



CITY OF SWEET HOME PARKS AND TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 19, 2024, 8:30 AM
Santiam Conference Room
3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386

WIFI Passcode: guestwifi

PLEASE silence all cell phones – Anyone who wishes to speak, please sign in.

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Meeting Information

The City of Sweet Home is streaming the meeting via the Microsoft Teams platform and asks the public to consider this option. There will be opportunity for public input via the live stream. To view the meeting live, online visit <http://live.sweethomeor.gov>. If you don't have access to the internet you can call in to 971-203-2871, choose option #1 and enter the meeting ID to be logged in to the call. Meeting ID: #278 852 022 483

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m.

Roll Call of Park and Tree Committee Members:

PRESENT

Matthew Bechtel
Lena Tucker
Bob Dalton
Wally Shreves
Nancy Patton
Debra Sue Northern
Councilor Trask

STAFF

Kelcey Young, City Manager
Greg Springman, Interim Public Works Director
Angela Clegg, Tourism and Economic Development Coordinator
Adam Leisinger, Communications Manager
Diane Golden, Associate Planner

Time Reports

Wally reported time minutes to Angela and Diane from the Safety Fair. Any unreported times will be reported.

Meeting Minutes

2024-05-15 Park and Tree Committee Meeting Minutes: Debra Northern noticed a discrepancy in the minutes with the Cut the Gut checkpoint. Angela noted that the information for Cut the Gut in May will be null and void and updated. Debra Northern made a motion to approve. Lena Tucker seconded.

The location of the meeting is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-367-8969.

Yay: 6

Nay: 0

Public Comment. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Park and Tree Committee on topics that are not listed on the agenda.

None.

Old Business

Cut the Gut : Location for Cut the Gut has changed. It will now be at City Hall and the Committee will be working with the Police Department and the Community Foundation on Friday, July 12 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The Park and Tree Committee will bring their swag. Angela asked how the flyers should be. Debra suggested a quarter sheet handout. Angela suggested a large flyer as well as quarter sheets. Wally wants the QR code to focus on the community center, but the QR code for multiple donations. Nancy will bring a donation can. Wally suggested a car quiz handout at Cut the Gut. Wally will not be in attendance for Cut the Gut or the next meeting.

Ivy Removal: Ivy removal was done at the south end of Sankey Park to the stream. Wally reported that a spray needs to be on the ivy. Greg Springman noted that fall is the best time for the spray.

New Business

Safety Fair Report: Wally reported on the Safety Fair on June 15 from 9-12. Almost all the stickers were given away. Wally emphasized that the tree is the safety aspect of the Safety Fair. It was noted that the high attendance was partially due to being at Sankey Park as well as the ribbon cutting for the swing sets. Debra noted that the Safety Fair was much safer than it had been in years' past due to being at the park.

Health Fair: Bob mentioned the Health Fair is Saturday, August 17th from 9-2 p.m. in front of the high school. Health benefits to neighborhood parks will be reported at the Health Fair. Wally noted that a U.S. Surgeon General report in 2023 talked about park benefits include loneliness, heart health, and mental health. Kelcey Young stated that the number of parks have a direct correlation with livability and overall happiness with and parks per capita. Sweet Home is currently has very low livability. Parks help most notably for people with disabilities and autistic children. Lena Tucker and Bob Dalton will be in attendance. Debra Northern is tentative. Tucker stated that the swag should be restocked.

Harvest Festival Duties: Wally confirmed the Park and Tree Committee will return to hold the pie bake-off. Angela stated a few things will change but nothing confirmed yet. Wally will work on recruiting judges. It will be the first Saturday in October. The Harvest Festival had 68 booths last year.

Harper's Playground Training Report: Wally reported on the training event. Wally visited a \$4.3 million playground in Vancouver, and noted that everyone's reports of childhood memories did not include playgrounds, but interactions with nature. The fundraiser was created initially by a bake sale. There were play structures made from trees. The park was accessible for all, had musical and art structures. The Harper's Park foundation helps build parks or give guidance and workshops.

Round Table Discussions (Committee comments about topics not listed on the agenda)

Kelcey mentioned the new dais and benches. The wood was donated to the city and the furniture was crafted in-house, which saved tens of thousands of dollars. It is a potential revenue stream and to reuse the trees that are required to fell for safety reasons, as well as paying tribute to the local timber industry in town. Kelcey noted that the bench in front of City Hall can be used as a prototype for future picnic tables and benches in town.

Wally asked to confirm if the boat take out was getting closed down at the Pleasant Valley Bridge. Greg reported that it has not been confirmed yet.

Kelcey reported that her and Angela have been working on setting up the park at 42nd and Osage. There is a park in San Antonio called Morgan's Wonderland where all the rides and amusements are accessible. Kelcey set up a visual of the ideas for 42nd of Osage. Phase 1 includes a bench swing, a slide, an 8 foot high climbing wall, a balance board, and a sensory cove. Phase 2 would include more inclusive aspects like a wheelchair swing, a beach volleyball court and a walking trail. Bob Dalton noted that most of the parks in Germany were natural and simple. The overall park goal would be to install an inclusive play structure at every park.

Nancy noted that the Park and Tree Committee needs new polo shirts. Angela will check the budget.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

The Sweet Home Park and Tree Committee welcomes your interest in these agenda items. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting; however, the Committee may consider additional subjects as well. This meeting is open to the public and interested citizens are invited to attend.

If you have questions, please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 3225 Main Street, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; Phone: (541) 367-8113.

SHMC 1.10 CITY COMMITTEES

§ 2.10.050 POWERS AND DUTIES.

A. Park and Tree Committee. The powers and duties of the Park And Tree Committee shall be as follows:

1. To conduct an inventory of existing street trees, including historical trees and public properties in need of beautification and plantings and present a written report to the City Council of its findings;
2. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, a master list of trees suitable for planting within the city. The list shall be reviewed annually, a copy of which shall be kept on file in the office of the City Recorder for public information;
3. To develop and recommend to the City Council, for its adoption, ordinances and policies for the planting, care, maintenance, replacement and protection of trees throughout the city;
4. To act in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission with respect to landscape design, suitable plantings, protection of natural vegetation and street tree requirements;
5. To submit recommendations to the City Council regarding the beautification of public properties and rights-of-way;
6. To promote public knowledge and acceptance of the value of tree planting and maintenance programs and requirements;
7. To develop a capital development program for each fiscal year, to include acquisition of new land and/or development of existing property for parks and other recreation areas;
8. To recommend recreation programing needs to be produced by the city;
9. To recommend an operating budget to carry out the recreation program as outlined for the forthcoming fiscal year; and
10. To preform additional duties and studies as may be required from time to time by the City Council.
11. To meet a minimum of four meetings a year, beginning with the month of December, which meeting should be devoted to the development of the next year's capital and recreation programs.

(Ord. 1263, § 1, 2017)