



Coburg Parks | Tree Committee Meeting

August 17, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

Coburg City Hall

91136 North Willamette St.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Mosier, Chair; Lonna Meston, Coleen Marshall, Joe Morneau, Claire Smith, Karen Coury, Tom Beatty.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Harmon, Public Works.

GUESTS: Jennifer Rhee.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Mosier called the Park and Tree Committee to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Harmon took roll and a quorum was present.

3. Agenda Review

Chair Mosier asked if anyone wished to add to the agenda.

Ms. Smith wished to add the quarterly report. Ms. Coury wished to add an article about heat islands. Ms. Marshall wished to add the concrete planter at Norma Pfeiffer Park. Mr. Beatty wished to add Trail's End trees.

4. Approve Minutes from July 20, 2021

Ms. Marshall wished to correct that the meeting was listed as a virtual meeting but it was in person. She also noted that Chair Mosier was absent but she was listed as calling the meeting to order. Ms. Marshall wished to correct the spelling of Ms. Rhee's last name and her husband's first name.

MOTION: Mr. Morneau moved, Ms. Marshall seconded a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

5. City Updates/City Administrator Report

Chair Mosier shared that Ms. Meston had attended the City Council meeting and the donation policy had been approved. Ms. Meston added that the response was very positive and appreciative.

6. Committee Business

- **Historical Signage**

Ms. Smith said she had emailed Mr. Harmon, Terry, and Marissa Doyle and that Mr. Harmon had heard back from Heritage. Mr. Harmon shared that Heritage liked and approved the Booth Kelly signs at the July meeting. Ms. Smith suggested that Mr. Harmon contact Terry to let him know the status.

- **Booth Kelly Botanical Signs**

There were no updates on the Booth Kelly Botanical Signs.

- **Work Party Recap from August**

Ms. Meston shared that it was well attended by 11 people and that everyone had spread out and done the inside perimeter and made good progress. She said she still had questions about the waivers for children and the volunteer application and said that Anne Heath was working on these.

Ms. Marshall explained that because Mrs. Rhee was such an interested community member that she consider being a neighborhood contact to work with the Park Committee to coordinate, schedule, and advertise work for Johnny Diamond Park. Ms. Marshall asked if this was okay and Mr. Harmon agreed. Chair Mosier asked if a Park Committee member had to be on site and Mr. Harmon said that was probably a question for Ms. Heath to answer. Ms. Smith asked what the bylaws said about having an ad-hoc nonvoting member of the committee and Ms. Marshall explained that there was a maximum of seven voting members and one nonvoting staff representative appointed by the City Administrator, and that they would have to alter their bylaws.

Chair Mosier asked if Mrs. Rhee would be interested and Mrs. Rhee said her and her husband could help coordinate but wouldn't be able to attend meetings outside of summer. She offered to communicate with the Committee and helping on Saturdays. She asked what the best format would be for spreading neighborhood awareness and noted that their kids would be willing to participate if allowed.

Chair Mosier thought that having a parent there would cover liability and Ms. Smith said there was a waiver form for children. Ms. Meston added the waivers were coming soon.

Ms. Rhee asked who her contact would be and Ms. Marshall and Ms. Smith offered their emails.

- **Work Party Plan for September**

Ms. Marshall suggested Booth Kelly.

Ms. Meston asked to confirm the date and if they were still doing Saturdays. Ms. Marshall said that there were a lot of retired people and children who would like to help out but she noted that more than just weed pulling was needed which would be best for just adults. Ms. Mosier suggested the second Monday at 9 A.M.

Ms. Smith shared that Megan Winner had suggested purchasing a sign to advertise work parties to place in front of City Hall and suggested touching base with Ms. Winner about this.

Ms. Meston asked what they would be doing and Ms. Marshall said trimming shrubs, blackberries, and ivy and Mr. Harmon suggested adding wood chips after the work party as it was a bigger job. Chair Mosier asked if battery operated trimmers were okay and Mr. Harmon said yes but not gas powered.

