

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City of Brookings 898 Elk Drive, Brookings
September 22, 2005

Call to Order

Chair Farmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Frances Hartmann, Tony Parrish, and Chair Daryn Farmer.

Commissioners absent: Haley Farr, and April Gothard.

Staff Present: Don Wilcox, Director of Public Works; Dave Lentz, Parks Supervisor for Public Works, and Community Development Secretary Cathie Mahon.

Councilor Liaison: Councilor Liaison Jan Willms.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without a quorum, the minutes for June 23, 2005 could not be put to a vote of approval.

INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Chair Farmer introduced Don Wilcox, the recently hired Director of Public Works. Director Wilcox stated although he has been on board only a few weeks, he did tour our parks and found the park system phenomenal. The Commissioners welcomed him and look forward to his input at meetings.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

Bob Brown, president of the Azalea Foundation stated he was at the meeting to discuss a proposal. He distributed a lay-out of Azalea Park and discussed a bench project. Their idea is for individuals and/or businesses to make a donation to the Foundation by purchasing one of the benches. Mr. Brown distributed a print-out to illustrate the type of bench the foundation has in mind. He added there would be no cost to the City since the Foundation members could easily install and anchor them with a little cement. Brown referred to the sheet of the lay-out of the park, noting the "x's" marked are locations suggested for bench placement.

Mr. Brown answered questions from the Commission. The purchaser of the bench could decide to have either a plaque or engraved lettering. The lettering is more expensive but concern about vandalism was expressed. The bench project is two-fold; the donation would help the Foundation raise money, and the benches would be an asset to the park.

Chair Farmer expressed immediate interest in purchasing a bench for his business. Mr. Brown said the plan is to purchase 8 or 9 benches, if those are sold, more would be purchased. Commissioner Hartmann thought the bench project was a great idea, would lead to harmony in the park plus be a place for people to rest and enjoy the park.

Mr. Brown was invited to return for the October meeting when a quorum would be present to vote on the proposal. The three members present all favored the proposal and thanked Mr. Brown for his presentation.

COMMISSIONERS and AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Chair Farmer mentioned the painting project at Easy Manor Park. He stated it is a good example citizen involvement in the community. Linda Schreiber moved into the area and drew attention to a problem, had the Commission look at the solution and following through. He commended all commissioners who participated in the work party. It was suggested that Chair Farmer write a thank-you to Linda Schreiber as her entire family worked on the clean-up project at the park.

Chair Farmer asked Parks Supervisor Lentz if there was any plan for grassing Bud Cross Park. The park shows wear and tear due to all the sports played and there are areas of dirt and dust. Lentz replied, when soccer is done with their season, some work can be done but Softball starts in February so the envelope of time to do something is limited. He explained he would like grade, install the pipes for a sprinkler system, and bring in some soil and sand, and then seed. Wilcox responded he would look into it after figuring out man hours and materials to do the project and review what is in the budget. Commissioner Parrish added the *Lion's Club* is often looking for projects that perhaps we have them volunteer to help.

Commissioner Parrish discussed the *Bankus Fountain* saying it continues to leak and questioned what can be done. Wilcox responded it would either be fixed or turned off.

With Chair Farmer unable to attend the regular October 24th meeting, discussion ensued on changing meetings to the third Thursday for October, November and December. The secretary said she would check availability of the council chambers. (NOTE: a memo was sent out with the following date: October 20, November 17, and December 15th).

Councilor Liaison Willms first off thanked the commissioners; Frances Hartmann and April Gothard, for helping out with the recent litter cleanup. She handed out an info sheet on a SOLV meeting, September 29, 2005 at the Chetco Public Library. The purpose of the meeting is to learn about SOLV and get more people involved in volunteering.

Stout Park:

Commissioner Parrish said with the start of school, the trash has increased. Despite the trash cans being visible at the park, they don't seem to be deterring people from littering. Parrish suggested moving the trash cans closer to the edge of the park and sidewalks.

Commissioner Hartmann discussed two problems at the park; the ivy seems to be taking over some of the trees, and dog-owners are not cleaning up after their dogs. She asked if dog dispensers like those at Sporthaven Beach could be placed in the park. Director Wilcox responded that one of his goals is to put dispensers in all the parks.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Mahon
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: October 20, 2005