



Coburg Parks | Tree Committee Meeting

October 19th, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

Virtual Meeting – Coburg City Hall
91136 North Willamette St.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Mary Mosier, Claire Smith, Karen Coury, Lonna Meston, Tom Beatty, Councilor Patty McConnell.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Coleen Marshall, Joe Morneau.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Harmon, Public Works Director; Anne Heath, City Administrator.

GUESTS: Marla and John Pagter, local residents.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Mosier called the Park and Tree Committee to order at 6:02 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Harmon took roll and a quorum was present.

3. AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Mosier asked the guests to introduce themselves and Pagter shared that they were here to float the idea of introducing the sport of pickleball. Chair Mosier added this topic to the agenda.

4. APPROVE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

Ms. Coury commended the minutes and thought that they were well encapsulated and covered all of the right points.

MOTION: Ms. Coury moved, Ms. Smith seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. CITY UPDATES/CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

There were no updates.

6. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Ms. Pagter shared that after having a brain tumor 6 years ago she was able to recover with the help of pickleball. She explained that it bridged the gaps between ages, genders, sexes, and people from different backgrounds and allowed them to come together to play for an hour and a half and have a good time. She noted it seemed to break the barriers in communities and it was physically great for aging people. Ms. Pagter added that the sport promoted no joint replacements and it was a very uplifting positive thing during covid as it was not considered a contact sport. She said it was great for both old and young and also facilitated the handicapped and could also give students something to do outside of school.

Ms. Pagter said she had measured out the basketball courts and said there was room for two pickleball courts. She explained that it could be either an indoor or outdoor sport and suggested teaming with the Emerald Valley Pickleball Club which provides boxes and paddles that are locked up for the community to use. Ms. Pagter added that pickleball was one of the fastest growing sports and was a great stress reliever and would bring in people to local businesses.

7. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- **Plaza Ideas for Pavilion Park**

Ms. Heath urged the committee to dream but to not take too long as the grant they would like to submit was due in April. She noted that it was up to a \$750,000 grant but added that there was another one due in May for only \$75,000. She said that if they were thinking restrooms it would be at least \$100,000. Ms. Heath explained that they needed at least 30% of a design complete in order to turn something in for funding and she urged the Committee not to leave it till the end. Mr. Harmon said they had talked about taking home paper maps to take notes on.

Ms. Coury asked what the grant was for and what elements they were looking for. Ms. Heath answered it was through the Oregon Park & Recreation and in order to get funding they were looking for strong diversity, equity, and inclusion, which includes people of all demographics such as the handicapped and people in poverty. Ms. Heath added that just about every grant right now had to include talking about these things if they wanted a chance of getting it. She said the other piece was including economic development, or how to get people to order from restaurants and eat in the park or attend summer events. She shared that a local business owner suggested getting bathrooms in the park as theirs were clogged every time an event happened.

Ms. Meston said it seemed like there was a lot to go into a project and suggested putting together a team not only of Parks & Tree members but also City Council reps and people from different areas of the City.

Ms. Heath shared that the Council had given direction to do the land swap and the owner of the land had agreed to make a significant donation with the swap. She added that the owner

requested that the park or plaza be named after his daughter who had passed away last year. She suggested that some representatives meet with him to discuss naming. Ms. Coury asked what defined a plaza and Ms. Heath gave some examples of features including a park with a perimeter sidewalk, benches, trees, chess sets or checkerboards, and possibly a play fountain. Mr. Harmon thought that a fountain would be a great idea and said it could be low-maintenance. Ms. Heath suggested putting a group together to discuss this and Ms. Smith asked who would be part of the group. Ms. Heath answered that local business owners would be good as well as someone from the Heritage Committee or the Main Street group.

Mr. Harmon asked what the match was for the grant and Ms. Heath answered most of the time it was 10.27% but she was not completely sure. She wondered if they could use the donation of the property as a match.

Ms. Pagter asked where this land was that was donated and Ms. Heath answered that it was right up against the old City Hall.

Ms. Meston said it sounded like a budget concept would be helpful fairly soon and Ms. Heath agreed but noted that it would be part of next year's budget. Ms. Heath thought that having a land donation for it, having an economic development aspect, and emphasizing diversity, equity, and including as a major part of the planning would lead to a very good chance of being funded. Mr. Harmon suggested taking the next month to get ideas down, doing another work session, and figuring out who would be on the subcommittee to put a plan together and setting a deadline for the middle of January to go to engineering.