Mr. Beatty asked if spreading it out over two days would be practical and Mr. Harmon said his crew would probably be doing the chips. Chair Mosier agreed and suggested also doing the following Saturday. Ms. Smith suggested cleaning the benches and general cleanup. Mr. Harmon said they planned to redo the benches at the same time as the wood chips. Chair Mosier suggested tentatively Saturday the 18th for kids to help.

- **Spring Toys at Norma Pfeiffer Park and Toddler Tables**

Mr. Harmon asked if they wanted the toys in the same area as before and the committee said yes and that it didn't matter which way they faced. Ms. Smith asked if there was an issue about space between existing equipment and Mr. Harmon said no there was enough room. Mr. Harmon added that they planned on staging projects together such as pouring concrete and vactoring. He said they were pouring concrete for two pillars and the park bench as well as in the empty tree wells to create room for wheelchair access.

Mr. Beatty asked how many sites there were and Mr. Harmon said 3 or 4.

- **Flagpole Project**

Mr. Beatty said there were no updates other than work beginning on the concrete pad.

Mr. Harmon said he had visited with Mr. Beatty and they had to change the layout due to some cherry tree roots.

Mr. Beatty asked if the bench would be fully ADA compliant and Mr. Harmon said yes.

Chair Mosier asked if there would be anything connecting the sidewalk and pad and Mr. Harmon explained there would be a 5' sidewalk and 7' with the pad.

- **Quarterly Report**

Ms. Smith said she did not remember when the last report was presented and that they were due for another one.

- **Trail's End Trees**

Mr. Beatty said that there was only one tree left and suggested purchasing a variety of trees and integrating them in a grouping rather than lining them up. He asked if the City had a wagon with a tank for watering and Mr. Harmon shared that there were new tree I.V. buckets and they planned on getting more for projects like this.

Mr. Beatty suggested getting Cottonwoods and Ash trees again and maybe some Cascara. Ms. Coury offered to help.

- **Concrete Planter**

Ms. Marshall shared that the concrete planter near the restrooms was still unplanted and rather ugly. She thought that there was a neighbor who was planting there but they had not done so. Mr. Harmon asked if they wanted the planter removed. Chair Mosier asked where they came from and Mr. Morneau said they were donated in the 70's and suggested removing it. Ms. Smith suggested replacing them with something smaller and Mr. Harmon suggested decorative planters. Ms. Meston added that this could be tied into the flagpole project.

Ms. Smith asked if it was too late to move the Red Leaf Maple and Mr. Beatty said this would involve a lot of shovel work and equipment to lift it. Chair Mosier asked when the tree was put in and Mr. Harmon answered 2015. Mr. Beatty asked if the tree looked happy and Ms. Smith responded no, that it wasn't growing like the other trees. Mr. Beatty said it would cost more to move it than replace it and offered to look at it and consider other locations. Ms. Marshall suggested to the right of the sign to shade the slide but Mr. Beatty noted it would take some time to fill in.

Chair Mosier asked for a general consensus to remove the planter and the Committee agreed. Ms. Smith suggested motioning and voting so they could update the community.

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved, Mr. Morneau seconded a motion to remove the concrete planter in Norma Pfeiffer Park to update with new planters when the veteran's memorial was redone. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Meston asked about the rose bushes and something else in the area and Mr. Harmon said they took the Filberts and rotten stumps out and had replanted it. Ms. Meston asked if the roses would be left where they are and Mr. Harmon said he was waiting for direction. Mr. Beatty added that they needed pruning and Mr. Harmon said they had been hand watering them due to the water line break.

- **Johnny Diamond Park**

Mr. Beatty shared that the soil was so tight that they had to add weight to the corer and they were not getting adequate water penetration. Mr. Harmon offered to core a couple more times and fertilize.

Ms. Smith asked if spreading a compost mix in the fall would be helpful and Mr. Harmon thought so but tried to avoid compost as it had too much weed seed in it. Mr. Beatty said they needed to break up the ground more and Mr. Harmon said they considered tilling and starting over and would try putting sand over the top after coring. Mr. Harmon suggested it might be a good idea to invest in a more robust coring machine. Ms. Meston suggested renting one and Mr. Harmon said they couldn't find one to rent and wanted to avoid using a tractor there so they wouldn't rip the existing grass out. He hoped the ground would loosen up more in the fall after more rain. Mr. Harmon added that they had learned a lot from Johnny Diamond.

