

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of Brookings  
898 Elk Drive, Brookings, Oregon  
June 26, 2003

### **Call To Order**

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order. Former Commissioner Lorraine Williamson led the pledge of allegiance.

### **Roll Call**

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

*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; and Community Development Secretary, Cathie Mahon.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made, it was seconded and carried, to approve the minutes for May 22, 2003.

### **Public Appearances**

Lorraine Williams addressed the Commission on her concern for the continued vandalism at Azalea Park. She explained last year it was the damage to the fountain and a fire at the tool shed; this year is the band shell and gazebo. With two new targets, the *Snackshack* and the new tool shed, it is imperative to have park security to prevent vandalism at these new buildings. The Commission discussed park security last year, nothing was decided; something needs to be in place before further vandalism occurs.

Lorraine Williams presented a solution to the Commission. After investigation and research, they have contacted a friend familiar with cameras. The cameras would be placed throughout the park, particularly near targets like the band shell, the gazebo, and other buildings. The cameras would be motion sensitive, and record activity. It was agreed the cameras would also be targets. It is suggested the cameras be connected to the police department, so the police could respond to any suspicious activity.

City Manager Blodgett entered the discussion explaining the band shell vandalism resulted in approximately \$7500 in damage. He stated he met with the insurance people, and despite what the newspaper reported, \$30,000 in damages, that figure covers the band shell and platform.

Discussion ensued on restitution; the despondency of how the vandals are not receiving sentences, and the lack of restitution for damages. It was agreed that pressure has to be applied on the juvenile department to impose harsher sentences so word gets out that vandalism will not be tolerated without consequences. City Manager Blodgett is very sure \$7500 restitution will be granted in the band shell vandalism.

Chair Boynton joined the discussion. He suggested the idea of getting the kids involved, have a nucleus of kids, who would in turn take ownership in taking care of the park.

Elmo Williams had input during the discussion. He agreed getting the kids involved cuts down on juvenile crime. He explained when they had a "Marigold Project" where the kids started the plants from seed, then planted them throughout the park, there was a drop in crime in the park. The program was not continued due to lack of a teacher or leader to head up the program. Mr. Williams concluded stating a leader or teacher is needed to run the program, suggesting perhaps contacting someone from the *Leadership Program*, or recruit a *Master Gardener* to oversee the program. He added, children benefit in several ways; they learn the names of plants and can experience the horticultural process.

The discussion concluded with Chair Boynton inviting the Williams to the next meeting for an update on park security.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Stout Park:* Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance Foreman, reported the park is looking a lot cleaner, but the bottom part of the park is full of weeds. He added he doesn't want to spray because the spraying would kill some of the flowers. He asked the Commission to consider what they want the park to look like.

*Chetco Park:* Commissioner Sherman asked for an update on the grant for park improvement: a new pathway, fencing, and parking. City Manager Blodgett reported a grant application was submitted earlier this year but was denied; no money was awarded to the City. He added another effort for grant money will be applied for. Public Works will start working on the pathway, with Leo Lightle, Community Development Director, overseeing the project.

*Kidtown:* Commissioner Dori Blodgett had no report.

*Bud Cross Park:* Dave Lentz, Parks Foreman, briefly answered a question on the drinking fountains at Bud Cross Park, stating one was broken and the other did not work very well. (Secretary's note: on June 30, 2003, John Cowan, Public Works Supervisor, said the broken fountain was replaced, and the other fountain adjusted.)

*Softball:* City Manager Blodgett reported the *BHLL(Brookings-Harbor Little League)All Star* Tournament begins on July 5<sup>th</sup> and runs through July 19<sup>th</sup>. The tournament is comprised of 28 teams, 12 kids in each team. The City will have many many visitors because in addition to those competing, the families of the teams will be in our City. He added there is not a room or RV space available during the time of this event.

There was no report for the *Skate Park or Parks Master Plan*, and the *Azalea Park Foundation* was discussed by Lorraine and Elmo Williams.

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

#### *Financial Report:*

City Manager Blodgett discussed the sale of the *Longstreet* property, property bequeathed to the City. He explained it was anticipated to sell for \$100,000 but ended up selling for \$130,000. He made a suggestion some of the money be given to the Williams for replacement of tools lost last year when the tool shed burned down.

Commissioner Sherman made the motion, it was carried and unanimously approved.

*City Manager:* City Manager Blodgett reported:

- The city is financially stable, with the budget approved and money carried over for the 2003-04 budget
- City Council is focusing on the *Goals* for the year and plans to accomplish those goals
- One of those goals is to decide what to do with the swimming pool: either fix it, or build a new one or close it.
- The *Rotary Club* is having their annual picnic on July 12<sup>th</sup> with a celebration of the *Snackshack*.

*Other:*

Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance Foreman, updated the Commission on the *Snackshack*. Water lines and sewer lines have been brought up to the building, but need to be connected. Installation of the fan above the stove needs to be placed. Toilets, sinks and faucets are left to do in the restrooms. He concluded by the end of July all these projects should be completed.

Dave Lentz added that the *Snackshack* is doing a great business as observed during the concerts on Sunday.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathie Mahon,  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission

JULY 24, 2003 (date)