



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

January 6th, 2021

Members of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Board met this day in regular session via teleconference at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pat MacDermott, Betsy Ramshur, Brandie Simon, Lynlee Bischoff, Elizabeth Coleman & Scott McDowell.

Absent: Rick Dominguez & Joann Neddeau

Public: Allen Buzzard. Kathleen Swayze & Stephen Brenner.

Presiding: Pat MacDermott & Scott McDowell (*Due to teleconference format*).

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Nothing was added or removed from the agenda.

Mrs. MacDermott recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. McDowell reviewed the ground rules for participation and voting on motions.

November 4th, Minutes

Ramshur moved to approve the minutes as presented. Simon seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Elect Chair & Vice-Chair

Bischoff made a motion to keep the Chair and Vice-Chair as is. Simon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chair MacDermott and Vice-Chair Simon will continue.

Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA) Request

McDowell pulled up slides to accompany the CFA's presentation. Brenner said the Farmer's Market started in 2006 Randy's Main Street Coffee. The market moved to its current location on Main Street across from Napa in 2008. The current owner has development plans for the property and the CFA will need to move their operations.

Mr. McDowell and the CFA discussed alternate plans several years ago to use the Kirks Ferry Park for the Farmer's Market. Park Board had tentatively approved an agreement to move forward in 2008. McDowell showed Swayze several prospective locations around town in November. The CFA Board decided that Kirks Ferry Park was the most favorable location for the market.

Swayze mentioned the CFA would like the option of locating the Farmer's Market in Kirk's Ferry Park. She discussed basic logistics like their utilization of canopies and possible signage location. In the future, the CFA would like to work with the City to build a pavilion with grants for public use. Swayze said the pavilion would include a bathroom, perhaps solar (at least three years out) partnering with the Chamber, Art Center, and anyone else interested in using the facility. Some storage would also be utilized in the Kirk's Ferry area.

Swayze felt it very important to place signage in an area that let people know that the market has moved to a new location; visibility is important with proximity to Main Street. The other sign would be



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structured and more permanent, saying Kirks Ferry Park, as it is the City's park.

Additionally, some sort of signage would be attached showing Thursday Farmer's Market & any event that may happen in the Park. This signage would be interchangeable, much like a bulletin board. A more permanent sign would be worked on in the future. Swayze mentioned Kirk's Ferry could be an attractive addition for the City.

Betsy Ramshur asked if anyone has contacted the neighbors. Brenner said he talked with one neighbor and they are a vendor at the market and is pleased he won't have to haul his plants for sale. Kathleen said it was a good point, no one else had been notified. Ramshur also asked about parking and Swayze said vendors would have to park up at the Rec Center after unloading. Ramshur mentioned Main Street can be pretty congested at this intersection and that is a concern.

Bischoff felt that the parking could work out. Traffic may not be too congested. Proper signage could ensure alleviation of parking issues. Swayze mentioned the fact that it is on a Thursday and from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. She felt issues regarding parking would be minor primarily due to historic attendance at the market. Brenner agreed. Brenner and Swayze felt that it would be much improved and less of an impact on the City than at the previous locations.

Simon asked if the market was at Kirks Ferry at one time. Mr. McDowell said 2007 – 08 when the market moved from Randy's, the City was asked to help look for an alternative. Kirk's Ferry Park was an option. For a number of years, there was an agreement for the Alliance to use the Park, if needed. The agreement was never used and dissolved by Council in 2012.

The Park Board had the option to make a motion to recommend usage or no usage of the park. If yes, agreement drawn up with details of the location will be discussed moving forward. A Board member or two would be placed on a sub-committee to participate on the development of the agreement and sit before council to dial in the bullet points for use of Kirk's Ferry Park.

Bischoff felt that there was no reason not to let the Alliance move forward. Simon said she thought it would be okay. Sometimes she forgets the market is going on, if the space is located at the Pioneer Park, people would forget about it. Mr. McDowell clarified that Kirk's Ferry Park was never a location the Alliance actually used. *Bischoff made a motion to go to the next stage. Simon seconded the motion with Ramshur opposed. MacDermott supported the motion.*

The proposal will be recommended to City Council for review and final decision. Mr. McDowell asked if anyone would want to be on the sub-committee. The Board felt that Council could handle those details.

Remington Park

Coleman explained that she has been working with Mike Nehls on the development of the dry riverbed and planting portion of the project. Coleman will be meeting with a consultant on site in the near future. She will have a report for the Board in March.

Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink is working on quotes for the concrete work. McDowell hopes to have quotes in place by the next meeting. McDowell said that he thought the total cost will be between \$20,000 to \$30,000. The budget has enough to complete this project.



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Bishoff asked about rocks that the Board wanted to use for the riverbed. They are close to being lost in the river. McDowell said the bank is too soft to risk the backhoe. Bishoff has been closely monitoring the river erosion as has the neighbor of the park to the north.

Simon likes the idea of moving forward because the project will come under the amount already appropriated.

Progress Reports & General Updates

McDowell talked about the developments happening all over town. The River's Edge sanitary sewer project will start soon. Seven Mile Lane will be detoured for a while to construct the project.

Oregon Health Authority has been forwarding vaccinations updates. McDowell asked folks to share these with whoever they wanted to spread the word. McDowell talked about training for the new Council members and new members on other Boards.

The City continues work on the Downtown Sanitary Sewer design. Public Works uncovered an issue with the sanitary at the Downtown Restroom that will need to be addressed by the project.

Citizen Input

Allen Buzzard complimented Swayze and Brenner for the use of Kirk's Ferry Park. Buzzard mentioned Neddeau's opposition to the parking. Buzzard proposed the possible use of the Christian Church parking lot. He also proposed that customers use the Spaulding Avenue parking lot. He reviewed a few logistics. Buzzard talked about the use of the old jail as a restroom. He mentioned that Mayor Ware is working on signage for the old jail. Buzzard asked for extra time. He discussed the details for Remington Park. He loves the ideas. He suggested that maybe the Board could allocate monies proportionately in the future.

Buzzard asked MacDermott to read his comments from the minutes from last meeting, MacDermott read the portion of minutes.

McDowell clarified that Ramshur, not Neddeau, made the comments about parking. Neddeau is not on the call tonight. McDowell said the jail as a restroom was explored ten plus years ago. The building is inadequate to be used as a restroom due to current standards. McDowell thanked Buzzard for being on the call.

Mrs. MacDermott adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

A blue ink signature of S. Scott McDowell.

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

APPROVED:

A blue ink signature of Pat MacDermott.

Pat MacDermott
Chair