



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

April 4th, 2012

Members of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Board met this day in regular session at City Hall, Brownsville, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Patty Linn, Pat MacDermott, Marilyn Grimes, Rick Dominguez, S. Scott McDowell, Jim Mayer, Heather Tinseth & Kurtrinea Muhs.

Absent: Brandie Simon.

Public: Tinseth children including Rachel and Christopher.

Presiding: Marilyn Grimes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Mrs. Grimes asked if there were any additions or deletions to the minutes. Mrs. Linn added an update regarding Scotch Broom at Pioneer Park and the Zombie movie schedule. Mr. McDowell added an item regarding the Watershed Council and Sarah Dyrdaahl. The minutes from March 7th, 2012 meeting were approved with a couple typographical corrections. A motion was made by Mrs. Linn, seconded by Mrs. MacDermott and the minutes were passed unanimously.

Tree Issues

Mr. McDowell discussed the issue of removing a few trees near the Calapooia River at Pioneer Park. The City has put a call into Buena Vista Arbor Care out of Corvallis which has been used in the past for assistance with the removals. The City will have to wait until the water comes down before the trees can be pulled out of the river. It was also brought to Mr. McDowell attention that a tree near the stage is tilting at a 45 degree angle. Mrs. Linn asked in what direction the tree is leaning and Mr. McDowell stated that the tree is on the west side and leaning east. Mr. McDowell stated that he would bring it to the attention of Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink. McDowell indicated that the current structure was built underneath the leaning tree. A discussion proceeded on the age and species of the tree. Mr. Dominguez stated that it has last a hundred and fifty years it may last another fifty years and Mr. Mayer asked if the buildings were insured. Mrs. Linn asked about the foliage and health of the tree and discussion on maybe the Board should watch the tree for the next month to see how it goes. Mr. Mayer stated he would like to take a look at the tree before he makes any decision.

Park Erosion and FEMA Update

Mr. McDowell met with Mr. Ryan Quigley and three FEMA officials on Wednesday April 4th, 2012. There seems to be more questions than answers at this time and the need to define the scope of work. At this time the City cannot define the scope of the damages, due to the fact we are unsure where the line is damaged. Mr. Quigley has submitted estimates on both the scouring scenario and the forty-five degree pipe extending up the bank. FEMA is trying to help the City in every way they can but without a scope of work defined we are waiting for the river level to fall. Mr. McDowell stated that at this time there are "no dollars" for the stabilization effort. The two downstream projects that Watershed had hired River Design to complete have both sustained major damages due to the January flooding event. Sarah Dyrdaahl from



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

Watershed Council is going to be addressing the Council about those two downstream projects and review the risks of doing this type of project. Council also approved that the engineering will not begin until October or November 2012. Mr. McDowell stated that the FEMA update for the costs of repairing the waterline damages were as follows:

- 45 ° line is roughly \$222,000.
- The cost for the pipe underneath the river bed is roughly \$413,000.
- The cost of the boring project is \$496,000.

FEMA stated that they have calls into Washington D.C. to discuss the intricacies of this project. McDowell explained that Brian Dorst of FEMA basically said the best case scenario is the City will receive 75% of roughly \$444,000. FEMA allows for mitigation efforts which would double the cost if the 45° line was damaged for the sake of this example. The worst-case scenario is that the City would receive 75% of \$222,000. The federal policy is to replace the damage prior to the flood event. Mr. McDowell, when allowed, plans to proceed with the boring project in order to mitigate any future losses. In this last "river swell" the City lost an additional 3 to 5 more feet of river bank. Mr. Dominguez asked about the tree(s) near the river bank and discussed the eroding of the bank.

Willamette Country Music Festival

Mr. McDowell informed the Board that he had talked with Anne Hawkins from the Willamette Country Music Festival about the RV camping. Mrs. Hawkins stated that due to pending permits with the County the WCMF would not be allowed to go over the amount of campsites they have been granted. Mrs. Hawkins stated to Mr. McDowell to go ahead and figure out how the City would like to do, because she has a waiting list of 400 RV campers looking for campsites. Mr. McDowell and Mrs. Deaver will sit down devise a plan and rules on how the City would like to proceed with the RV camping. Mrs. Hawkins had a few concerns due to incorrect information in *The Times*. Mr. McDowell had to call Commissioner Nyquist to make the arrangements clear. The City was seeking out WCMF and not vice versa. Mr. Dominguez asked where the RV campers would be located in Pioneer Park, at this time Mr. McDowell thought the campers would be in the east baseball diamond area. The City will go ahead and invoice the campers for the Willamette Country Music Festival and a list of campers names will be given to the park caretakers along with some verification document. Mr. Dominguez asked if there was going to be a clause if there are any damages and Mr. McDowell stated that the City will assume the cost of any damages. Mrs. Tinseth asked what days will the RV campsites be opening up and Mr. McDowell informed the Board that they will be opening up on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. and ending the following Monday at noon.

