



# **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 4:00 PM

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## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **PRESENT**

Chair Lynne Pettit  
Vice Chair Brandon Sundeen  
Commissioner Howard Blumenthal  
Commissioner Jacob Woodruff  
Commissioner Jerry Belcher  
Commissioner Dana Lathrope  
Commissioner Carmin Dunn

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Shanna Duggan Parks and Rec Manager  
Sheri Ingram Public Works Office Assistant  
Councilor President Doug Morten  
Erin Bird Parks and Rec Admin Assistant  
John Walsh City Administrator  
Jenny Dimsho Associate Planner/Community  
Project Manager  
Councilor Patrick Birkle

### **ABSENT**

Commissioner Paul Barlow

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Scott Jacobson  
Ginny Carlson  
Steve Toschi  
Jeanie Bellque

### **CALL TO ORDER**

4:02 P.M.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Woodruff said the minutes need to be corrected, the minutes said he was present when he was absent.

Motion made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Belcher to approve March 14<sup>th</sup> Minutes

Voting Yea: Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Blumenthal, Chair Pettit, Vice Chair Sundeen, Commissioner Lathrope

### **TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR:** From attendees not otherwise of the agenda

Pettit suggests moving staff report and councilors report to just before discussion items and go straight to the presentation of Grey Cliffs Park.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Dimsho said that Grey Cliffs Park project started back in 2015. There has been a desire to have a dock for paddle craft launching and fishing at Grey Cliffs. In 2019 they installed restrooms and grading to make it easier for kayaks and canoes when launching. This will not

substitute shoreline launching; all the improvements from 2019 are added additions to this park. This presentation was prepared by our Marine Board, they have a technical assistance plan for designing and permitting these facilities. The permitting will be directed to an expert. Dimsho clarified she is presenting on behalf of the Marine Board. The public will be invited to give feedback.

On the PowerPoint it shows an aerial view of the existing park, Dimsho asked if anyone on the Commission fishes, or has canoe or kayak; she is seeking feedback from paddle craft users and fishers. Dimsho continues, she said that MLLW is median low, low water and MHHW is median high, high water. There is a big difference and that will affect the design of the ramp slope. The goal of this project is to invite separate users, fishers, paddle craft and not intervene with each other.

Dimsho said there are a lot of different permits needed, she showed on the PowerPoint an extensive list. Dunn asked if any pre-permitting has begun, Dimsho said it has not been started and that this project is in the very early stages.

There are three concepts Dimsho said she will go over, some common features with all three will include full accessibility, this will be a ramp that is wheelchair accessible, a person in a wheelchair will be able to access the paddle craft launch. A double gangway a ramp down and two columns and then another ramp, stationary ramp and a floating component, spots where light penetration will keep predators from eating the salmon, paddle craft launch and fishing docks. Looking at the elevation of the ramp, part of it stays stationary and the other part floats up and down with the tide.

Dimsho continues to the three concepts:

- **Concept one** is oriented parallel to the marina, 80-foot stationary component and 120-foot floating component to the gangway, this stretches out so far making it more costly, but it stretches out far because the median low, low water line is shown dark on the plan, the floating component and docks need to be 20-feet from that line. Dimsho added that all concepts are like this. This concept slope is less than 8% at its lowest water level, and that's an ADA friendly slope. The fishing docks north of gangway landing, the finger off the dock, the direction the fishing lines go plays a big factor on where the fishing docks should be placed, they go downstream or north, this allows there to be no conflict with the paddle craft launch. The ADA accessible paddle docks perpendicular to river flow and south of gangway landing, the paddle craft launch is 30-foot and submerged into the water for when you get in an out, there is a component shown that makes its ADA accessible. With the length of the launch, there can be two kayaks in the launch at the same time.
- **Concept two** is oriented parallel to the marina. The gangways are 80-foot stationary component and 100-foot floating component, the second gangway will not be as long and far out. The ADA accessible paddle craft ramp and docks are north of the gangway landing and with the river flow. Fishing Docks are south of the gangway landing, which causes conflict with the paddle craft docks since the lines are flowing north into that area. This concept has been ruled out quickly due to the conflict of the fishing docks and paddle docks.
- **Concept three** is oriented for fishing in deeper water, this is back to the 80-foot and 1200foot gangways. The fishing docks are north of the gangway landing and the

paddle docks are angled to river flow and closer to the marina. This is a preferred alternative to concept one, it is preferred because the wind and flow of the water.