Ms. McConnell thought that Main Street and the mural committee could also help out and Ms. Heath agreed.

- **Work Session Recap**

Chair Mosier ran through some notes from the work session. Topics discussed included the purpose of the park, McKenzie being redone with a sidewalk, the need for ADA parking, circular tables around the light posts, how to shade the audience at concerts, a border of trees around Willamette St, a wind-driven sculpture, replacing older trees on the northwest corner, curved rock walls extension, adding restrooms, elevating the section of the plaza that slopes up towards the buildings, adding lights, and creating shade in the northwest corner.

Ms. Coury added that they had talked about where to add hardscapes and Ms. Heath said her vision was on McKenzie St and wrapping the corner of the park with a wavy path big enough for tables.

Ms. Heath explained that their SDC list included a list of capital projects but said they could adopt a list of capitol projects to use SDCs for as long as they were on the adopted list. She wanted to make sure that whatever they dreamed for the next 5 years was put on the list so they could develop a capitol plan that showed every project they hoped for and have the

Council adopt it. Mr. Harmon said that the idea was to give the committee the list to mull over for the next few weeks and address it in November so they could make a decision in December.

Ms. Heath thought it would be helpful for projects like the Northside Park and Southside Park to have clearer names. She suggested that the committee review the list to see what made sense and come back with the capitol projects they wanted on the list for the next 5 years and added that they would have the resolution be reviewed annually.

Mr. Harmon explained that they would be building in Coburg Creek this year and the next year and if another subdivision came along they would want something on their list ready to go. Ms. Heath said to keep in mind that Johnny Diamond park cost about \$300,000 in the end.

Ms. Meston asked for more clarity on what was meant by diversity, equity, and inclusion in terms of a park and Ms. Heath said she would review the grant information to see what was required.

Ms. Smith asked if SDCs were just for improvements or initial installations and Mr. Harmon explained that the best way to look at SDCs was to think of them as increasing capacity. Ms. Heath added that the new neighborhood going in would have a substantial amount of SDCs from that neighborhood of around \$3,500 for parks per home and she said that the development on the east side would be substantial.

Chair Mosier asked if additional restrooms would have to be in a new development in order for SDCs to cover the expense. Mr. Harmon said not necessarily and Ms. Heath said that if they added wheelchair access to the bathroom they would be able to use SDCs for a portion of it.

Mr. Beatty asked what a future employee minipark was and Ms. Smith thought this was referring to developing an open mini space on the east side for employees to use separate from the actual park.

- **Work Party**

Mr. Beatty shared that Ms. Marshall and he had met at Pavilion Park to clean up the horse trough, weed around the big leaf maple, and trim the crabapples.

- **Upcoming Work Party Plan**

Ms. Smith asked if they needed more chips on Booth Kelly Trail and Mr. Harmon answered that they had just put 4 inches of new chips in.

Ms. Coury thought that the planters by the Dari Mart looked really nice.

Mr. Beatty suggested that they could always fall back to Johnny Diamond as there were always weeds to pull there. He said he would go around to look at what needed attention.

Ms. Meston shared that she had been the caretaker of the binder for work parties and asked if it made sense to keep it at City Hall for whoever was part of the work party to have access to.

Mr. Beatty asked if there was a November date for the work party and Chair Mosier said they had been doing the third Monday.

Mr. Harmon added that from the 22nd through the 24th Public Works would be decorating the park. Chair Mosier asked if they had extra lights and said they would look awesome around the shelter.

Mr. Beatty noted on the subject of Johnny Diamond that they needed some downspout chinks to run the water away from the pad.

Chair Mosier suggested putting finish on the wood of the swings at Johnny Diamond.

Mr. Harmon shared that they had the lumber to do the rest of the benches along Willamette and said that the upcoming rainy weather would be a good time to take them down to repaint and replace the boards.

- **Committee Work Plan Review**

Chair Mosier asked if the toddler tables had come in and Mr. Harmon said they were being put together in the shop but he was not sure if they had been put out yet. Ms. Smith suggested looking at Johnny Diamond and maybe Pfeiffer to see where the tables could be placed.

