

Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes October 23, 2014

Present- Norma Hernandez, Grace Laman, Councilor Karen Mellin, Tammy Loughran and Howard Rub

Absent- Brad Johnston, Kim Williams and Jay Flint

Guest- David McElroy, Drew Herzig, Jessica Schleiff

Staff- Terra Patterson,

Meeting was called to Order at 6:50am by chairperson Norma Hernandez.

Chair Person Section

1. Grace Laman motioned to approve the minutes, Howard seconded the motion. September minutes were approved.
2. What do you hear- Norma mentioned the barricades on the River Walk at Buoy Beer.

Employee Recognition

1. Terra recognized Anna-Lisa Robbins who works with the after school program as well as in the recreation office.

Old Business

- A. Tammy gave an update on the Parks foundation. The group has decided to get fees from the projects they are helping with their financial fundraising, due to the cost of board insurance and bank fees. They will be charging 2.5% of fundraising up to \$1,000. They probably will not be helping the friends of the Armory as they have already begun fundraising with the local soccer organization.
- B. The Wayfinding signage project was reviewed. It will be reviewed in November by council and then staff will begin looking for funding.
- C. The Ford Family Foundation Teen Center Project was reviewed. The group is a little behind schedule and hoping to open the beginning of January. There were additional funds added to the in kind donation which added to the funds Ford Family Foundation will match for the project.
- D. The Recreation Center renovation was discussed. Fitness class participation was not affected negatively by the move and staff has seen an increase in attendance this fall. Staff has settled in to the new building and programs are running smoothly.
- E. The Silver Sneakers contract was discussed. The department is tentatively planning to begin accepting Silver Sneakers December 5. Staff will begin publicizing this to various groups as well as the Daily Astorian as the start date becomes certain.
- F. The Friends of the McClure Park project was discussed. Howard Rub asked what the maintenance department's feelings were about the project. Jessica and Drew asked to be included on emails regarding the project. There were questions about the additional costs to maintaining the park and how those were calculated. Angela reviewed the various costs included in the maintenance and upkeep of the proposed new upgrades. The board discussed the pros and cons to the proposal. The group was supportive of the proposed upgrades, however there was concern about upkeep and additional expenses. Parks board is supportive

of recommending the project be reviewed by city council with maintenance funding to be reviewed.

New Business

1. Angela reviewed the Dog Park town hall meeting. More than 50 people attended the meeting and staff was very positive about the feedback received. Angela reviewed results of the 200+ surveys received. The Pacific Power and Pipeline road areas were popular with the public. The park area in Alderbrook called "Stinky Beach" was discussed as a potential site. After further city review, it has been discovered that a very small portion of the park is in "flood zone". Grace asked about the process and how to move forward with the project. Angela discussed the procedure staff will be following. Drew Herzig discussed the need for public buy in of the site and the possible consequences if community buy-in and feedback were not obtained. The board discussed the need to follow appropriate procedure. Angela told the board the survey will be closed at the end of the month. Results will be given to the Friends group at this point.
2. Angela reviewed department reports. The aquatic center received its quarterly audit, receiving a meets mark.
3. Janice discussed the Chip-In project at the Ocean View Cemetery. This will raise public awareness for the Chip-In project. This will also assist in cleaning up head stones as a "scavenger hunt" type event.
4. Norma asked about child care needs with the closing of the large daycare in Warrenton. Angela reviewed additions to child care where our programs can expand and explained the challenges with expansion of Lil' Sprouts due to space limitations. Tammy asked about additional lighting on the bay side of the building.
5. Angela discussed some maintenance staffing issues the department is currently working through.
6. Visitor input- Mick Hague discussed the website for the board, as well as meeting minutes. He also asked about adding a spot in the agenda for public input. Mr. Hague expressed some concerns for mutt mitt expenses. His additional comments included graffiti around the city, signage for no smoking on the River Walk, way finding signage, drainage and long term plans at the 9th and Astor Park. Jessica asked about the task force for usage of pesticides. She has gathered additional information to give to Angela.

Next meeting will be held Wednesday, December 10 at 6:45am