



SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
October 11, 2018
Traffic Control Center Conference Room 325
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tony Caito
Diana Dickey
Woody Dukes
David Fridenmaker
Bill Fujii
Kasia Quillinan
Carol Snyder
Patty Tipton
Micki Varney

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Becktel
Patricia Farrell
Jennifer Kellar
Becky George
Julie Titchbourne
Tammi Starrs
Rob Romanek
Toni Whitler

1. ROLL CALL

All members were present. Diana Dickey and Micki Varney were introduced as new board members.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 13, 2018 minutes were approved.

3. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Cathy Daniels, Barry Nelson, John Lubans, Linda Coons, Ethan Hochstein, Betsy Belshaw, Dylan McDowell, Sandra Burnett, Michael Slater, Toni Kramer, Brenda Winberg, Peter Noight, Dennis Will

Michael Slater spoke to the Board regarding the Comprehensive Plan review meeting to take place November 5, 2018, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. He asked SPRAB to look at being involved in the comprehensive plan process due to the involvement of parks in the comprehensive plan.

Ken Ploeser, Creekwalk Project

Adopted Pringle Creek through the SOLV program, and recently adopted Mill Race and Shelton Ditch. Promoting Creek Walk and looking for people to walk the creek.

Brenda Winburg – 643 La Cresta Drive SE

She is here with her son who is a boy scout and they have visited all of Salem parks. She wanted to say that she appreciates the work we do.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Brown Road Park Draft Master Plan – Rob Romanek

Rob Romanek presented the Brown Road Park draft master plan at the September SPRAB meeting and was asked to come back in October once North Lancaster Association (NOLA) had a further opportunity to endorse the draft plan. Mr. Romanek confirmed to the Board that NOLA endorsed the plan at their October 3, 2018 meeting and asked SPRAB to forward a recommendation to City Council for adoption.

Member Caito asked whether the on-street parking is perpendicular. Mr. Romanek stated that parking is parallel, not perpendicular.

Member Tipton asked about parking on neighboring streets. Mr. Romanek said there is no other parking on Brown Road but the surrounding neighborhood streets have some capacity. Mr. Romanek also confirmed that parking is not typically provided at a facility like Brown Road Park that has been classified as a Neighborhood Park.

Member Fuji indicated he would like a statement in the master plan that improvements to the function of the on-site wetland and the addition of educational signage should be further considered.

Motion

Member Snyder moved to endorse the draft Brown Road Park Master Plan and forward a recommendation to City Council for adoption. Member Varney seconded the motion.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

b. Riverfront Park Draft Master Plan – Jim Figurski, Greenworks

This item has been moved on the agenda to follow Item 5.a.

c. HEAL Cities Grant Opportunity: Request for Letter of Support – Toni Whitley

Ms. Whitley gave a brief summary of a grant opportunity provided through the Oregon Public Health Institute and Kaiser Permanente and asked the Board for a letter of support to provide with the application. The City is requesting grant funds to place a water bottle filling station in two community parks and one urban park: River Road Park, Geer Park, and Riverfront Park.

Motion

Member Dickey moved and Member Dukes seconded to write a letter of support for the HEAL Cities grant.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

5. PRESENTATIONS

a. Salem Art Association (SAA) Proposal for Centennial Sculpture in Bush's Pasture Park – Sandra Burnett, Executive Director, SAA

SAA Item 1: Ms. Burnett is requesting endorsement of the location for the installation of permanent artwork opposite the Art Barn. The artwork is called Sentinels (placeholder name) and the artist is Devin Laurence Field. It will be located in the grassy area just across from the Art Barn entrance. Approval is needed in order to apply for grant funding. She received approval from Salem Art Commission on the sculpture.

Member Caito: How do you protect it from children climbing on it? Ms. Burnett said she doesn't believe there is traction to allow climbing.

Jen Kellar noted a concern to Parks Maintenance is the perimeter around the art pieces for turf maintenance. Burnett said it will be set on a concrete pad that would form an edge for trimming.

Member Varney: Will there be an informational plaque? Ms. Burnett confirmed there will be something near the sculpture.

Motion

Member Fuji moved to approve the location with the caveat that Salem Art Association work with Park Operations. Member Dickey seconded the motion.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Burnett presented three more items from SAA for the Boards information.

SAA Item 2: The potential for Bush's Pasture Park to be a public sculpture site. Other cities have opened sculpture parks and are successful. Looking for someone from SPRAB to be involved in selecting sites at Bush's Pasture for public art.

Chair Quillinan said she spoke with Public Works Director Fernandez about making a combined group between Salem Art Commission and SPRAB.

SAA Item 3: Wishing to honor Betty Wiley who served SAA for many years with a bench and plaque. Jen Kellar gave the specifics to purchase a bench.

SAA Item 4: Brick Patio on the west side of the Art Barn. It would be open for the public to use, but also for the SAA to use when they have workshops. Ms. Burnett wants to announce the construction of this patio at the Centennial event.

Chair Quillinan asked whether Historic Landmarks Commission is involved. Ms. Burnett replied yes, per requirements.

Member Tipton asked about the bricks. Ms. Burnett replied that bricks will be sold with design or name by purchaser. Ms. Kellar asked who is responsible for the cost of removing the irrigation lines for construction and who will maintain the bricks. SAA will maintain the bricks and SAA will cover irrigation lines as part of the cost.

