

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
March 25, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Jaime Armstrong, Mike Worthey, and Chair Trace Kather

Absent: Zeus Zamora, Lex Rau

Also present: Deputy PWDS Director Jay Trost

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Worthey to approve the minutes of January 28, 2021 with Commissioner Zamora's name corrected; motion seconded and Commission voted; the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES – Maria Sudduth, Azalea Park Foundation (APF) liasion provided a proposal from members of the current APF to provide maintenance of the Azalea Park formal gardens and requested consideration to have an MOU drawn up. APF currently has five members and funds to pay for landscaper services of the garden. They would like to remove blackberry bushes, weed gardens and plant periennals and annuals before Azalea Festival, which would take at least a month to accomplish. They would be willing to collaborate with Brookings Harbor Garden Club (BHGC).

Jennis Oppenshaw, BHGC member, expressed concern about the current condition of the Azalea Park gardens and advised some members of BHGC support APF restoring the gardens.

COMMISSION BUSINESS – None

REGULAR AGENDA – None

INFORMATION UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Disc Golf Course Revisions – Jay advised that rather than large rocks being added they will build up an island to create a sloped area so maintaince is possible to Hole #14. This will be the safest and most economic way to improve the current hole. Also, will not be pursuing installion of a permanent t-pad on the multi-use field, a moveable basket when needed can be used. The Disc Golf association's recent tournament was successful and they have more planned.

B. Azalea Park Formal Gardens – Jay advised he has had discussions with BHGC to take over the maintenance of the Azalea Park gardens, BHGC has been unable to meet because of COVID but requested a draft MOU to review. APF's request tonight to have a collaborated effort between the two clubs is new and the matter will be further reviewed.

C. Kidtown Development – The wooden Kidtown play structure at 27 years old is reaching the end of it's useful life and Jay is looking for feedback from the public on what kind of playground to replace it. Depending on playground construction and features, cost varies from \$170,000 to \$560,000. An Oregon State Parks Recreation Department (ORPD) 2022 grant application can be submitted next March. A community sponsored rebuild of Kidtown as was done when Kidtown was originally built is not likely, but a joint effort between city and volunteers is possible if City provides funding through grants and budgeting.

D. Slippery Banana Belt Review – softball tournament was a huge success with 46 softball teams playing and over 30 more teams were on the wait list. The fields held up great to number of people using them. Legacy Sports ran the tournament positively and professionally and are donating all the proceeds after expenses paid which total \$5600 to the City. That money will go towards buying materials and supplies for the Azalea and Bud Cross fields. Also will help costs of installing additional irrigation on Azalea Park fields. Overall a great success and considering a larger summer coed tournament using Bud Cross and Azalea Park.

E. Upcoming Projects – Jay advised of some parks projects proposed for the 2021-22 budget, including sealcoating the Azalea Park parking lot across from St. Tim's, purchasing standard moveable soccer goals, installing water at Chetco Point Dog Park, purchasing diving board, bleachers and shade sails for the swimming pool, installing a patio area at the Capella, replacement of the the bandshell cover, and finish extending the driving range at Salmon Run.

Jay updated Commissioners on the Community Rec Task Force which is at the point where they are working to form a Southern Curry County Parks & Recreation District. The district would be a centralized hub to coordinate all ages of recreation activities and sponsor the building of a Community Rec Center in Brookings. To do so they need to submit signatures or have the Curry County Commissioners agree to sponsor the measure by May 6th to be on the November ballot. This would require southern Curry voters to agree to assess themselves a nominal tax rate increase. If approved, expect the whole process of building Community Rec Center to take about ten years.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Worthey advised he had been asked about ADA accessibility at Chetco Point Dog Park. Jay advised the Chetco Point trail is ADA accessible, however the trail up to the dog park is not compliant due to the slope. Jay advised at the top of the trail it is possible to have an easier transition from the pathway to the grass which would make for greater ADA accessibility and he will review.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting scheduled for May 27, 2021. With no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Trace Kather, Chair

(Approved at May 27, 2021 meeting)