Chair Mosier suggested that a volleyball net would entice people to use the empty space at Johnny Diamond and asked Ms. Rhee for her thoughts. Ms. Rhee agreed. Ms. Coury added that people played frisbee there and hoped it wouldn't interfere with that. Chair Mosier said there area on the north side would be large enough and far enough away from the play area. She asked if there was money for the net and Mr. Harmon said he would ask Ms. Heath. Ms. Meston said Ms. Heath could guide on any liability involved.

Mr. Harmon added that they planned on closing the park for re-staining and tightening bolts on both swing structures but did not know when.

Mr. Beatty brought up replacing the shrubs that nutria killed and Mr. Harmon suggested addressing that later, potentially on Arbor Day.

Chair Mosier asked about the circles outside the fence and Mr. Harmon shared they had hired a new public works employee to pull weeds. Chair Mosier asked what was thrown on the ground and if it was safe to work around. Mr. Harmon answered it was a pre-emergent called Snapshot and thought it was safe to use when it wasn't windy. He added that they would have to come up with a permanent solution to weeds as pulling them could not be maintained. Mr. Morneau suggested that what was used at the Dari Mart parking lot was good. Mr. Harmon said they would not rely on project managers to do inspections as they did not put down adequate bark which was one of the issues.

- **Committee Work Plan Review**

Ms. Smith said the chess tables for Norma Pfeiffer Park could be painted on and suggested doing this when the tables were redone for a work party. Ms. Smith suggested getting a stencil that could be reused.

Ms. Smith shared that they had removed the play structure idea but kept the bench idea for Jacob Spoons and asked if the Committee was in agreement. Mr. Beatty said a bench was

needed and Mr. Harmon said there was an extra bench at Johnny Diamond. Ms. Smith suggested adding a swing.

Ms. Smith brought up the wording on the park watch signs and Mr. Harmon said he had not done that yet. Ms. Meston thought this was more of an issue for public works and the police department. Mr. Harmon noted that vandalism, drug paraphernalia, and overnight campers were low and that transient people did not stay long or create messes. Ms. Smith suggested recommending that council look at this. She asked Ms. Meston to work on the wording to bring back to the next meeting and Ms. Meston said she had already done this.

Ms. Smith asked about the Trail's End directional sign and Mr. Harmon said to leave it on there.

Ms. Smith asked if she should still take the historic sign for Johnny Diamond to Heritage and the committee agreed.

Ms. Smith said they needed a plan for the veteran's area and Mr. Beatty asked who did the formal plan. Mr. Harmon answered it was the engineers but they were busy with other projects at the moment and it wasn't a priority. Mr. Beatty asked about approaching the VFW for grants and Mr. Harmon said the grant process could start once they had a design on paper. Ms. Smith asked if the drawing Mr. Beatty did was enough but Mr. Harmon said he wanted something more professional to submit for the grant. Mr. Morneau added there were a couple current grants that might help fund the memorial.

Ms. Smith asked about the tree in honor of John Bosley and Mr. Morneau responded that the Grange had the money and was ready to write a check. Ms. Smith suggested checking with Ms. Heath to find out the process.

Ms. Smith asked about the small tables and Mr. Harmon said they had been ordered and hoped they would show up the next month.

Ms. Marshall thanked Ms. Rhee for being a wonderful community member and helping to organize her neighbors.

Mr. Harmon shared that he would not be there the next month and noted that they would possibly be moving back to virtual meetings due to Covid.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Mosier adjourned the meeting at 7:12 P.M.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 14th – City Council Meeting

September 21st – Parks and Tree Committee Meeting

APPROVED by Park | Tree Committee on this xx day of xx 2021.

ATTEST:

Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder

Mary Mosier, Chair

(Minutes recorded by Jayson Hayden)

DRAFT