



MINUTES
Parks & Trails Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2020 City Hall- Council
Chambers, 39250 Pioneer Blvd., Sandy,
Oregon 97055 7:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathleen Walker, Board Member, Don Robertson, Board Member, Michael Weinberg, Board Member, Susan Drew, Board Member, Makoto Lane, Board Member, and Sam Schroyer, Board Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Laurie Smallwood, Councilor and Sarah Richardson, Community Services

MEDIA PRESENT:

1. Meeting Format Notice

e: The Parks and Trails Advisory Board will conduct this meeting electronically using the Zoom video conference platform. Members of the public may listen, view, and/or participate in this meeting using Zoom.

Using Zoom is free of charge. See the instructions below:

- To login to the electronic meeting online using your computer, click this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88400556315>: Note: using this option may require you to download the Zoom app to your device. Downloading Zoom is free of charge.
- If you would rather access the meeting via telephone, dial 1-669-900-6833. When prompted, enter the following meeting number: 884 0055 6315.
- If you do not have access to a computer or telephone and would like to take part in the meeting, please contact the Community Center by Wednesday, May 6 at noon and arrangements will be made to facilitate your participation.

2. Roll Call

3. Public Comment

4. Consent Agenda

4.1. Meeting Minutes

Moved by Don Robertson, seconded by Michael Weinberg

Moved to accept the March and April meeting minutes.

CARRIED. 6-0

5. Changes to the Agenda

6. New Business

6.1. Parks Update - Jordan Wheeler

City Manager, Jordan Wheeler updated the Parks Board about the plan to reopen parks. Talked about the different phases and what it will mean for parks. Outdoor Recreation can open under certain requirements but certain park amenities like playgrounds will remain closed. Clackamas County will apply for phase I. Governor renewed the ban on large gatherings but in phase I it will increase to groups of 25 or less. City not planning to hold events this summer. Hood to Coast has been canceled as well. The City continues to plan for the phased reopening of facilities beginning with City Hall.

Sam Schroyer asked if there have been complaints. Jordan said they have been receiving calls but enforcement is difficult so the city continues to take an educational approach. Don Robertson talked about the approach Oregon City is taking. Notes near his home in Bornstedt, the community seems to be respecting the closures. Kathleen Walker asked Laurie Smallwood about seeing open Dog Parks open in Portland and Gresham. Laurie asked about opening the Dog Park and Jordan said yes we can get the dog park open with new signage and communicating how to recreate safely.

Susan Drew asked about the city chipper and when it would be available. Laurie Smallwood mentioned the challenge of disinfecting the equipment. Jordan said he would check into it.

Kathleen Walker asked about opening the Skatepark.

The City Manager asked about the property adjacent to Meinig Park.

Kathleen Walker mentioned the correspondence about the Bell Street property donation. The City Manager said staff has discussed it, but there has not been a formal proposal to donate the land. See below under agenda item.

Sarah Richardson, staff liaison, shared some updates about the property adjacent to Meinig Park and Kelly O'Neils email regarding available funds. Discussion about the possibility of purchasing the property. Discussion about

priorities for park development, higher priority needs at the moment. Don Robertson suggested we see the value in acquiring it as a buffer for Meinig Park, but should complete the Master Plan first to identify priorities. Sarah Richardson, staff liaison, reminded the board they passed a motion during the April meeting regarding The Pad Townhomes.

Moved by Michael Weinberg, seconded by Makoto Lane

Move to change the April meeting motion to forward a recommendation rather than draft correspondence to council against the development The Pad Townhomes. Recommend against it because of the impacts to parking, access, and Fantasy Forest/Meinig Park.

CARRIED. 6-0

6.2. City Code 17.78

Discussion about the proposed change to city code 17.78.

17.78.50 B - Kathleen Walker noted it mentioned the Master Plan. Don Robertson noted it included the city's Master Plans in general.

17.78.60 - References "Parks Master Plan". Would like to see it specifically reference Parks and Trails Master Plan rather than simply "parks".

17.78.50 B - Need a clearer spelled out reference to the Parks and Trails Master Plan. Annexation criteria needs to provide the city the opportunity to say that property can be annexed if it includes compatibility with the Parks and Trails Master Plan in that area. This is where the city has the leverage to say yes or no, and opportunity to support the Parks and Trails Master Plan. Important to have at this stage so the Parks and Trails Master Plan can be implemented.

6.3. Bell Street Property

Discussed correspondence received by Kathleen Walker regarding property on Bell Street. To date a proposal has not been seen by city staff. The property owners would need to go through proper channels to propose a donation of property and any other aspects for an agreement. Kathleen Walker will send a follow up email to the property owner.

6.4. Round Up Discussion

Michael Weinberg discussed his review of different sources about the use and danger of the use of Round Up type products. Notes the WHO has called it a probable carcinogen. Monsanto/Bayer disputes it and there have been a lot of lawsuits. Literature is not conclusive that it is or isn't a carcinogen.

Discussed the Parks Maintenance guidelines for what is used in Sandy Parks. Seems to be used in limited areas.

Sam Schroyer noted it seems primarily a risk for those applying the product. Not sure it is a risk to park users given the limited application by the city.

Makoto Lane asked if it is being sprayed along the outside of the playground borders? Don Robertson said he believes it is not sprayed around the playground, but is used around flower and shrub beds and fence lines.

