



## **Parks & Open Space Advisory Board**

**September 5<sup>th</sup>, 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, Marilyn Grimes, Brandie Simon, Pat MacDermott, Jim Mayer, Heather Tinseth & S. Scott McDowell.

**Absent:** Rick Dominguez.

**Public:** No one was present.

**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. There were none. The minutes from May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 meeting were approved with a few typographical corrections. A motion was made by Mr. Mayer, seconded by Mrs. Simon and the minutes were passed unanimously.

Mr. McDowell indicated that tonight would be a review session to get all the Board members up to speed with current events.

### **Halloween Fundraiser**

Mr. McDowell recapitulated the happenings from last time Mr. Scott Smith and Ms. Debbie Jensen from LB Productions had visited Park Board. Mr. McDowell indicated that the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce identified a few stipulations that required this potential event being put on hold for 2012. One of the big concerns was the insurance costs associated with running an event that charged admission. Smith and Jensen are planning a trip to Oregon City to see a "haunted City event" this Fall. Mrs. Grimes felt that the plan need a lot of improvement before it would be able to be implemented and executed.

### **Skate Park Revisited**

Mr. McDowell had been visited by a family interested in the City constructing a skate park. The Board has discussed this issue in the past, applied for grant funding and is in the process of re-ordering priorities. McDowell asked if the Board was interested in making the skate park a top priority. By consensus, the Board indicated that they were not interested in a skate park at this time due to the extensive costs required for such an undertaking. McDowell indicated that the party inquiring was interested in something on the scale of Harrisburg or Newport. Harrisburg skate park cost nearly \$400,000 to build. Harrisburg was fortunate that they had a donor who lived in the City. Maintenance and liability issues were also discussed.



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### **River Cleanup, Tree Issues & Park Erosion Update**

Mr. McDowell reported on the outcomes with FEMA. Please refer to the Council minutes from June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for full details. McDowell shared pictures of the broken water line and explained the current plan for reconstruction and briefly discussed some financing options. Erwin Consulting is planning on moving the location of the line 300 feet upstream of its current location so that any continued erosion will not affect the line. Public Works recently removed two trees from along the edge of the bank, the picnic table, a fire pit and a bunch of debris from the River including trees and fencing. Mrs. MacDermott commented on how nice things looked in the Park. Public Works also added fencing by the playground to discourage people from entering the river at that point. McDowell also explained the outcome of the stabilization project effort. Please refer to the Council minutes from July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for full details.

### **Arbor Day**

Mr. McDowell would like to set October 20, 2012 for the annual celebration. A motion was made by Ms. Linn, seconded by Mrs. Tinseth to celebrate Arbor Day on October 20, 2012. The motion carried unanimously. McDowell indicated that we could do a grand opening ceremony for the new restroom. Mrs. Linn added, "and plant a tree!"

### **Willamette Country Music Festival Outcomes**

McDowell reported that from a Public Works standpoint and the actual operation of the RV Camping sites everything worked very well. The problem was the administrative side in dealing with customers at City Hall. The original intent was to simply sell the camping spaces to the Willamette Country Music Festival and have them perform customer service administration however due to their agreement with the Linn County Commissioners they were not interested in such an arrangement. The City will once again attempt to work with the Festival to improve this opportunity.

### **Pioneer Park Restrooms**

Karo Construction finished the restrooms on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 just in time for Antique Fair. Mrs. Simon commented on how great the restrooms turned out. Mr. Mayer asked about the final cost. McDowell reported that the total cost from the creation of the construction drawings, permitting and complete construction including Public Works expenses was \$92,686.77. McDowell said the plan was to keep the restrooms open to prevent vandalism. The restrooms will be closed on October 31<sup>st</sup> and reopened April 1<sup>st</sup> per Ordinance. McDowell said one concern he had heard was regarding the exterior lighting and its impact on the campground although the Caretakers have not said anything about that concern.

### **Rec Center Outcomes**

McDowell discussed the roofing process stating that the City had added gutters to the building. Public works is planning on painting the gutters to match the building. Unfortunately the match wasn't as close as everyone had hoped. Mr. Mayer indicated



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that blue colors can be very hard to match.

### **Seasonal Public Works Update**

Mr. McDowell talked about the Park Caretakers not being able to come at the last minute due to medical reasons. The City was very fortunate to get Vern & Ann Moore. They have been a tremendous asset. McDowell discussed some of the challenges that City Hall and Public Works had been dealing with for the last several months. Marvin Borntrager resigned his position and Kurtrinea Muhs left employment with the City. Elizabeth Coleman has been recently hired and the City's in the process of hiring a Public Works Operator to replace Mr. Borntrager.

### **General Updates**

McDowell discussed some of the challenges the City had with the South Oak Street project. Overall, with everything being equal, the project turned out very nicely. The City is still working on some punch list items that need to be addressed including curbing, grout work and covered valves.

Mr. Mayer asked about Kirk Avenue. The City met with Linn County Road Master Darrin Lane who indicated the County is interested in installing curbs and gutters from Main Street to Averill and then completing a grind and surface overlay for the remainder of the roadway. Many requirements and regulations make improvements very difficult. The County is not interested in dealing with residents to obtain property for the project either which would be required due to the width of the right-of-way. Many things changed over the course of the last few years with the finances of the Road Department. They had a \$19,000,000 cash outlay for the Veterans Hospital in Lebanon and the Linn County Sheriff's Office has also dipped into their coffers over the course of the last two fiscal years. Mr. Lane indicated he would like to see something completed in the summer of 2013. The City is currently waiting on the County to complete core samples on Kirk Avenue.

Mrs. Simon indicated that she would be resigning her position on the Central Linn Rec Board in a month or two. The City is required by Ordinance to have a member from the Recreation Board on Park Board. Mrs. Simon will surely be missed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

S. Scott McDowell  
Administrator

Marilyn Grimes  
Chair