Dimsho and Blumenthal discussed how in the concepts two and three you can paddle under the ramps to avoid the fishing lines. Belcher said he likes concept 3 with the flow of water. that most docks are set up with the wind flow. in water structure and they talked about having a sandy cove in the back there. Dimsho said there is a potential to having dread soils. The marine board will need to study how it would work to have sand there and where it would migrate to. This park will be more user friendly, but the parking is an issue there which makes it difficult to allow more people to go down to a beach. Dunn wants to see from slide five where everything will fall, she said it only goes out to a small portion of the marina and Blumenthal said they don't want motorboats going through, this does not want to seem appealing to motorboats. The ADA accessible dock allows fisherman to fish in a wheelchair, also the width of the dock is wide enough for people to get around each other comfortably. Dimsho said everyone finds that concept 3 is the preferred plan. Sundeen said it will be an improvement because the current launch is so rocky and muddy. It was brought up by many that the ramp is so long it would be tasking to take a kayak up and down, Dimsho said the road that circles around allows for stopping unloading and then parking so it had much carried a kayak around. Pettit mentioned she really approves of concept 3. Belcher asked what the next steps are. Dimsho said she is gathering feedback then she'll send it along to the Marine Board and the process will continue from then, it could take up to a year to get the permitting done, it is free. This could be grant funded, may have two grants that will cover 80% of the fees, the City would cover the rest. It has taken two years to get to where they're at now. Dunn asked what if there are pieces from other concepts that are liked more than the chosen concept such as the more gradual slope on concept two, but she likes three, Dimsho said that distance on the gangways may not outweigh the overall concept. Walsh said he hopes to work out some additional parking around there he said he has a long-time vision of a boardwalk from Grey Cliffs Park to Columbia View Park and on. Sundeen noticed the parking is rough as it is, adding amenities will make it worse. Dimsho said in 2019 it got paved and bathrooms added so that is a huge improvement and it'll continue.

2.

Why do you want to be on his commission: Jacobson said he has a passion for parks, he would like to be kept mentally fit and physically fit and build community. Also, some of a certain age have an idealized thought of being younger and our communities were so much better back then. Childhood experiences plays a large part of that. He did some landscaping not too far from 6th Street Park and enjoys hearing the little league and it brings back so many memories, he likes building communities, he and his wife walk around town and see kids at the park with their parents. He enjoys making connections. He and his wife's first experience were 13 nights and came across this and got to interact and building community. He knows there's lot of new developments. He read through the minutes since 2020 and he is not a speaker would rather listen. He drew up what ideas he can put forth. He would like to be part of that. He is an outdoor enthusiast, he said when he was a kid, he was always outside and go out exploring. he and his wife are avid hikers, they hiked and lived full time in their RV for one and a half years. He lived out of the country for a long time. He likes to salmon fish

Dunn: what parks are your favorite? Jacobson said he has a much better understanding now of the parks. Columbia view park is his favorite, many people there. and a lovely view. Heinie Human, must go to look for it. Likes having a dog park to let the dogs go play free. Driven by it many times, but walnut park is so neat.

He said he used to work for parks and recreation, had a business in UK commercial archeology, Government Entities, had to find what condition things were in. in his personal view, he traveled around the world, gives him unique experience to help him with personal perspective, Volunteering helps define his sense of community, he lived in Florida and they used to volunteer at a center where Spanish and Guatemalan population was large and he taught English. He volunteered in Portland, handyman for older seniors and mostly widows, needed small maintenance tasks done. He did archeology in Scotland, taught seniors, did parties at the parks.

Blumenthal, can you come to 4 o clock meetings every 2nd Monday. Jacobson said he can he is retired; he may have a conflict from another volunteer opportunities.

Belcher asked about question three, he traveled a lot and gone to many parks. what do you see that St Helens is missing and could be added to our parks, it would be nice to have kayak racks down at the Grey Cliffs like discussed. what he would like to see people connected like a park potluck. Utilize what we have as much as he can.

3.

Blumenthal said that they think the lines are on different places nob hill park, Dimsho said they clarified with Scappoose Watershed where the lines are. He said that portions on fences on the 4th street property, are on trail. A survey would cost about \$700 to do one pin. Blumenthal said there are many problems with the rental house there, they can't find where the park is and their parking spots. Dimsho said it is a balance, private property butting a park. Blumenthal noted that they are parking on camas, and it has become surplus parking for this house, and it keeps adding up into the park. Dimsho asked where parking was for the park, Blumenthal said that is across the way of this property.

Belcher asked about 5th street trail; there is a cliff and there is a big gate and an area that looks like it was taken over, did they and it looks like it's on city property, just north of the trail. Dimsho said it is not uncommon for things to be built in the right of way. That has not been vacated, if they city wanted to build a trail through that area, they would have to move their gate. Dimsho referred Belcher to Shanna and talk to her when it comes to setting boundaries.

4.

Pettit: Why do you want to be on this commission? Carlson said it is easier to make change when you are part of a team, she said she has always been a community person. Her job is revolving around people with disabilities and community. She has watched Parks and Commission change in the last few years.