Makoto Lane asked about the use around the trails. Kathleen Walker referenced a one time grant that provided for strategic spraying of noxious weeds. Used a contractor to get rid of holly, blackberries etc.

Laurie Smallwood asked if we have knowledge of what the school district uses.

Kathleen Walker revisited the past discussion about this issue and what the city is required to document. Don Robertson said a log is required. Noted we currently have a one page document from Parks Maintenance which outlines the cities current use.

Susan Drew discussed concerns about signage when spraying. Also noted that it looked like the Community Garden had been sprayed around the outside again. Sarah Richardson noted they did spray around the perimeter, but going forward they will weed whack that area.

Signage when spraying was discussed and Don Robertson noted they post right where they spray. Susan Drew noted that the person she talked to would have liked to know before entering the park.

Kathleen Walker noted the document about spraying is one page and was initially requested because of concerns about spraying near the Community Garden. The document does not specifically address what will be done in the area of the Community Garden and other areas of concern. Doesn't need to go park by park necessarily, but it is important to have more detail so that future staff members know what the policy is for various areas.

Kathleen Walker would like to see the policy more specific and posted on the cities website for public inquiry.

Don Robertson explained to strengthen the document it would help to add specifics that cover what distance from Community Garden, Playgrounds, Picnic areas etc., will be sprayed, and to maintain the logs.

Discussion about a recommendation at some point to council about adopting a more formal policy since the current one says it is unofficial. Want to be sure that in the future policies are clear and any new staff knows what is approved. The board wants to work with Park Maintenance to develop the recommendation so that it is a realistic policy that can be implemented and supports their workload etc. Would be helpful to Parks Maintenance to have a policy adopted by Council.

Kathleen Walker would like to add to the policy more detail/clarification about where they have signage. Would like to see entrances at the sidewalk to each park have a sign that states that there are areas within the park that have been sprayed. Don Robertson mentioned they could have a generic entrance sign and then the area specific signage.

Susan Drew has concerns the current policy is too vague. Don reiterated that he recommends more specifics for the policy.

Kathleen Walker asked Sarah Richardson to share the information with Joe Preston, Parks Superintendent. Michael Weinberg would like to see the Parks Superintendent help put something together that would go to City Council as a recommendation for an official policy. Sarah Richardson, staff liaison, will share this with the Public Works Director.

6.5. Planned Unit Development (PUD) Discussion

Kathleen Walker described the current PUD requirements.

PUDs required to donate 25% of property in addition to either donated parkland or a fee in lieu.

25% donated does not have to be land than can be developed. The land then becomes the responsibility of the city. The current Master Plan update is reviewing the supply and demand for open space. The PUD's might address this need. How much is the city wanting to take on in terms of open space and how does it affect maintenance needs.

Makoto Lane discussed that there are more than just the open space issue with the PUD's. Asked council member Laurie Smallwood about code issues. Makoto Lane feels it would be great if the council could address the code issues. Laurie Smallwood noted council and city attorney is aware of issues with the zoning/code. They want to tackle it this year.

Kathleen Walker suggested that the new Master Plan process address the issue. Don Robertson agreed that the consultants could be helpful in making a recommendation about the code. Makoto Lane agrees but recommends PUD's be suspended until the code is fixed. Don Robertson asked Laurie Smallwood if she would report back to council the need to adjust the code language so we don't just get property we can't use, and the flexibility to say no. Kathleen Walker suggests that it be changed to provide some percentage of the 25% be land that can be used. Also feels "exceptional" needs to be defined - clear and objective criteria.

Kathleen Walker also noted the code, 17.86, needs actual code compliance language for what's allowable. Example, where sidewalks and parking are required next to parks etc. This is not currently stated in the code.

Don Robertson asking if once the Parks and Trails Master Plan is updated, will it be adopted into the city's Comprehensive Plan. Kathleen noted it will have to be, but Don Robertson noted it doesn't have to be, but should be. Makoto Lane concerned about what happens before this is all updated. Kathleen discussed the Parks and Trails zone, and that it has not been finalized. Parks Board could look at parks zone language from other cities and suggests the board can help look at options and provide additional input.

7. Old Business

7.1. Master Plan Update - Public Outreach

Summary of what has taken place so far (posted on the cities website). Good overview of where we are. Next step - Longest Day Parkway cancelled so looking at different options of how to continue to reach out to the public. This could include an online meeting but recognize that there needs to be other options as well. Don Robertson noted one of the team members is a communications expert and the TAC has asked her to come back with suggestions. The updated plan will also focus on the Deer Pointe and Champion Way parks, and zooming in on what specifically residents want to see at those parks. Don Robertson noted the consultants did a good job looking at areas outside the city boundaries and at undeserved areas. Kathleen noted there is also a good summary of the current level of service and where we need to go.

8. STAFF UPDATES

8.1. Community Garden Repairs

The Ant Farm is tackling the repairs at the Community Garden. Going slower than anticipated. Update on funding of the project. Parks Maintenance is able to contribute.

Kathleen Walker updated about the Jonsrud Viewpoint project. Getting close to completion. The grants have been cancelled for the whole year, so the cameras are on hold. May talk with Travel Oregon. Don Robertson noted the Oregon State Park local government grants are also experiencing reductions.

8.2. June Board Elections

Staff Liaison, Sarah Richardson, reminded the board that elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary will be held at the next meeting in June per the Board Bylaws.

9. Adjourn