Motion

Member Fujii moved to proceed on the planning of a patio next to the Art Barn. Member Caito seconded.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

AGENDA CHANGE – ACTION ITEM 4.b

4.b Riverfront Park Draft Master Plan – Jim Figurski, Greenworks

Jim Figurski, landscape architect from Greenworks, presented a summary of the master plan process and development of the draft plan. Mr. Figurski added that the draft plan will be presented to City Council on November 13, 2018 to be considered for adoption.

Chair Quillinan asked about the possibility of striping the paths for bike/ped. Mr. Figurski replied that this is a request to be discussed at the time of construction drawings. He added that pavers have also been used to designate ped from bike.

Chair Quillinan asked whether there was any thought to add a small playground near the proposed north end restroom and the Centennial Pavilion. Ms. Farrell said there isn't much room in that location and the Greenway boundary is an additional limitation.

Member Fujii likes the pedestrian bridge over Pringle Creek. He sees it as (1) Better use of that land and (2) The new walk under commercial along with the Pringle Creek bridge crossing will help disperse crowds after a large event. Mr. Figurski replied that many people attending the open houses said the Pringle Creek ped crossing would be their primary way of accessing the park.

Chair Quillinan opened the floor for comments on the draft Riverfront Park Master Plan.

Toni Kramer – 1945 Royal NE

She has lived in Salem 30 years. She wished to comment on the amphitheater and informed the Board that she is disabled with arthritis. She asked them to envision beyond the ADA rules. Installing a concrete pad with an ADA bench means I can't sit with my friends. The existing, tiered amphitheater is perfect for her

because she can sit with friends. The proposed amphitheater does not include this type of seating hindering her opportunity to sit with her friends. If it is strictly a grass area with a slope she cannot use it, but the tiers with the concrete works well for disabled people like her. She cannot physically carry a chair and doesn't want to sit in front of people. Existing amphitheater tiered seating benches are 16-18" high which is typical. Mr. Figurski acknowledged her request and said this is an opportunity at time of construction drawings.

Member Fujii to Mark Becketl, Operations Division Manager: Is there an ADA committee? Mr. Becketl replied yes, the Human Rights and Relations Committee oversees ADA accessibility and they would want to review the plans.

There was no further comment. Chair Quillinan closed the comment period for the draft Riverfront Park Master Plan.

Chair Quillinan said they are now addressing the issue at hand, which is to approve or endorse the draft Riverfront Park Master Plan and forward a recommendation to City Council.

Chair Quillinan: This is the best plan that they have come up with and the finer details such as ADA will be addressed during the construction plans/drawings.

The Chair then asked each member to give their input on the draft plan.

Member Tipton: She likes the plan; Member Snyder: She likes it; Member Varney: Likes the idea for summer events.

Member Caito: Are there any plans to expand events? Becky George replied that she can't say for sure that every event would expand, but some new events may appear and modification of existing events could happen.

Member Fridenmaker: Likes the plan, well thought out; Member Dukes: Likes the plan;
Member Dickey: Has heard a lot of different ideas and it hits the mark by keeping the existing facilities while further enhancing the park.

Chair: The Pullmans were the ones who "rescued" this property for the city as a park. They would be happy to see what is being done. She would like a plaque in their honor.

Motion

Chair Quillinan moves to accept the draft master plan and forward a recommendation to City Council for adoption. Member Dickey seconded the motion.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

6. INFORMATION REPORTS

a. Parks Operations Update – Jen Kellar

Parks Operations Organization

Moving to a functionality model rather than a district model. She provided a hard copy of the new organization chart.

Member Dickey: Where does the park ranger fit in the organization? Ms. Kellar replied that he is under Community Development, Community Enforcement. Chair: How is this working out? Kellar, he is involved in our staff meetings and we have dialog with him concerning what he is seeing in the parks. Ms. Kellar is also in contact with Brady Rogers who oversees Community Enforcement and Patrick Long, the park ranger's immediate supervisor.

Member Fujii: What is your sense of whether we need to expand to a broader geographic area? Ms. Kellar said it would be helpful to have a presence at Cascades Gateway, but also looking at other options by working with SPD. Ms. Kellar would also like to start a park ambassador program to provide positive reinforcement and education.

Chair Quillinan asked whether the citation authority got resolved. Ms. Kellar replied yes, they wanted him to have a holding pattern and ease into writing tickets.

b. Recreation Services Update – Becky George

- Summer Recreation Programs and Softball will be coming to SPRAB in November with the season recap.
- The tree lighting will be Friday, November 30 and will have live reindeer and Santa, free hot chocolate.
- There are a record number of events on the 2019 calendar for parks and city streets.
- This weekend is suicide prevention walk downtown.
- Natural turf fields open through November 4 and then will be closed for winter; scheduling begins mid-March.

c. Park Planning Update – Patricia Farrell

The next planning effort will be a review of the current master plan for Secor Park. The review will be cooperative effort with the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association. Battle Creek Park should be move forward now that we have better information on hydrology issues at the park. There are now proposals for development around Fairview Park so we are moving ahead with a topographic survey and a cultural resources survey before moving forward with 30 percent designs for Phase I development.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place November 8, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.