



Parks & Open Space Advisory Board

March 1st, 2017

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

Present: Betsy Ramshur, Pat MacDermott, Brandie Simon, Sarah Glenn, Scott McDowell & Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman.

Absent: Rick Dominguez, Patty Linn, Marilyn Grimes.

Public: None.

Presiding: Brandie Simon.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes of the January 4th, 2017 meeting were reviewed; *Mrs. MacDermott made a motion to approve the minutes with two minor grammatical changes; Mrs. Glenn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

Park Master Plan:

Mr. McDowell reported on the progress of revising the Park Master Plan. Mr. McDowell & Mrs. Coleman worked together on making some improvements to the Plan, identifying some goals and policies that were realistic with the current Park(s) assets, keeping in mind the age of those assets and how they are used. Creating and maintaining an up to date Park Master Plan is important, as it is a requirement when submitting applications for Park grants. Mr. McDowell, who is on the State OPRD grant funding board, has strongly encouraged the board to implement a broader capital improvements plan for cities under ten thousand to get a better view of the assets of those smaller cities. Members of the Park Board were asked to review the Park Master Plan and recommend approval and adoption by the City Council. Added to the Park Master Plan was Appendix B, a Recreational Immunity section describing the current laws, implications of the Johnson vs. Gibson case, documents from the League of Oregon Cities, etc. For years, Recreational Immunity gave private & public landowners such as Weyerhaeuser & cities with Parks & Open Spaces, the opportunity to allow the public to use that land for recreational purposes without being held liable for incidents that occurred (hunting accident, trip and fall, etc.). Over the last several years, accidents have occurred at the Park that could have resulted in large claims to the City if Recreational Immunity was no longer allowed.

Mr. McDowell will provide information on Recreational Immunity and strongly recommended the Board send letters to State Representative Floyd Prozansky explaining how the erosion of Recreational Immunity will impact our City and Oregon. Mr. McDowell will also send information to community partners that use our parks.



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The City may be forced to say no to certain events in public spaces (Pioneer Park) because of the possible liability involved. Certificates of Insurance with exact exposures will be required.

To keep from increasing exposure, cities may also be forced to say no to activities like camping & hiking. The face of recreation in the State of Oregon has the potential to change drastically and financially. Mr. McDowell mentioned the Board may want to discuss reallocating the \$45,000 for a playground toward maintenance of buildings. Discussion ensued. The Board will review the Park Master Plan changes & discuss/approve at the May meeting.

Progress Reports

Mr. McDowell reported on the Rec Center Agreement; CLRA is contracting with Hendricks Cleaning, long time President of the Rec Center George Frasier will retire at the end of 2017, current Vice President is Blaine Cheney. Mr. Cheney is working toward a stand-alone website for sports and other activities at the Rec Center. Council passed the Rec Center Agreement with the addition of paragraph 8 on Recreational Immunity. Mr. Frasier understood that the changes to Recreational Immunity directly impact the administrative processes of the CLRA (rate increases for insurance, sports, additional exposures, etc.). The Board was encouraged to add that information to any letter sent to the State of Oregon. Insurance waivers will also need to be signed by any organization using the Park. Discussion ensued. The City needs to take every precaution possible until the Recreational Immunity gap is closed. A lot of work has been completed or is in process at the Library. Over the last few years, new carpet has been installed, computers have been upgraded, new counters and HVAC installed. Proposals are currently out for the roof.

General Updates

Deadline for Park Caretaker applications is March 10th, the City currently has three of four submittals. Staff is in the process of Public Works seasonal applications as well. Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink will work on a Playground Inspection checklist & process to use when Pioneer Park opens April 1st to when it closes October 31st. The focus will be to complete the checklist weekly or daily. When the checklist is complete, the Park Board will be asked to read and acknowledge that information. The City is currently in the process of renegotiating the telecommunications franchise with CenturyLink. The City would like to see the installation of fiber optic lines and will be reviewing those options with utility companies interested in providing that service. Fiber optic will cost more for the consumer but the advantage will be a considerably faster service over the current DSL (Digital Subscriber Line). A company called Alyrica is interested in coming to Brownsville after completing fiber optic installation in Halsey. Mr. McDowell encouraged those who may be interested in this service coming to Brownsville to contact Alyrica.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Elizabeth E. Coleman
Administrative Assistant

Brandie Simon
Vice-Chair



City of Brownsville

Parks and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting

City Hall
Wednesday, March 1st, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Regular Session

AGENDA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4) ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 5) MINUTES: January 4th, 2017
- 6) PRESENTATIONS & ACTION ITEMS:
 - i) Park Master Plan
- 7) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - A. Progress Reports
 - B. General Updates
- 8) CITIZEN INPUT
 - ▶ *Park Board asks that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member. Please state your name and address prior to commenting for the public record.*
- 9) 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 necessary. The location of this meeting is accessible to the physically challenged. If special accommodations are needed, please notify S. Scott McDowell at 541.466.5880 in advance. Thank you.