Chair Mosier mentioned putting a chessboard stencil on the tables in the park but Ms. Smith suggested holding that until they had the plaza design done.

Chair Mosier asked about the extra bench from Johnny Diamond that could be moved to Spores and Mr. Harmon said they had the bench at the shop and could install it at Spores. Ms. Smith suggested coming up with ideas of where the bench would work.

Chair Mosier asked if anyone wanted to work on the Johnny Diamond historic lamp pole and Ms. Smith said she would check with the Heritage Committee.

Chair Mosier asked about the Bosley memorial tree money but Mr. Harmon said there was some confusion about deciding which tree. Ms. Smith said they had asked Joe Morneau to connect with Anne Heath to know how much money there was and what type of tree was wanted.

Mr. Harmon showed off the signs for Booth Kelly and said they had a couple ideas of how to mount and secure them on the existing posts. He said they were considering making a frame to hold the signs so they did not have to drill through them.

Chair Mosier asked if they had any other donations come through for parks and trees and Mr. Harmon answered no. Ms. McConnell said she had submitted for a tree but had not heard back and Mr. Harmon said he would ask about it.

- **Tree Sub-committee “Trails-End Park”**

Ms. Meston shared some notes to follow up from Mr. Beatty comments from last month. She said they believed it was a two-phase project with the first phase being the entrance to the end of the hard surface path. She said there was an opportunity for 6 mini groves of trees and native shrubs that could be easy to move around and placed on either side. Ms. Meston stressed that the entrance was important and they wanted to see a nice shade tree around the picnic table and bench and would love to plant a Willamette Ponderosa there with another one being at the far end of the park at Trails-End. She added that there would be six groves with from 3-5 trees and 2-3 shrubs in each one and said they would also plant the milkweed patch. Mr. Beatty noted that they needed to find out if there were any off-limit places around the pond for dredging access but Mr. Harmon said they should be able to do whatever they wanted to do there.

Ms. Meston explained that their design offered the opportunity for families and businesses to donate and possibly dedicate groves which would help with the costs. She said they had also talked about signage for the trees and hoped to get started on phase one at some point.

Ms. Smith asked how they would advertise the ability to donate and Mr. Harmon suggested a blurb in the newsletter or website.

Ms. Meston noted that sourcing plant material would be a challenge as they were looking for trees with durability, shade, habitat, and minimal care but thought it would grow as a project.

- **Coburg Creek Subdivision**

Chair Mosier explained that it took longer to come up with ideas and organize and said they needed time to think about and come up with a process. She said that even though the money would come in over time, there were things that were overlooked at Johnny Diamond because they didn't have enough time and thought it wasn't too soon to start thinking about the process on this. She noted that instead of one big area with a large park there were now two areas with probably two open spaces to do. Mr. Harmon added that actually tract A was the park and it was just one large space.

Ms. Smith asked how big tract A was and Mr. Harmon said about the same size as Johnny Diamond. She thought that this area could maybe be the quiet park to look at seating areas and flora features.

Mr. Beatty asked if they should look at ideas for tract B and C and Chair Mosier answered yes, that they needed to consider the whole thing. Chair Mosier thought they should incorporate the list of questions they handed out to the neighborhood to see what they wanted there and suggested presenting alternative ideas to the community if it didn't develop as fast as Coburg Crossroads. She added that they had talked about forming subcommittees to deal with things that came up during the process.

Mr. Beatty asked if the west side would also have street access and Mr. Harmon said they did not know yet. Ms. Smith suggested looking at putting a rock wall there and Mr. Harmon suggested a pickleball court.

Mr. Beatty asked if there was an ordinance against putting up lights in Norma Pfeiffer for evening recreation and Ms. Smith said it seemed like there was an ordinance there. Mr. Harmon said he didn't know of an actual ordinance that restricted lights in the park but there might be in the development code.

- **Report to City Council**

Chair Mosier shared that she had given a report to City Council which briefly went over the things they had completed and things they had in the works. She said the Council was really appreciative and the feedback was good.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further discussion, Ms. Mosier adjourned the meeting at 7:37 P.M.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **November 9th – City Council Meeting**
- **November 16th – Parks and Tree Committee Meeting**

(Minutes recorded by Jayson Hayden)

APPROVED by Park | Tree Committee on this 16th day of November 2021.

ATTEST:

Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder

Mary Mosier, Chair