

MINUTES  
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
December 20, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Tony Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

*Commissioners present:* Michelle Benoit, Patricia Brown, Ken Barkema, Don Vilelle & Chair Tony Parrish. Introduction of new commissioner Ken Barkema.

*Commissioners absent:* Frances Hartmann

*Others present:* City Councilor Jan Willms, Public Works Director John Cowan

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Motion made by Commissioner Brown to approve the minutes of November 29, 2007 as written; motion was seconded and Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

None

**REGULAR AGENDA**

- A. *Review proposal of re-planting trees in Azalea Park due to SOD and make recommendation for City Council consideration* -- Public Works Director John Cowan read Agenda Report concerning re-planting of trees in Azalea Park. Commission discussed tree choices and varieties available, suggested hemlock, spruce, cedar and redwood. Also suggested that trees be densely planted and thinned out as they get bigger. **A motion was made by Commissioner Benoit to make recommendation for City Council to accept the proposal (of replanting trees). The motion was seconded and the Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.**
- B. *Review proposal to remove trees by Coos Curry Electric Co-op and make recommendation for City Council consideration.* Public Works Director John Cowan read Agenda Report concerning removal of eight designated hazard trees in Azalea and Stout Park due to their proximity to power poles.

Lauren Porsch, Coos Curry Electric Coop (CCEC), provided information concerning the main feeder lines that the trees tower over and the power they provide. Believes trees and their branches are a hazard to the general public and the power lines. To install underground wiring would be cost prohibitive. CCEC is willing to remove trees and grind stumps at no charge, replant new trees and to listen to any ideas/proposals. CCEC requests all proposals be specific and in writing, work to be negotiated and approved before any action is taken.

Pauline Olsen, 317 Memory, Brookings, read an email from Kristin Ramstad, Community Assistance Forester concerning the condition of the Stout Park trees.

Commission discussed tree removal and options. **A motion was made by Commissioner Benoit to make recommendation to City Council to accept the proposal (removal of eight designated hazard trees in Azalea and Stout Park due to their proximity to power**

poles) and that further discussion of replacement trees be done by John Cowan, Gary Milliman, Friends of Trees and CCEC; the motion was seconded and the Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **INFORMATION UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. *Easy Manor Park Update* – Commissioner Brown presented minutes of the November 30, 2007 subcommittee meeting.
- B. *Azalea Park Foundation* – Commissioner Vilelle presented minutes of the 12-12-07 meeting.

#### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Commissioner Benoit attended the Lower Stout Park subcommittee meeting, they discussed the need of developing an overall theme for the design of the park, decided to ask for funding from business partnerships rather than grant funding, and received information from Woodstra Concrete on project ideas.

Chair Parrish advised of the progress of Stout Park Railroad, an actual display is at the Library. Project is on schedule to be finished by Azalea Festival.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Tony Parrish, Chair

(approved at January 24, 2008 meeting)