



SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
DIGITAL MEETING
June 11, 2020
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alan Alexander
Diana Dickey
Woody Dukes
David Fridenmaker
Dylan McDowell
Paul Rice
Micki Varney

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tony Caito

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Becketl
Patricia Farrell
Jennifer Kellar
Milan Davis-absent
Becky George
Toni Whitler

1. ROLL

Tony Caito marked absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Fridenmaker did not see public comment from previous meeting from Nick Fortey about Orchard Heights crossing. Ms. Whitler will check the minutes and adjust accordingly. Minutes approved with amendments. Member Varney seconded the minutes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. E.M. Easterly brought up the issue of a mapping error still being addressed as part of a package of mapping errors that will be corrected in the Salem Comprehensive Plan Update and the next Comprehensive Park System Master Plan Update. Mr. Easterly wants a continued eye on it.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Eagle's View Park Draft Master Plan

Toni Whitler and consultant Derek Sergison, ESA, presented the draft master plan and highlighted the process and features of the plan.

Ms. Whitler noted that there are two disk golf baskets, not three, as seen on the original draft. The plan will be updated, and the change has been relayed to the neighbors with no comment received on the change.

Chair McDowell said he was able to attend the meeting and noted everyone was very excited about the park.

Member Rice commented that it is a genuinely nice site, and this is a good interpretation of what the public wanted.

Member Varney stated that she was impressed by the turnout and how staff reached out to the public with surveys. She likes the idea of a basketball court at the base of the slope for sound reduction- thinking about the needs of the community.

Derek Sergison commented that the uses for multi-use sports court are still to be determined.

Ms. Whitler said that when the City is ready to move forward with construction, a survey will go out to the neighborhood for opinions/selections of playground equipment and type of use for the multi-use court.

Member Dickey said it was a good planning effort and was happy to see 93 people engage in the selection process.

Member Dukes moved to endorse the Eagle's View Park Master Plan and forward to City Council for adoption. Member Rice seconded the motion.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

b. Letter of Support for Park Ranger

Chair McDowell and Member Alexander worked on the letter endorsing expansion of Park Ranger duties.

After brief discussion, Member Varney moved to endorse the letter as written. Member Dickey seconded.

Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

5. INFORMATION REPORTS

(Information reports will now be provided as written reports ahead of the meetings.)

a. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Report

Christine Chute was unable to participate in the Zoom meeting. The report was submitted and reviewed.

b. Urban Forestry Report

Milan Davis was absent, but the Board will receive his report after the meeting.

c. Parks Planning Report

Member Dickey encouraged everyone to check the link to the Geer Park Master Plan Update.

d. Parks Operations Report

There was a request by Member Dickey for information on Transient Occupancy Funds and the impact on parks and recreation services associated with a decrease in this funding due to the current health pandemic. It was decided to address in August when more information is available. (Since the time of this meeting, the August meeting was cancelled, and this item will be addressed in September.)

Chair McDowell mentioned a grant opportunity through Oregon Recreation and Parks Association to assist agencies in reopening parks. Ms. Kellar said they will pursue the grant for support of temporary toilets and sanitation stations.

e. Recreation Services Report

Chair McDowell asked about the status of the virtual Stride program and wondered if the event will remain virtual. Ms. George responded that they are going to try to hold an in-person STRIDE event on June 25th or 27th and will look at alternating groups of 25. She could not confirm at this time if it would happen due to the current public health situation.

Member Dukes asked about the Awesome 3000. Ms. George replied that the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation is dissolving the run and Family YMCA will be taking over the program. It will not occur this year.

f. Damage report

Minto Brown Park: A pole was struck, and damage was \$466 dollars. Hoover Park graffiti was removed at a cost of \$424 dollars.

g. Status of Unsheltered Persons in City Parks

Mr. Bechtel spoke to the many challenges associated with the temporary allowance of camping in Cascades Gateway and Wallace Marine Parks.

Member Rice noted that it is no longer pleasant to walk in the park and there has been quite a bit of damage to the natural environment. Mr. Bechtel said that the police are aware of issues due to the camping.

6. NEXT MEETING

The July and August meetings were cancelled, and the next regularly scheduled meeting is September 10, 2020.

7. Upcoming Agenda Items

Chair McDowell expressed an interest in pursuing diversity outreach, how to engage, how to encourage more applications for SPRAB.

Member Rice said there is a lot of diversity in the community and agrees that more outreach should be done to encourage participation from the diverse community.

Chair McDowell suggested using churches and schools as a way to plant seeds of interest.

Ms. Farrell said that she wanted to add that Secor Park construction contract was awarded to Emery and Sons and Secor Park construction begins after July 4. Member Alexander who is also chair of Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association, received an email about the construction and shared his excitement with the Board.

8. ADJOURN

6:33 PM