

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
November 29, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tony Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Patricia Brown, Frances Hartmann & Chair Tony Parrish, Don Vilelle

Commissioners absent: Michelle Benoit

Others present: City Councilor Jan Willms, City Manager Gary Milliman, Public Works Director John Cowan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Motion made by Commissioner Brown to approve the minutes of October 25, 2007 as written; motion was seconded and Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Loraine Woods, PO Box 7097, Brookings, OR, Azalea Park Foundation member. She would like the foundation notified when maintenance on the azaleas in their section is needed so azaleas are cut back correctly.

REGULAR AGENDA

A. *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.

Pauline Olsen, 317 Memory, Brookings, spoke in opposition of removing the designated trees in Stout Park and of the value they are to the community. Provided names of registered arborists able to determine the necessity of removing the trees.

Ed Gross, 177 Julia Way, Brookings, tree farmer and USFS retired Soils Scientist, observed the Stout Park trees as being healthy, 60 to 80 years old and wind firm, meaning they have grown in the open and their root structure has accommodated many storms over the years. Believes no urgency to remove the trees but there is a hazard to power lines from branches falling onto them which could be prevented by pruning.

Judy Kaplan, 441 Buena Vista Loop, Brookings, believes pruning of the trees would be adequate rather than to cutting down the trees.

Brian Woosley, owner of Western Pacific Tree Service, Brookings, advised that the tops of these trees have been blown out, the trunks are not straight and the upper branches have grown out sideways and up (dog leg) and grown up over the power lines, so unable to trim the trees without branches falling unto the power lines. Believes the tree tops will blow out again and are a threat to the CCEC power system. Trees on Lundeen Lane are leaning over, have multiple tops and one is within 10 feet of the transmission line. CCEC is trying to protect the electric system by removing all the trees and will replace trees at their expense.

Commission discussed tree removal and options. **A motion was made by Commissioner Vilelle to remove the four trees in Stout Park and four on Lundeen Lane and the matter be referred to the City Council; the motion was not seconded and did not pass. A motion was made by Commissioner Hartmann to postpone any decision until the Park & Recreation meeting on December 20th pending input from Arborist Kristin Ramstad; the motion was seconded and the Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.**

B. *Flagpole at Azalea Park Bandshell Area* – Chair Parrish advised that an anonymous donor is interested in installing a flagpole at the Azalea Park bandshell. Discussed whose responsibility it would be of raising flag for events and possibly locating flagpole at the ballfields instead. Donors have stated they are not interested in that location. Commissioners stated they do not wish to pursue the matter of installing a flagpole, Chair Parrish will advise interested donor.

INFORMATION UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. *Easy Manor Park Update* – Commissioner Brown presented minutes of the November 11, 2007 subcommittee meeting. Advised grant information is forthcoming and turnstyle has been removed at Easy Manor Park.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Vilelle attended Azalea Park Foundation meeting where concerns were expressed regarding the trimming of the azaleas. Attended two Nature Coastal Holidays meetings where they discussed the Christmas light show at Azalea Park.

Chair Parrish advised that the Santa March was very successful. Believes trash at Stout Park has decreased for the time being. For safety reasons would like parking regulations on Oak Street at Stout Park to be looked into, large trucks from Brookside Nursery are parked there daily hindering vision.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Parrish, Chair

(approved at December 20, 2007 meeting)