Pioneer Park Restrooms

The City is at a decision point with the Pioneer Park Restrooms. The City finally received a cost estimate for building the restroom. Mr. McDowell stated that the City attorney had a few questions and agreed that this is an intermediate contract and the City will not need to go through the bid process and that the City can just get three proposals. The bad news of building the restrooms is that it will fall under prevailing wage requirements, so the restrooms projected cost to the City is \$180-\$190 a square



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

foot. The fiscal issue is that the City only budgeted \$80,000 for the restrooms. Mr. McDowell stated that the City would like to have the project finished before 4th of July if possible. Mr. Mayer asked what if a local business donated money. McDowell stated that would be allowed but any other arrangement could appear that the City was trying to get around the prevailing wage requirement. Mr. Mayer wondered why the City could have volunteers and give money to put the playground equipment up, but they can't do the same with the restroom. McDowell explained the difference and pointed out the park equipment project was a grant from the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department which specifically allows volunteer assistance. If the costs of the restrooms goes over the budget the Council might have to re-budget the project for the upcoming fiscal year.

Rec Center Floor

Mr. McDowell informed the Board that the City has executed an additional contract with Mike Sossie for two additional coats on the floors, stage, bleachers, and the coach's office before May. The Rec Board felt that the floors needed some more coats. The City executed a purchase order on Wednesday, April 4th to proceed on coating the floors.

Pioneer Picnic Letter

Mr. McDowell submitted the Picnic letter to the City Council and the Pioneer Picnic Association Board voted to allow charging a fee during the time of the Pioneer Picnic. There will be a \$15 flat fee for camping at Pioneer Park during the Pioneer Picnic. The fee will help to defray some of the costs for the Pioneer Picnic. Mrs. Tinseth asked if the Park Board could give some type of warning to the citizens of Brownsville and Mr. McDowell stated that there would be an advertisement in *The Times*. Mrs. Grimes stated there will always be somebody that will be upset with the decision to charge.

Park Caretakers/ Seasonal Public Works Update

The City has hired Richard and Katie Watkins from Mesa, Arizona. Mrs. Watkins is originally from Bend, Oregon. The City received a total of 10 applications for the positions of Park caretakers of those 4 were single and 6 were couples. Mrs. Linn stated that the single caretaker's work better in the County campground and Mrs. Grimes stated that it's just safer to have a couple. The deadline for the seasonal public works position is April 6th. McDowell will meet with Mr. Frink to go over the applications to set up some interviews immediately.

General Updates

Mrs. Linn updated the Board on Scotch Broom removal project. Linn said it was extremely disappointing due to the rise of the river. Taking out the children at this time to help would be too dangerous because they have to cross the water. Mrs. Linn informed the Board that the Scotch Broom is now beginning to bloom. The one day that Mrs. Linn went out she stated that only one teenage boy came out to help. Mrs. Linn has been in contact with the school counselor to get a list of kids that are still needing



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

community service. Mr. McDowell stated that the Watershed Council would be able to help out with the Scotch Broom eradication if given notice three months in advance.

Mr. McDowell updated the Board on the South Oak Street project stating that a Notice to Proceed will be sent out to the contractor on April 23rd. M.L. Houck expects the project to last about three weeks.

Mr. McDowell stated that the Linn County hearing for the Willamette Country Music Festival went well. Organizers Anne Hawkins & Don Leber stated that they have doubled the security, hired a professional medical team, hired additional organizers, signed a contract with the Sheriff's Office, and provided an extra lane for traffic. Mrs. Linn made a comment that the festival has definitely grown up.

Mrs. Linn asked about the Zombie movie closing Main Street during the *Carriage Me Back* event. Mr. McDowell stated that he had discussed the conflict with the Director and they have changed their schedule.

Rachel and Christopher Tinseth asked about Remington Park and when the possibilities of having the park completed. Mr. McDowell stated that it was on a list of many improvements that the City is working on. At this time the City is trying to finish up Kirk's Ferry Park and with only three public work employees they have to set priorities. Mrs. Grimes stated that sometimes things happen that put other items on the back burner and Mr. McDowell informed the Tinseth children that the City does have the swing set. Mrs. Linn stated that at this time the City was working on the waterline which is a really important project. Mr. Dominguez asked if the park was City property and if volunteers could put the play structure together. Mr. Dominguez also stated that the American Legion could possibly do a program to put the structure together. Mrs. Linn made a motion and Mrs. MacDermott seconded for Mr. Dominguez to go forth with the City to help finish the park.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kurtrinea Muhs
Administrative Assistant

Marilyn Grimes
Chair

S. Scott McDowell
Administrator