



PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION

Monday, April 08, 2024 at 4:00 PM

APPROVED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Dana Lathrope
Chair Lynne Pettit
Commissioner Paul Barlow
Commissioner Jerry Belcher
Commissioner Howard Blumenthal
Vice Chair Scott Jacobson

STAFF PRESENT

Brandon Sundeen, City Council
Melisa Gaelrun-Maggi, Parks Administrative Assistant
Buck Tupper, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor

VISITORS

Nick Hellmich

CALL TO ORDER 4pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of March minutes

Belcher would like to double check the audio to see if he mentioned squatters on Sand Island.

Motion made by Commissioner Blumenthal, Seconded by Commissioner Belcher.

Voting Yea: Chair Lathrope, Vice Chair Pettit, Commissioner Barlow, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Blumenthal, Commissioner Jacobson

NEW BUSINESS

2 - Milton Creek Reserve presentation - Chair Pettit

Chair Pettit wants Vice Chair Jacobson to move his part of the presentation to next month in the interest of time.

Chair Pettit gave a presentation on establishing a Milton Creek Reserve.

Belcher pointed out that he thought the Milton Creek sub-committee was about the trail on the other side of the creek not the reserve. It appears that Jacobson was talking about another project.

Barlow is concerned that they should see if the City has plans for the area before putting in the work.

Pettit doesn't feel they need a motion at this time until the sub-committee has met.

Lathrope wants all of the Commissioners to keep in mind the money the City would lose from the tax lots as well as the money it would require to renovate the space.

3 - Citizens Day - Pettit

Pettit has secured a booth space for the event and can provide a tent and table. Most of the other Commissioners are already volunteering for other booths.

4 - Candidate Interviews - Pettit

The interview sub-committee met and interviewed both candidates. Pettit gave a brief review of their achievements and highlights. The sub-committee recommends both.

Motion made by Commissioner Blumenthal, Seconded by Commissioner Belcher.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Lathrope, Chair Pettit, Commissioner Barlow, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Blumenthal, Vice Chair Jacobson

5 - Bike lanes & crosswalks - Barlow

Barlow has been riding his bike around town and has been noticing areas that need paint touch-ups.

6 - Planning Commission - Belcher

Belcher made a motion that the Planning Commission obtain input from the Parks & Trails Commission prior to deliberations on construction requests in City parks.

Motion made by Commissioner Belcher, Seconded by Commissioner Jacobson.

Blumenthal would like to extend the motion to any city utility construction in or near the parks as well. Belcher feels that would be included in his motion language.

Lathrope asked how the Planning Commission would notify them about changes. Jacobson feels that information sent to the commission secretary would be sufficient. Belcher prefers a pre-planning consultation.

Lathrope therefore added an addendum to the motion saying that the information be brought to the Parks & Trails Commission via an email to the current chair two weeks before a Parks & Trails Commission meeting prior to the Planning Commission's deliberations giving the Parks & Trails Commission time to discuss and give opinions back to the Planning Commission.

Jacobson thinks Belcher should talk to the Chair of the Planning Commission before making any motion. Belcher seconded addendum. All yea.

7 - Electric bikes - Blumenthal

Blumenthal claims that there is someone who is riding an electric bike on the trails in Nob Hill Park. Tupper says he will get signs that say pedestrian traffic only for all the entry points.

OLD BUSINESS**8 - Memorial bench - Pettit**

Pettit met with the citizen that wants to put a memorial bench at Dalton Lake. They picked out a few spots but are not quite ready to put it in yet.

STAFF REPORT

Tupper reported that they are busy with sports teams and grass mowing.

Pettit wanted to know if her signs for Dalton Lake are in yet. They are not.

Blumenthal wanted to know what the new gravel at McCormick Park was for. Tupper said it is for a proposed crosswalk for 13 Nights.

Barlow mentioned that someone attempted to break into one of the BMX buildings.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Sundeen thanked everyone who attended the Nob Hill work party.

He announced that 13 Nights will officially be at McCormick Park.

The City is still looking for volunteers for Citizens Day in the Park.

Taylor Thiel would like to meet with Tupper on the 16th of April to walk the parks and talk about removing invasive species.

Tupper mentioned that there will be work done on McCormick Park by PUD to update and upgrade the power at McCormick Park, but it shouldn't be damaging.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Barlow thinks it is weird that the City would buy back buildings that Sand Island LLC built on Sand Island when we don't do the same for other organizations like BMX and sports leagues that put money into City property.

Belcher informed the Commission that Pettit has removed herself from the Urban Trail sub-committee and therefore he is looking for another member.

Nick Hellmich is a proponent of Liberty Hill but it is not City property.

Pettit gave out the handout for the Annual board appreciation dinner.

Pettit would like to have a clean-up day on Earth Day. Many people are not available.

Jacobson created a proposal for a Milton Creek Trail project. He will be giving a presentation to the Port on April 10th with John Walsh. Jacobson said that if there is an issue he can re-frame it to come from the City to the Port.

Pettit said that she talked to Kathy Payne and that it was not appropriate to go to the Port without making a motion to City Council first.

Barlow thinks it is a good idea, but feels it is odd to be at the point of giving a presentation to the Port when this is the first the Parks & Trails Commission is even hearing about it.

Belcher said that he did go on a walk with Jacobson and others, and he was kept in the loop with the sub-committee. Pettit claims she is on the sub-committee and did not receive an email or phone call about any of this. Belcher feels that this project is different from Pettit's project and since Jacobson already has permission from the City Administrator and the Port has asked for it, it should move forward. Pettit stated again that the process should be followed of bringing it to the sub-committee, Parks & Trails Commission, then the City.

Jacobson says he is okay with John Walsh giving the presentation instead of him. Sundeen said it would be better to come from the Commission. Sundeen asked if it would hurt to sit down on April 10th and just have an informal discussion instead. Jacobson said he could do that.

Blumenthal gave an update of his work party in Nob Hill last weekend.

ADJOURNMENT 6:03pm