



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
June 22, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair

Present: Juli Bradley, Linda Dietzman, Walt Eby, Steve Lorenz,
Cassi Marshall and Melissa Smith

Excused: Eunice Abrahamsen

Absent: Mark Nickerson

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson, Eric Levison and Susan Newlove

Public: Andrew Cottrell (Troop #495), Chris Dierickx and Vern Schanilec

A motion was made by Eby, seconded by Marshall, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of May 25, 2011, be approved as written.

EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION

Jerry Acheson, Parks and Recreation Manager introduced Eagle Scout Andrew Cottrell of Troop #495. Cottrell gave a Powerpoint Presentation on his proposed project at Washougal River Greenway Trail. He stated that he would like to re-locate yearling trees that are too close to the trail and add red leaf trees at the trailhead for more variety. Cottrell stated that Parks Maintenance Lead, Jim Gant, and Vern Schanilec of the Garden Club will work with him to designate which trees to move, new locations for the trees and where to plant the red leaf trees.

A motion was made by Erickson, seconded by Marshall, and carried to accept Andrew Cottrell's Eagle Scout project as presented.

CEMETERY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Eric Levison, Public Works Director stated that the Cemetery Subcommittee has met five times to discuss several topics, such as implementing an out-of-city and an in-city rate, services that the City currently provides and are proposing to provide, and a tiered price structure for the existing niche wall. Levison stated that the price sheet in the packet previously distributed to the board displays the cost of operating and what the rates reflect, current operating services and the budget.

Levison stated the main reason for forming the Subcommittee is to look at the cost structure and the impact on the General Fund. Erickson noted that the City cannot

maintain the Cemetery by only selling niche walls and plots, so the Subcommittee has found ways to infuse income back into the Cemetery to help sustain it.

Smith noted that whether it should be called a Cemetery or a Memorial Garden was discussed. Levison explained that the black and white photo in the packet shows a potential area for the Memorial Garden and JD Walsh will be doing some layouts for the Memorial Garden.

Chris Dierickx of Straubs Funeral Home noted that many cemeteries sell liners and this would keep the City from competing with local funeral homes that sell urns. Dierickx then recommended some ways to increase income in burial fees, suggesting that a cemetery improvement fund be started and charging for overtime services. Dierickx concluded that he sees opportunities for revenue increase with liner sales, opening/closing set-up fees, powder containers for non-burial urns, a permanent Gazebo for services to be held in, and the selling of memorial benches. Erickson asked and Dierickx replied his only objection is the City selling urns.

PARKSIDE REQUEST

Acheson stated that the letter from the Parkside Church in the packet is requesting use of the Community Center for a fundraiser to help send a team to New Orleans for disaster relief efforts. In exchange for rental fees, Parkside Church members would like to offer some volunteer time to repaint the bathrooms at the Community Center.

A motion was made by Lorenz, seconded by Eby, and carried to accept the Parkside Church proposal.

FALLEN LEAF SHELTER RULES AND REGULATIONS

Acheson distributed an updated Fallen Leaf Shelter brochure and requested that the Commission members look it over and discuss any changes and/or recommendations at the next Board meeting. Bradley suggested using a different map on the cover and Erickson said that his opinion is that Paddle Boats should not be allowed on the lake.

OTHER ITEMS

Dogs in the park – In response to Erickson, Acheson stated that the only issue he has heard of is at Oak Park. Lorenz stated that several people take their dogs into Crown Park. Bradley suggested an article in the paper stating that people be fined. Acheson stated that he will inform the Police Chief of this issue.

Heritage Park – In response to Eby's question regarding using the area for overflow parking, Levison stated that a few trees would need to be taken down, and to decommission some water and electrical hookups. He added that the biggest issue would be site clearance for the boats.

Lacamas Creek Park – Eby suggested replacing one of the benches on the trail and Levison stated that it will be looked into .

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 27th at 7:00 p.m.