

# Park & Open Space Advisory Board

March 4, 2008

Members of the Park & Open Space Advisory Board met this day in regular session at City Hall, Brownsville, Oregon at 7:03 p.m.

**Present:** Carla Gerber, Bill Nelson, Patty Linn, Walter Heeren, Ruth Lawhon (7:06 p.m.), Pat Biesinger, Jim Mayer, Joni Nelson and S. Scott McDowell.

**Public:** No one was present.

**Presiding:** Carla Gerber.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Minutes from the February 5, 2008 meeting were approved as written. Mrs. Gerber asked for additions to the agenda. Mr. Mayer added Kirk Park Plan under Discussion. Mrs. Gerber added the Calapooia Watershed Council. Mr. McDowell added a Jail History and a draft letter for the Pioneer Picnic Association. Gerber proceeded with the agenda. McDowell stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Robert Dominguez about the donation of the concrete benches for Library Park. Mr. Dominguez was concerned because he had received the benches for the specific purpose of using them for the proposed Veteran's Memorial. Dominguez was not present. McDowell gave a brief recount of what has happened thus far with this issue. Joni Nelson, representing the Historic Review Board, stated that the current Memorial was done in 1906 and feels that maintaining the historic integrity of the Memorial is still very important. She felt that benches could augment the Memorial if done correctly. Discussion ensued. The Board still maintained its' earlier position and asked McDowell to contact Mr. Dominguez with that information.

Jim Mayer had put together several ideas from different sources including the United Kingdom and Canada in regards to policy creation for plaques and memorials. Mayer explained that his ideas were outlined at the end of the handout. Walter Heeren shared some information about a trip he had taken to the museum in Harrisburg. He indicated they had erected a brick wall with individual brass engravings and a sidewalk system that allowed for bricks to be added recognizing people who donated or wanted to be memorialized. He invited other members to take a look at this site. Bill Nelson talked about the river front in Corvallis. Nelson thought that perhaps a brick border around the Menefee path would be a nice location. Joni Nelson pointed out the County would need to be involved because some of the property belonged to Linn County. Patty Linn discussed tree donations. She feels very strongly about using native species. Bill Nelson added that former City employee Leroy Massey was partial to the Maple. Everyone felt that three or four varieties of native species may be the best way to reforest. Gerber and Mayer talked about all the positive benefits of creating a policy. Members were going to review the information provided by Mayer and formulate their thoughts for next meeting.

McDowell explained that the City has been working diligently on the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) but have not finalized the document yet. Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink has had his share of illness as well as being short-handed and bringing the new Wastewater Plant on-line. McDowell and Frink hope to have the report completed before the next Council meeting.

Gerber indicated that the Girl Scouts thought the Jail project would be too much for the girls. McDowell explained that Karl Frink had looked into a quote but the local contractor does not install metal roofs. We will have a quote for materials soon. Gerber thought that a volunteer day may be the way to go in conjunction with the Calapooia Watershed Council. Gerber stated that Tara Putney of the Calapooia Watershed Council had contacted her regarding plans the Council has for the Kirk Park area. Ms. Putney will attend the next Parks & Open Space Advisory Board meeting with more information. She thought the City could provide volunteers and herbicide. Joni Nelson warned about Water Hemlock indicating that it is the most poisonous plant in the Pacific Northwest. Several years ago the City eliminated a lot of it, but we should be aware of that before any kids or volunteers go back in that area.

Mrs. Nelson had also provided the Board with historical information on the Jail located in Kirk Park. She talked with Herb Dominguez and Ed Putman; consulted City Ordinances and Minute Books to find the age of the jail. The original jail was built around 1926 and the current jail building was built in 1958.

Mayer provided another handout regarding ideas for Kirk Park. How should we go about involving the public? Bill Nelson really likes the idea of a tennis court in that location. The Board agreed. Nelson said at one time a court was down there but they had some trouble with people vandalizing the nets. Shuffleboard courts and a canoe launch were also briefly discussed. Members were encouraged to review the list for future discussion. The Board felt that a Town Hall Meeting could be held or just publicizing the regularly scheduled meeting.

McDowell indicated that Council approved Steve Otis proposal for holding a benefit concert in Pioneer Park for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Otis would give the money to the Central Linn High School Music Department. McDowell stated that he told Council about the Board's approval of this concept. The Women's Study Club is also involved hosting band members and serving breakfast. Four bands from Portland will be the featured entertainment. The music is pop/alternative. They will be performing in Eugene on Friday night, Brownsville on Saturday and Corvallis on Sunday for a mini tour of the Valley.

McDowell explained the progress that was recently made with the Central Linn School District with regards to the community garden proposal. McDowell and Central Linn School Superintendent Ed Curtis addressed the School Board's concern regarding the Termination clause in the contract. The School Board asked for clarification on this matter. McDowell had put a one time, lump sum payment made from the City to the School for returning the property to its original condition should the School choose. The amount agreed upon is \$1,500. Council felt strongly that the Co-op should pay half or the entire amount. McDowell is still working out the details with the Co-op President and the Mayor.

Len Baer of Home Depot, Team Depot, out of Eugene will be in next week to meet with McDowell and Frink about the Library landscaping project.

City Planner Bill Sattler recently forwarded McDowell & Frink's punch list items to Smith Custom Construction.

McDowell briefly discussed a draft letter that will be sent to the Pioneer Picnic Association after next months meeting. He encouraged members to review the letter for comments. He stated how well this worked last year and wanted to continue the fine relationship established with the Association. McDowell also reported that Karl Frink, Leisa Keyser and Pacific Power will be meeting this upcoming week to do investigate a permanent solution to power needs in Pioneer Park.

Pat Biesinger asked about the Park Caretakers. McDowell reported that Butch and Kathy Levere were returning for another Summer. Bill Nelson mentioned that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held in Pioneer Park at 1:00 p.m. on March 22. He asked for help hiding the eggs. They will start hiding the eggs at 11:00 a.m. the day of the event.

Gerber asked about moving the meeting in April to the 8<sup>th</sup>. Everyone agreed.

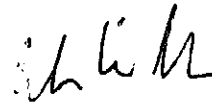
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST:



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S. Scott McDowell  
City Administrator



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Carla Gerber  
President

# **City of Brownsville**

## **Parks and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting**

City Hall  
Tuesday, March 4, 2008  
7:00 p.m.

### **Regular Session**

#### **AGENDA**

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 4) MINUTES: February 5, 2008
- 5) ACTION ITEMS:
  - A. Veteran's Memorial Update – Rick & Robert
- 6) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
  - A. Plaques & Memorials
  - B. Capital Improvements Plan
  - C. Jail Building Project
  - D. Benefit Concert Update
  - E. Community Gardens Update
  - F. Len Baer Landscaping Update
  - G. Remington Park Update
- 7) CITIZEN INPUT
- 8) ADJOURN

This agenda is a list of topics anticipated to be considered at the meeting. The Parks and Open Space Advisory Board may add or remove topics as required. The location of the meeting/hearing is accessible to the disabled. If special accommodations are needed, please notify S. Scott McDowell, City Administrator, at (541) 466-5666 in advance. Thank you.