



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR OCTOBER 23, 2023

Present: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Council President Valerie Pratt, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Christen Sacco, Councilor Octavio Gonzalez, Councilor Maria Reyes (virtual)

Absent: Councilor Cyndy Hillier

Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Stoneridge Park Renovation Update.

Parks and Recreation Planning Manager Rich Mueller and Parks and Recreation Director Ross Hoover presented an update on the Stoneridge Park redesign project. Director Hoover provided a brief background on the project mentioning the park was built in 1970 and is a small neighborhood park named after the subdivision. He stated the Parks Master Plan and city council goals have identified the need for updates to the park. Director Hoover stated a site assessment had been conducted to identify conceptual plans for the park and that outreach had been done bilingually through open houses, online surveys, and virtual focus groups.

Director Hoover shared some of the desired park amenities and the concept plan for the park. Manager Mueller discussed the next steps, which include community engagement regarding the renaming of the park, neighborhood selection of park amenities, funding planning, and the park's eventual opening.

Manager Mueller stated renaming the park was identified in the master plan, as the current name doesn't resonate with the community. He stated renaming the park will enhance the sense of community and instill a new sense of pride and ownership in the space. Manager Mueller stated over 350 people participated in the naming selection process, with 63% preferring the name "Las Casitas Park." Manager Mueller explained the city's naming policy and noted the new name complies with the policy. He mentioned that the Tualatin Parks Advisory Committee is recommending the name change.

Councilor Brooks expressed her excitement about renaming and redesigning the park. She asked if there was a process for renaming the neighborhood to align with the park's new name. City Manager Lombos clarified that the neighborhood does not have an official designation currently and was just referenced that way because of the subdivision's name.

Council President Pratt commended the staff for their extensive public outreach on this project.

Councilor Gonzalez expressed his excitement about seeing the park's transformation and thanked the staff for their work.

Councilor Reyes mentioned her excitement about the redevelopment for the community members living in the area. She inquired about park maintenance after its reconstruction. Director Hoover stated that there would be parks maintenance staff dedicated to the area.

Mayor Bubenik stated the Council supports the name change.

2. *Lake of the Commons Drinking Fountains.*

Parks and Recreation Manager Ross Hoover presented an update on the condition of the drinking fountains at the Lake of the Commons. He stated that the Lake of the Commons was constructed in the mid-1990s, and the infrastructure is aging. Director Hoover noted that the current water fountains also serve as artwork, resembling ice from the Ice Age. However, he mentioned that the current fountains are cracking and in need of replacement. Director Hoover explained the current plan is to remove the fountains and replace them with fountains that align with the construction at the Veteran's Plaza. He also proposed taking one of the fountains and relocating it to the Heritage Center, where it can be displayed.

Councilor Brooks mentioned that she spoke with the Tualatin Arts Committee, and they are fine with the relocation of the art pieces. She asked if the new park design would consider including water bottle fillers. Director Hoover stated that staff plans to include not only drinking fountains but also bottle fillers.

Councilor Reyes suggested that the fountains should also accommodate pets. Director Hoover explained staff has looked at pet fountains, but they have not yet identified the specific location for them.

Council President Pratt inquired about the fountain at the historical society and whether it would be usable. Director Hoover stated that the fountains at the historical society will act purely as art pieces.

Mayor Bubenik asked about the timeframe for the fountain replacement. Director Hoover stated that they hope to have the new fountains in place by next summer.

3. *Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications & Roundtable.*

Councilor Brooks stated she attended the Arts Advisory Committee meeting and the Policy Advisory Board meeting and bus tour.

Council President Pratt stated she attended the Martinazzi Woods CIO meeting, the C4 Metro tolling subcommittee meeting, and the Pumpkin Regatta.

Mayor Bubenik stated he attended the League of Oregon Cities Conference, the Vine2Wine event, the Washington County Coordinating Committee meeting, the Washington County Chair meeting with the Mayors, the Greater Portland Inc. Board meeting, and the Pumpkin Regatta.

Mayor Bubenik reminded everyone of the upcoming Veterans Breakfast on November 9th at the Juanita Pohl Center.

City Manager Lombos asked for the Council to appoint a council liaison for the IDEA Committee. Mayor Bubenik appointed Councilor Sacco. Councilor Sacco accepted the position.

Councilor Reyes stated she attend the Core Area Parking District meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor