

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of Brookings

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, Oregon

October 24, 2002 7:00 p.m.

### **Call To Order**

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance led by Councilor Johns Kern.

### **Roll Call**

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

*Councilor Liaison Present:* Councilor Frances Johns Kern.

*Staff Present:* City Manager Leroy Blodgett; Dennis Barlow, Supervisor of Public Works; Dave Lentz, Park Maintenance-Public Works; and Community Development Secretary, Cathie Mahon.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded and carried for approval of the September 26, 2002 minutes.

### **Public Appearances**

Commissioner Sherman gave a presentation on "*Beautification of Brookings*". She has been involved with coordinating a group of people to clean up the litter in the city and wanted to present the dimensions of the litter problem, and possible solutions. Areas highlighted and discussed were:

#### Causes:

- Is it "other people"? Tourists?
- Is it a lack of education about littering?
- Is it thinking that someone else will take care of it-like the city maintenance or highway worker will pick up the trash?
- Is it a lack of ownership-thinking city maintenance or the highway worker will

#### Commitment:

- Have dedicated volunteers/groups of people to pick up litter in our city
- Involve service groups, businesses, youth groups-try to reach every age level
- Enforcement: signs posted with fines, or have an Enforcement Officer

She pointed out that the solutions could be done with little or no cost. Some of the solutions discussed:

#### School Projects:

- Have classroom projects like "Adopt-a-Spot"
- Organize litter patrols, tree planting,
- Sponsor "litter" days

#### Signage:

- Signs can be informative in the form of what the fine is if you litter.
- They can be amusing while making a point to "clean up your trash".
- They need to be inspiring-have the message to clean up your litter

She has researched the fines, ordinances and enforcement regulations in eight cities along the Oregon coast. Fines for littering range from \$10.00 (first offense) to a maximum of \$750.00. She spoke to the Coos Bay ~~was the only city with a~~ Code Enforcement Officer, who said she issues about 400 citations (a year), 100 are *litter* related. Her presentation concluded with a request of partnering with the city and the commission for some sort of "Beautifying Brookings" program.

- Could there be more trash cans placed throughout the city?
- Can the city provide trash bags and a receptacle for depositing trash bags?
- Establish a new norm by coordinating a 4 to 5 year *Beautify Brookings* program
- Have the city adopt the "*Adopt a Spot*"

City Manager Blodgett responded stating he favored trash receptacles and signs rather than fines.

Commissioner Parrish discussed the trash problem at Stout Park. He suggested the senior class might want to get involved with a clean up day.

Commissioner Dori Blodgett suggested the Commissioner Sherman's "litter" presentation be shown to groups like the Girls Scouts, service clubs, and possibly on local television.

Commissioner Prevenas stated "anti-litter" is a topic discussed at the schools. The campus is clean because of student involvement with picking up litter. He explained the schools are already doing "anti-litter" education; it's only common sense not to litter.

#### **Committee Reports Commissioner**

*Stout Park:* Commission Parrish reported the lower area of the park has a dead grass area that could be remedied with a minimal amount of money. He added he would like to get started with the re-seeding before the rain starts. It was agreed to coordinate with Dennis Barlow, Public Works Supervisor.

*Chetco Point Park:* Commissioner Canfield stated her concern about the spread of *morning glories* when the Bruce Brothers development begins. Chair Boynton will speak with Noah Bruce on that.

*Kid Town:* Commission Dori Blodgett stated she goes to the park every Thursday and it looks good. She reported one of the tire swings needs to be repaired.

*Skate Park:* City Manager Blodgett reported Coos Bay officials contacted him to discuss our skate park. They are considering building a skate park and would visit our city to look at ours.

Discussion ensued on helmets. City Manager Blodgett stated the City has a requirement to wear helmets at the skate park. Commissioner Dori Blodgett responded when other skate parks were surveyed for helmet requirements, we found it was about fifty-fifty; half had helmet requirements, others did not. A suggestion was made to have a program similar to the "Bike Helmet" program; it could be an effort to entice the kids to wear helmets while skate boarding.

*Softball/Soccer Fields:* No report.

*Volleyball Court.* No report.

*Parks Master Plan:* Chairman Boynton stated there are a lot of ideas being discussed. The big factor is finding funding for maintenance of new projects.

### **Liaison Reports**

*Azalea Park:* Buzz Hanson submitted a plan for a new tool shed, replacing the one burned down this summer. Commissioner Williams read a letter from Mr. Elmo Williams with the following Azalea Park Foundation proposals:

- A two-rail fence will connect to the existing County Road fence.
- It will border the Kid Town parking lot
- Barberry plants are going to be planted on one side of the fence and perennial shrubs on the other.
- A new tool shed to replace the one burned by vandals.
- The shed will be located parallel to Lundeen Lane near Kid Town.
- It will be 18 feet wide by 36 feet long
- It will be constructed using concrete blocks

The Commission expressed their appreciation to Buzz Hanson and Elmo Williams for their work on the tool shed project plans.

Commissioner Dori Blodgett made a motion, it was seconded and approved to move forward with the project. Discussion ensued on funding the new shed. It was noted that \$10,000 is expected from the insurance company, and Commissioner Williams stated the foundation would make up the difference.

### **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOWUPS**

#### *Meeting Schedule:*

Chair Boynton discussed the meeting date for the November Meeting, which falls on *Thanksgiving Day* and if and when to have a December meeting. It was decided to meet November 21, 2002, and December 12, 2002.

*Financial Report:* No discussion. (September 30, 2002 financial statements for *Stout Park* and *Parks and Rec* were included in the packet). Chairman Boynton responded we are well within the acceptable percentage ranges.

#### *City Manager:*

City Manager Blodgett reported each Rotary Club will have a "centennial project" next year and the Brookings-Harbor Rotary Club would like to take on a work project of building a Community and Performing Arts Center. The club members want to partnership with other organizations, and the City, for this center. The initial thinking is to lease the center for community events, like the Chetco Pelican Players for their plays. Organizations paying for the use of the center would defray some of the finances. Researching grants would be one of the avenues for funding.

*Azalea Park:* Commissioner Parrish reported he had done some research on security cameras. City Manager Blodgett informed the Commission that discussions have taken place with Chief Wallace, and Jim Relaford. Research is continuing and the results and costs will be presented before the Commission.

*Chetco Point:* Commission Sherman reported she walked around the area of the proposed new entrance to the park and said it will be very nice.

*BHYA(Brookings-Harbor Youth)* Commissioner Dori Blodgett reported she attended the recent Association meeting. She discussed the probable departure of the vice-president and president and concern for the future of the organization. One of the positive items discussed was a grant obtained to hire someone to research the resources of the community, and develop a database with the needs of the young people in our community. She expressed her delight that Pam Callaway is applying for the position. Although it is a 6-month position, the positive aspect is that it could possibly include the City's 2003-*summer program* (Pam successfully organized the 2002 program).

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathie Mahon  
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission

11/21/02 (date)