Dunn: what are your favorite parks. She said McCormick Park, many people with different abilities can enjoy this park. She said her son has had disabilities since he was in second grade, he finds joy in swinging, she heard so much great feedback about McCormick, she loves to garden, and she has a soft spot for Nob Hill Nature Park.

She has experience, leadership, city council for many years, volunteering with Scappoose Watershed, anything that brings in people together who are left out. She is looking forward to Art in the Park

Blumenthal asked if she can attend the 4 o'clock meetings, she said yes the nonprofit to she works for really approves of this type of volunteering.

I left behind the City Council was to leave behind drama and this has short term goals long term goals, she worked on the splashpad in 2008. Public works has been amazing, moved down Plymouth Street, things got fixed so quickly. She is very happy about Dalton Lake; Pettit is getting many benches made from recycled plastic. She asked if they do benches at McCormick, there is one and more wanted to be put in.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 6. Park Assignments

Lathrope said she is interested in Campbell and Grey Cliffs Parks, Lathrope said she wouldn't mind teaming up Belcher on Grey Cliffs Park. Campbell has lots of problems with vandalism, it needs some attention.

### 7. Urban Trail Update and Request

Duggan said she met with Public Works and with Walsh about the Urban Trail, Have the people who have been involved with planning come back to us with the must have places for the markers, then Public Works will review. Dunn said to have a meeting with subcommittee about this, find all the areas to put markers down. Duggan said there is a lot of planning that goes in place, she said to keep in mind that they are finding the best places for the markers with the small amount of funds.

### 8. Update Parks and Capital Improvement and Master Plan

Duggan has been moving along with staff on an updated Master Plan, she brought up how the extra meetings have been cancelled. She is going to look at the current Master Plan instead of redoing the master plan, she added, and they are at capacity. She will have an updated list on improvement projects with Campbell and others at the next meeting. We will start selecting when we see what grants we have.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Duggan said:

- Parks and Rec has been partnered with the Early Learning Hub and hosted The Early Learning Fair on April 8<sup>th</sup>, there was a good turnout.
- Parks and Rec has been partnered with CCMH and have them coming in for the SPARC program, this is for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.
- \$150,000,000 in funds coming to school district camps, there will be some support for Parks and Recreation.
- Next month on May 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Parks and Recreation report, if anyone has some photos to share let Duggan know.
- There was a Sensory Bin Workshop last weekend.
- Camps for summer are almost sold out.
- There have been 860 registrations not including 101 reservations.
- There are 100 new members in our software.

- There are nine active special use permits.
- Youth soccer started last weekend there are eight sessions, one hour each.
- Parks and Recreation is always looking for partnerships with nonprofit organizations.
- Parks is working on field maintenance, there has been around 1000 people using fields.
- Parks and Recreation has been working closely with different softball leagues, disc golf had work party and cleaned up the disc golf course.
- On May 7<sup>th</sup>, there is a work party in McCormick with Scappoose Bay Watershed, this will be from nine to eleven and one to four. The Japanese gardens need work and should be brought back if there is some support left.
- Vandalism continues to be a problem at Campbell Park; the door was almost ripped off; the roof has issues as well because kids climb on them.
- New RecDesk software is being developed well.

Sundeen mentioned the plans for benches at McCormick playground. Duggan said there are two plans for the benches but the ground is a bit soft.

### **COUNCILOR'S REPORT**

- Morten has found this meeting impressive with the time put in tonight. Waterfront discussion with Dimsho was well presented and received. Morten commented on the two strong candidates and there is a good variety and lots of experience and expertise.
- Council: any project that needs more advocating is the urban trail, it has to happen this year. Public Works is all in with helping with finding signage and markers. We will have to rely on Public Works to make this happen.
- Duggan's reports are great, her leadership and detail and passion for what she does is outstanding.
- He said this was a great meeting to build our park system.

Sundeen asked when the fiscal year ends for funding to return, ends in June 30th. Morten said projection for parks will be similar as last year. He said things have been on an upswing for the last two years, this year, its slim and hard to move forward. No one is satisfied with statuesque. Everyone has been cutting back. This year we are not cutting staff and there's little retirement. This will come to the budget meeting. Duggan said to let her know if they'd like to come in and discuss budget. There is always subject for change.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Belcher said Oregon is getting 10,000,000 set said for Community paths and he doesn't know much about it.

Ingram said June 1st will be a work session, Dunn will provide materials used.

Blumenthal said people came for the nave plant sale. Limit

Sundeen asked about disagreements with ranking system for new commissioners, Pettit said it can be discussed next meeting.

Dunn said there will work party at botanical gardens to be planned.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

6:17

