

Park & Open Space Advisory Board

June 5, 2007

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, Walter Heeren, Pat Biesinger, Bill Nelson, Patty Linn and S. Scott McDowell.

Public: Dee Swayze (7:06 p.m.)

Absent: Ruth Lawhon & Jim Mayer

Presiding: Carla Gerber

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Minutes from the May 1, 2007 meeting were approved without exception. Mrs. Gerber asked what the status of Ms. Lawhon's commitment was for the Board. Mrs. Gerber indicated that Ms. Lawhon had been pressed into service and wasn't sure if she had time or wished to continue. McDowell stated that Council did appoint her to a one year term. He said he would talk with Ms. Lawhon to find out her intentions. Everyone knows she is busy preparing for Pioneer Picnic.

Mrs. Gerber said that Dee Swayze would be present to discuss fire pits in Pioneer Park. Bill Nelson said that he would like to discuss camping by the river in Pioneer Park. Patty Linn asked for an update on the North Point Loop/Remington Park. Mrs. Gerber decided to hold the Rich Tauzer tree concern until the end of the meeting.

McDowell reviewed a draft letter regarding Pioneer Picnic which will be held June 15th through June 17th. Leisa Keyser, Chairman of the Board & Treasurer of the Pioneer Picnic Association, had contacted McDowell wanting to make sure the concerns of the Association and the overall handling of the Picnic were openly discussed. McDowell was met with a lively discussion in the park on Friday, May 25th with Kurt Riemer witnessed by Councilor Gary Shepherd. Riemer is a member of the Association and has extensive responsibilities during the Picnic. Mr. Riemer's concern was accusatory and argumentative. By the end of the discussion, a more civilized manner of communication did transpire. However due to the history of the situation and the personalities involved, McDowell felt it was necessary to articulate responsibilities in writing. Bill Nelson said that everything in the letter was pretty standard. McDowell said that the City did purchase two new refrigerators due to the age and wear on the two existing units. Julie Cone of the Recreation Center Board had brought the issue to the attention of McDowell late last week. Karl Frink took care of the matter for the City at the direction of McDowell. Patty Linn was going to check with the Pollyannas regarding the Kiddie Parade terminating behind the Library. McDowell reviewed Council's decision to close Park Street at the request of the Association.

Mrs. Gerber said that she has met the Butch and Kathy Levere, Park Caretakers, and shared how wonderful they are. McDowell encouraged the Board to stop in and

greet them. McDowell briefly discussed the outcome of the Carlson's tree concern. The City will be removing the trees once the affected property is contacted. Mr. Nelson indicated that the owner was currently in Peking, China. Penny's mother may be a contact.

Mr. Dee Swayze explained his idea for fire pits in Pioneer Park. He indicated that Leroy Massey's son, Randy, is making these heavy duty fire pits out of truck parts that are wonderful. He described the unit as a challis shaped and stated it was about twenty six inches wide and weighed between seventy and eighty pounds. There has been concerns that people are putting fires wherever. With this type of unit, the fires would be in designated areas. Mr. Swayze thought maybe starting with three units would be appropriate. He said they are about \$60 each. One other suggestion was for the City to offer wood for fires so people weren't searching through the park for scraps. A motion was made by Patty Linn, seconded by Pat Biesinger to purchase two fire pits for park use as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.


Patty Linn segued into camping by the river. Ms. Linn stated that Joni Nelson has a concern with a missing sign and the fact that people are not supposed to be camping so close to the river. McDowell asked Mr. Nelson to have Joni stop by City Hall so the area can be reviewed. The Board asked if rules were given to the campers at the time of rental. McDowell stated that they were. McDowell indicated that the Sheriff's Office could be involved with enforcement as well. McDowell will make sure the Caretaker's are aware of the rules.

Linn asked about the progress being made at Remington Park. She stated that she had recently reviewed the area. McDowell said that the punch list is forthcoming. Karl Frink, Public Works Superintendent, is finalizing the City's concerns. Mrs. Gerber asked Mr. Swayze if he was interested in becoming a member of the Board. Mr. Swayze is very involved with the Watershed Council and has been very active in cleaning up the park. McDowell stated that if a position isn't open he is certainly welcome as a member of the community.

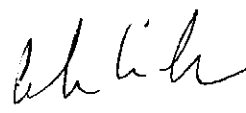
The Board walked down to review the Rick Tauzer tree. The tree is a large cottonwood tree behind the Tauzer residence. The Board did not feel that the tree was in bad health. They asked McDowell to convey to Mr. Tauzer that the tree would be monitored and that if Mr. Tauzer noticed any further deterioration to let the Board know.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator



Carla Gerber
Board Chair

City of Brownsville

Parks and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting

City Hall

Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting Agenda

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 4) MINUTES:
 - a) May 1, 2007
- 5) ACTION ITEMS
 - a) Rick Tauzer Tree
- 6) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - a) Linn County Pioneer Picnic Association
 - b) Butch & Kathy Levere – Park Hosts
 - c) Carlson’s Tree
- 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.