



Coburg Parks | Tree Committee

Work Session

Feb. 16, 2021 – 5 P.M.

Virtual Meeting - Coburg City Hall

91136 North Willamette St.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Mosier, Chair; Joe Morneau, Lonna Meston and Tom Beatty, Vice Chair, Claire Smith

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Coleen Marshall, Karen Coury

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

RECORDED BY: Jack Moran, LCOG

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mosier called the meeting of the Coburg Parks & Tree Committee to order at 5 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Harmon took roll.

JOHNNY DIAMOND PARK DEBRIEFING

Ms. Mosier introduced the discussion and said it would be beneficial to debrief now that work at the park has been completed. She posed a series of questions to the group, including:

- What worked well while planning the project?
- Where could the planning process be improved?
- As far as the “communication web” - how could the committee better communicate with the Public Works Director?

Ms. Mosier also asked about the survey that initially went out to the neighborhood.

Public Works Director Harmon said staff felt the survey was a great idea. He asked if the committee had suggestions for improvement.

Discussion followed regarding the survey. City Administrator Heath asked committee members what had been the most compelling part of the survey. Ms. Mosier responded that people had indicated they wanted a place to gather, and that the park shelter had met that need.

Ms. Smith then asked for staff input regarding the survey. Mr. Harmon discussed benefits and said the city was looking at potentially placing future surveys on the city website to make it accessible to people there.

Ms. Mosier noted the survey had targeted residences surrounding the park. Ms. Heath said the city had received good input about the demographics in the area, which appeared to include more younger families.

Mr. Morneau mentioned some people had wondered if the park was only for residents of the immediate area. He said he hoped the city's message going forward would be that the park is for the entire public, and not just the neighborhood.

Mr. Harmon said he had initially heard similar comments, but that he felt those concerns may have been alleviated.

As far as how planning processes could be improved in the future, Ms. Heath noted that, in retrospect, it may have been unnecessary to have hired both an architect manager and a designer. She said there was local expertise that could be utilized.

Discussion followed. In response to a question from the committee, Mr. Harmon said the city's engineer had the expertise to handle more technical aspects of these types of projects.

The committee touched upon the topic of idea sharing and a process for how they could best be summarized. The discussion then turned to the topic of communication.

Mr. Harmon invited committee members to provide feedback to staff regarding communication. He said poor communication can lead to increased project costs and delays.

Committee members expressed support for forming subcommittees or specific project teams to facilitate work with staff. They also discussed with staff several issues and questions they had concerning the recently completed park project.

In response to a question from Ms. Mosier, Ms. Heath talked about clarifying language in the park-donation policy recommendation to the City Council.

Additional discussion followed regarding staff-committee communication and project priorities. Ms. Heath said she supports creation of an across-the-board policy regarding Coburg's citizen committee work plans, that asks committees to consider the addition of new projects to existing plans.

Ms. Heath was expected to work with Ms. Smith and Ms. Meston on a policy concerning committee work plans.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mosier adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVED by the Parks & Tree Committee of Coburg this 16th day of March 2021.

Chair, Mary Mosier

ATTEST:

Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder

DRAFT