

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of Brookings

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, Oregon

August 22, 2002 7:00 p.m.

Call To Order

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance led by Paul Prevenas.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Nina Canfield, Dori Blodgett, Lorraine Williams, Bill Boynton, Tony Parrish, Paul Prevenas, and Pat Sherman.

Councilor Liaison Present: Councilor Frances Johns Kern.

Staff Present: City Manager Leroy Blodgett, Special Projects Assistant Jeremy McVeety, Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance-Public Works, and Community Development Secretary Cathie Mahon.

Minutes

The minutes were approved as amended 6-0 (Motion by Commission Parrish; Commissioner Sherman was not present at the July 25, 2002, meeting.)

Public Appearances

Mr. Bill Ferry

Introduced himself as representative of the *Brookings Harbor Youth Association*. He read a letter before the commission explaining the association has been following the Commission's involvement with the *Parks Master Plan*, and consideration of a community center and/or pool. The association has offered to assist with both the planning and financial aspects. They are currently gathering information for a website which would be informational plus updates on funds and grants.

Mr. Ferry stated he was aware of the long term funding problem. Some of the areas to obtain money could be through various grants: Curry County, and the state and federal level. He also mentioned that *HOPE* (Healthy Opportunities for a Positive Environment had folded their operation and turned those funds over to *BHYA*.

Mr. Ferry emphasized the real issue was to ask to be a part of the planning process with the Commission. The Commissioners agreed. Chairman Boynton invited Mr. Ferry to attend the Parks and Recreation meetings, and suggested one of the commissioners attend their strategic meetings. Commissioner Dori Blodgett agreed to be the liaison from the Commission when the *BHYA* (Brookings Harbor Youth Association) have their meetings.

Some of the issues under consideration are:

- Can the community support a pool?
- What are other communities doing?
- Are other community centers meeting the needs of all ages; especially seniors and children?

Mr. Ferry concluded mentioning the Community Picnic is scheduled for September 22, 2002.

Pam Callaway

Commissioner Dori Blodgett introduced Pam Callaway.

Pam Callaway read a report for the *Summer Recreation Program* for 2002:

- 412 children attended 11 weeks of 62 individual sessions
- Children from 314 families in Curry County and 16 families visiting the area participated
- Some of the sessions were: Trout fishing, Canoe safety, crafts, bowling, tennis, fly tying
- The program finished within the limits of the budget-supplies and payroll.
- 94% of the budget was spent locally
- A program "Prepare for the Fair" was to encourage the youth to participate in the Curry County Fair.
- 50 children participated and received over 120 ribbons and prize money
- Both *Talent Show* prize awards of \$500 were earned by hometown girls

The following were highlighted for their assistance with the program:

- Joann Vanderschaff put together tennis and basketball lessons, *the Youth Olympics*, *Sports Fitness Event*, and *The Triathlon*.
- Summer interns: Iris Wraith and Katrina Parke, assistance and overseeing the activities
- Assistants: Grace Brady, Annie Stadelman, and Carrie Hargrove
- Special thanks to Chris McKay, Principal for Kalmiopsis School for providing a safe and comfortable place for the children in the cafeteria.
- Volunteers: over 2 dozen shared their talent in juggling, Frisbee skills, dehydrator building, indoor gardening, watercolors, embroidery, fly tying, drawing, painting, fishing, beadwork, etc.
- The *Curry Coastal Pilot* for coverage of the children and their activities throughout the summer.
- *KURY*- radio for the *Junior DJ program*
- *KBSC-TV* for their coverage

Cards, *Certificates of Appreciation*, and flowers were given to Pam and her daughter, Marisa. All commissioners all expressed their appreciation for a job well done.

Committee Reports

Stout Park: Tony Parrish had nothing to report.

Chetco Point Park: Commissioner Canfield reported she is concerned about the invasiveness of *Morning Glories*. Chairman Boynton responded they are illegal in most of the western states because of their invasiveness.

Softball/Soccer Fields: Commissioner Prevenas reported the fields are being used to capacity, which reflects the need for additional fields. He expressed kudos for the (City) Public Works department and their responsiveness for putting the schools irrigations systems on separate

meters. He also discussed the school dates for classes, adding he hoped everyone would be vigilant when driving for children walking to and from school.

