

Park & Open Space Advisory Board

June 3, 2008

Members of the Park & Open Space Advisory Board met this day in regular session at City Hall, Brownsville, Oregon at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Carla Gerber, Pat Biesinger, Patty Linn, Walter Heeren, Ruth Lawhon, Jim Mayer and S. Scott McDowell.

Absent: Brandie Simon

Public: No one was present.

Presiding: Carla Gerber.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. The minutes from the May 6, 2008 meeting were approved without exception; Ms. Linn and Ms. Gerber moved and seconded respectively. McDowell explained that Brandie Simon has agreed to fill the empty position on the Board. The Brownsville Municipal Code requires the seat to be filled by a member of the Rec Center Board. Ms. Simon was appointed by Council at their last regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Simon was unable to attend this evening due to a family commitment.

Mrs. Gerber turned the floor over to Mr. McDowell. McDowell indicated that the Board did not make a formal motion regarding the outcome of last meeting. He felt it was best to wait until everyone had an opportunity to think about what was discussed at the last meeting and to also continue to listen to the public to determine if all concerns were met. McDowell asked for a motion to name the park at the corner of Kirk Avenue and Main Street based on the last meeting and other prior discussions. A motion was made Pat Biesinger, seconded by Walter Heeren to recommend to Council naming the park at the corner of Kirk Avenue and Main Street, Kirk's Ferry Park. The motion carried unanimously.

McDowell and Mayer discussed the possibility of installing a green, fiberglass, chain-link fabric and placing a green vinyl over the poles to give the fence a more pleasing look. Mayer wondered if the fencing was even necessary anywhere other than behind the baskets. McDowell talked about how small the space was with the skate ramp out of the area. He stated that he played basketball with several of the kids who were at the meeting. They had changed their mind on the asphalt. They now agreed that the whole court should be resurfaced. They also understood that the fence on the one end may have to be opened to create enough space to add skateboard accessories. Discussion ensued regarding the fencing. McDowell will get an estimate on the fencing in a couple of different variations for the Board's consideration.

McDowell reported that the Senior Class completed the painting of the Jail Building. The City has hired Sprick Roofing from Corvallis to install a new roof on the jail. McDowell is currently attempting to secure the building permit through Linn County. There is a concern about the end of the fiscal year and a scheduling conflict with the Contractor. McDowell hopes to have the roof completed within the next two weeks.

Mrs. Gerber and Ms. Linn discussed the installation of a drinking fountain and the placement of a bike rack. Everyone felt that these improvements could be made with little investment and make the park much better. A motion was made by Jim Mayer, seconded by Patty Linn to recommend to Council the installation of a drinking fountain and the placement of a bike rack for the park. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the information and ideas regarding plaques and memorials. The Board thought that if trees are donated, there should not be a plaque. Everyone agreed that plaques for trees become a maintenance nuisance. Ms. Linn and Mr. Mayer asked McDowell about the species of trees. McDowell stated that the Board needs to flush out the Tree Ordinance that was passed a few years ago this Fall. At that time, the Board can choose four or five approved varieties for people to choose from.

The subject was discussed further. Mayer asked about people buying bricks to advertise. The consensus of the Board was that this new ordinance would be for memorials and donations. Commercial advertising seems inappropriate next to memorials. The concept of donating fountains was briefly mentioned. Mayer mentioned another concept of accepting and making arrangements for large donations. What happens if someone donates the money for a building or baseball diamond? The Ordinance should attempt to address this situation as well. McDowell was asked to work with the language again to get it closer to Ordinance form.

Gerber moved to the next item which was discussing the plaque for Bill Nelson. McDowell indicated that the Council agreed with the Board's decision and asked McDowell to present the idea to the Rec Center Board. In the meantime, Leisa Keyser of the Pioneer Picnic Association expressed their interest in being involved in the tribute to Mr. Nelson. The Rec Center Board made a motion to dedicate the new basketball court, south of the water treatment plant, in honor of Mr. Bill Nelson. McDowell volunteered to order the plaque and make the necessary arrangements. McDowell read the inscription on the plaque that should arrive June 12. The Association has planned the ceremony for June 21st at 12:00 p.m. at the basketball court. McDowell explained the lay out that Public Works is attempting to create; weather permitting. The City hopes to have the plaque mounted.

Gerber, Mayer and Linn shared the success of the volunteer project organized by the Calapooia Watershed Council down by the river east of the bridge and south of Kirk's Ferry Park. There were 12 to 15 volunteers with surges of up to 20 people. Gerber was impressed with how hard the kids worked. Patty Linn stated that a lot of English Ivy was destroyed. English Ivy is an invasive species.

McDowell shared an e-mail he had received from Tricia Thompson about replanting some trees that were recently taken down. McDowell explained in the e-mail that the Board would look into doing this during Arbor Day planned for October 4th, 2008. McDowell thought the Board should start planning for Arbor Day at the August meeting to invite and include everyone that should be included. The Board agreed.

McDowell wanted to give the Board a brief overview of two major issues facing Council. He felt that it was best the Board knew what was going on due to their ties with the City. McDowell stated that the City just received the amortization tables from the State and Federal government regarding the debt incurred for the installation of the sanitary sewer system and replacement of collection lines. The annual payment will be

close to \$390,000. This means that based on the number of accounts each household will be charged and/or assessed \$47.08 per month. McDowell will be presenting options to Council for consideration at a special session on June 5th. Discussion ensued.

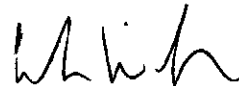
McDowell also shared the pressing issues with the Canal Company and the Mill Race. The Calapooia Watershed Council has \$300,000 to install a pump station that would put water in the Mill Race which runs through Brownsville. The problem is that the bids to perform the work came in at \$425,000. The Calapooia Watershed Council has worked with the Contractor and Engineer to trim the project back to \$372,000. They have also secured another possible funding agency in the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Council is being asked to put up \$20,000 to match the grant to receive the funds. This year is really the only shot Brownsville has to continue with water in the canal. Council will be discussing this issue this Thursday as well.

The July meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. The next meeting will be held August 5th. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

ATTEST:



S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator



Carla Gerber
President

City of Brownsville

Parks and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting

City Hall
Tuesday, June 3, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Regular Session

AGENDA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 4) MINUTES: May 6, 2008
- 5) ACTION ITEMS:
 - A. Motion: Kirk's Ferry Park
- 6) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - A. Plaques & Memorials
 - B. Bill Nelson Memorial
 - C. Calapooia Watershed Update
 - D. Jail Building Project
 - E. Arbor Day – Tricia Thompson
- 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) 466-5880 in advance. Thank you.