



# **PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION**

Monday, June 12, 2023, at 4:00 PM

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## **APPROVED MINUTES**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

### **CALL TO ORDER 4:00pm**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jacobson wanted to clarify that he did not mean that he didn't want the Grey Cliffs area to be a memorial.

1. Approval of May 8th, 2023, minutes.

**Motion made by Commissioner Woodruff, Seconded by Vice Chair Pettit.**

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

Official motion to approve new applicant from discussion from last meeting.

**Motion made by Commissioner Blumenthal, Seconded by Commissioner Jacobson.**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2. Resignation of Lauren- Chair Lathrope**

Lauren Gonzales left the commission for personal reasons.

#### **3. Commission Recruitment - Chair Lathrope**

The Commission is currently down one seat and there is an advertisement out for the position. Lathrope would like to brainstorm ideas to drum up excitement and spread the word for the Commission. The Commission will also have a booth at Citizens Day.

Woodruff would like to go back to the old way of the entire Commission interviewing the candidates. Lathrope thinks it might be a compromise to invite the candidate to a meeting prior to the interview but

not to change the interview process. The interview process was changed by a resolution for all boards and commissions.

Sundeen pointed out that he did not care that a Commission member brought up negative comments about the candidate in a public forum. Lathrope agreed and would like to come up with a different way to voice those opinions. She is open to advice on this subject.

Blumenthal asked if the approved questions were asked.

Blumenthal and Woodruff came back to the fact that they don't like the resolution that changed how the interviews are done.

It was agreed to wait and read the resolution and then put it on next month's agenda to discuss.

#### **4. Grants - Belcher**

Belcher spoke with the Kiwanis Club about getting a \$2000 grant for the Urban Trail from the Cultural Trust. He wants to know what the next step in the procedure would be. Lathrope believes that the next step would be running it by Jennifer Dimsho with the City. Pettit brought up the presentation from Dimsho in March that laid out the steps for bringing forward a grant and forming a grant sub-committee. Sundeen wanted to make sure that the grants for the Parks & Trails Commission are ran through their sub-committee which is Belcher, Pettit, and Jacobson.

#### **5. Sand Island - Belcher**

Belcher would like a report from Brad Hendrickson about the activity on Sand Island and the financial agreement with the City. He feels the Commission should be included in the information about the island. Sundeen agreed that any changes to the island should come through the Commission since it is a park. Tupper feels that if Brad was asked, he would have no problem talking about the island. Sundeen said he will make the request.

#### **6. Tourism - Belcher**

Belcher said that he was told for something to be considered tourism, money had to change hands. He wants to know if that includes 13 Nights on the River. Jacobson stated that Halloweentown pays for 13 Nights on the River. Belcher stated that he has seen some events at Halloweentown that were not charged for. He feels that the Urban Trail could be considered tourism. Lathrope would like to get a report about what the park fees are and where the money goes.

Tupper reported that the fee forms have been updated and streamlined but the fees have not been changed.

It was agreed that the permit forms will be provided along with fee schedules for next meeting.

Jacobson and Blumenthal talked of being included in the process of approving Special Use Permits.

Belcher wants to make sure that tourism money goes to parks.

#### **7. County Board Commissioners - Belcher**

Urban Trail Committee wants to move forward even though there is construction going on at the Waterfront. Belcher and Pettit spoke of kiosk funds, size, content, and materials for kiosk in the town square which is owned by the county. If the county approves of a kiosk, then it would need to go before City Council.

#### **8. Citizens Day in the Park - Chair Lathrope**

Lathrope asked for a headcount of who will be at Citizens Day. There will need to be a notification of possible quorum.

Tupper asked for Parks & Trails Commission to have a sign-up sheet for a Work Party clean up day in the park at their booth. Consensus was in favor of the idea. Sundeen thinks there should be a sign at each park advertising for volunteers.

**9. 6th Street Park Report - Woodruff**

Woodruff didn't have much to say about 6<sup>th</sup> Street Park as Baseball season is winding down.

Tupper stated that Little League is showing interest in improving these fields. He asked if anyone had any issues with them removing the turf in the infield. Woodruff is concerned if they remove the turf it will turn into a softball field. Tupper mentioned there is also a soccer club that has shown interest in the fields.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Jacobson wanted to comment again about the plaque at Grey Cliffs Park. He wants a standard procedure established. Lathrope suggests that Jacobson be the one to investigate and bring that to the next meeting. Jacobson declined. Lathrope suggested it be an agenda item next month.

**STAFF REPORT**

Tupper said that the crew trimmed a bunch of trees and cleared them away from a lot of lights.

There have been some camping issues in McCormick Park recently but were taken care of with police help.

Signs have been taken and then littered in other parts of the parks. Plenty of paint graffiti and one of the bathroom's roofs was torn up.

The gazebo roof in Columbia View Park was removed due to rot.

Paint was purchased for park buildings and the slab was poured at Nob Hill for a new bench.

**COUNCILOR'S REPORT**

Sundeen thanked the Parks crew for keeping the parks clean especially over the long weekends. It is a busy summer for all areas of the parks.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Pettit asked if anyone had read the new Code of Conduct. It states that anyone who does not sign it may be removed. Many Commissioners state they have not received a copy.

Sundeen said it did pass the City Council, but he is not aware of the time frame of which it needs to be signed and returned.

(Commissioner Jacobson wanted it mentioned for the record that he attended the City Council work session and found it to be hypocritical for them not to allow Commission involvement.)

Pettit received an email from the Lion's Club which complimented Buck Tupper for quick action on a piece of broken exercise equipment. They also asked for a poison oak sign at McCormick Park.

Blumenthal has been doing trail mowing at Nob Hill, minus a few which have seeding camas.

**ADJOURNMENT 5:52pm**