Kidtown: Commission Dori Blodgett reported the “clean-up” day did not take place but the parks looks good.

Skate Park: City Manager Blodgett reported the kids are still enjoying the park. There was an injury that resulted from a bicyclist using the park.

Parks Master Plan: Chairman Boynton discussed the plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dori Blodgett and approved by the entire board to forward the *Parks Master Plan* to City Council recommending the council adopt it. City Manager Blodgett reported City Council has it on their August 26th agenda for review.

Liaison Reports

Azalea Park: Commission Williams reported the daisy beds were cleaned and leveled. She expressed her frustration and sadness with the recent vandalism that occurred in the Park; the bowl for the fountain was destroyed, and because of its age most likely impossible to replace.

Staff Announcements/Concerns/Follow-ups

Financial Report: City Manager Blodgett pointed out the year ending report. He noted \$155,000 was budgeted for the year; we stayed within the budget amount by spending \$143,000.

Parks & Fields Use Calendar Update: Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance/Public Works, reported work is continuing at Azalea Park. Trees were removed, money from selling them will go toward gravel for the parking lot; and the tree stumps need to be ground out.

Commissioner comments:

City Manager Reports:

- City Manager Blodgett reminded the commissioners of the Volunteer City Picnic, Saturday, (August 24th), adding it should be a good time.
- City Manager Blodgett expressed concern over the Volleyball court; a decision should be made to either complete the project or grass it over. He asked the Commission to consider some solution.
- The UGB (Urban Growth Boundary) public hearing is scheduled for Friday, August 30th.
- *Yard of the Month* is continuing to be a successful program. The cost to the City of \$600, \$50.00 per recipient (either “most improved yard” or “yard of the month”) is encouragement for property owners to continue to maintain their yards.

- *Pioneer Street* project: it is currently under construction. Initially there was concern about the traffic problems when school begins next week. It may be difficult for drivers and residents during the construction phase but the end result, the completion of sidewalks, will be great.
- *Update on the Fire:* City Manager Blodgett gave an update on the *Biscuit Fire*. Although it's been devastating to our forest and parks, and we've experienced some very smoky days, there have been some positive aspects. An *EOC-Emergency Operation Center* was developed with the use of the web, the Internet, and fax. We can now respond more efficiently should a disaster occur.
- A **GIS** (Geographical Information System) was developed with maps showing placement of roads, structures, and lines in Curry County. This technical program can pinpoint with accuracy areas in and around the County to assist emergency personnel and agencies for medical, criminal or disaster occurrences. An evacuation plan to reach residents would be possible with this system, should it become necessary. Jim Relaford, President of PRN Data Services Inc. who provides the city with computer and network services, contacted Hewlett Packard. They gave the City a \$12,000 grant to purchase equipment for the *Emergency Operation Center* (lap tops and a scanner have already been purchased).

Councilor Kern expressed it has been wonderful seeing the community bond together during the Fire (Biscuit).

Commissioner Prevenas extended kudos to Pam Callaway. In the past, the school funded and organized the summer program; Ms. Callaway doubled the participation with half the funds. The biggest problem for next summer is finding a room for the *Summer Recreation Program*. He explained the schools are currently in the midst of the 2002-03 construction additions; therefore, it appears unlikely that they would be completed by Spring 2003. Should a room be available for the program, he advocated continuing the program next summer.

Pam Callaway responded *location* is one of the key factors for success; in fact, 63% of the children walked to the Kalmiopsis elementary school. Pam emphasized the kids felt safe in the school environment. She said the program is written out, someone needs to take charge as director; then find a location with an area of 30'x 40', 1200 square feet. .

Commissioner Sherman reported the *2002 Fall Clean-up* is scheduled for September 28th.

Commissioner Williams expressed again the frustration with the continued vandalism taking place at Azalea Park, especially the destruction of the bowl for the fountain; it will be difficult to replace, if at all. (Note: on behalf of the Planning Commission a report was filed with the Police Department).

Chairman Boynton read a letter from Brian and David Wiggins. The letter was a request for the Commission to consider looking into a *BMX* track. (Find enclosed a copy of the response from Chairman Boynton). City Manager Blodgett added that the real problem is finding affordable property to put the track in.

There being no further business, Commissioner Canfield moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathie Mahon
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission

09/26/02 (date)