Softball/Soccer Fields:* Commissioner Prevenas reported the *Booster Club* did an outstanding job at the new field, developing the field, and constructing the dugout. He also reported after the construction is completed for the new school additions, there might be an area for a new field at Kalmiopsis. He added there is a likelihood we will need more fields in a couple years; hopefully the city and the *Booster Club* can form a partnership to work on this.

*Skate Park:* City Manager Blodgett reported legislation for requiring helmets will become law January 1, 2004. Also, a law prohibiting motor scooters on sidewalks is making its way through the Legislature.

*Parks Master Plan:* Commissioner Boynton reported it is still our guide and is being implemented where possible.

## **LIASON REPORT**

*Azalea Park Foundation:*

Commissioner Canfield reported the completion of the tool shed is most appreciated.

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

*Financial Report:* City Manager Blodgett reported overall the City is in good shape, adding he is proud of staff for watching their spending. Chair Boynton remarked, the less we spend (for this fiscal year), the more money can be returned to the general fund.

*City Manager:* City Manager Blodgett reported with the retirement of Dennis Barlow, the Public Works department has been re-structured. John Cowan will assume the responsibilities as Public Works Supervisor; Bob Schaefer will act as the Public Works Foreman, and Dave Lentz as Parks Maintenance Foreman.

City Manager Blodgett stated it is a busy time of year for the city, getting the pool open, and the recreation program beginning next month. The Planning Department has been very busy working with the Planning Commission on subdivisions; in the first half of the year the Commission approved nine subdivisions and two minor partition, resulting in 92 new building lots. The Building Department has approved 32 permits so far this year.

He concluded extending an invitation to the Commission to ride on the float in the *Azalea Festival* parade this weekend.

*Resignation of Paul Prevenas:* Commissioner Prevenas stated he enjoyed his tenure and things have definitely changed since he began in 1992. He applauded the Commission for staying focused and active. He commended Leroy (City Manager Blodgett) especially for supporting the summer recreation program; there is a need to keep the kids busy during the summer months. He also commended Pam Callaway for her leadership in the program.

Chair Boynton thanked Commissioner Prevenas for his time on the commission and extended best wishes from all the members on his new job and move. He was given a good wishes card and a *certificate of appreciation* from the Commission and City.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Mahon,  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission  
June 26, 2003