

**CITY OF CORVALLIS**

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**SEPTEMBER 16, 1999**

Attendance

Jo Anne Trow, Chair  
John Griesmeyer  
Ellen Hooven (7:23 p.m.)  
Tom Kirch  
Margaret Puckett

Visitors

Kirk Bailey, 742 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Marlyn D. Weaver

Staff

Réne Moye, Parks and Recreations Director  
Terry Nix, Recorder

Absent

Pete Bober  
John Kwait  
Reenie Sumner  
Charlie Fisher

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

| Agenda Item                 | Information Only | Held for Further Review | Recommendations                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Master Plan Recommendations |                  |                         | To recommend the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the City Council along with comments made this evening. |
| CIP Recommendations         |                  |                         | To recommend the Parks and Recreation fifth year CIP Update to the CIP Commission.                           |
| Recreation Committee        | X                |                         |                                                                                                              |
| Executive Session           | X                |                         |                                                                                                              |

**CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Trow called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and reviewed the agenda. She noted that the Board does not yet have a quorum present; however, an additional member is expected to arrive shortly.

II. VISITORS' PROPOSITIONS

Kirk Bailey referred to his previous testimony related to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He has reviewed the most recent draft, he said, and feels that his most important concerns have been addressed. He expressed general approval of the document.

Marlyn Weaver referred to the map of the open space system within the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, noting that some of the property included on the map is represented by his real estate firm and has been offered to the City and Benton County without serious response. He inquired as to what type of encumbrance this designation would place on the properties. Mr. Moyer responded that the open space system map represents a vision and that it may be referenced in the Comprehensive Plan, but any acquisition is subject to negotiations with property owners and he does not believe the designation would encumber property in any way. Ms. Trow added that Section 4 of the draft plan indicates that property within the open space system may be publicly or privately held, and she added that much of the designated property would not be easily developed.

### III. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Moyer noted that a recent article in the newspaper contained misleading information related to a possible bond issue. He clarified that the consultant who worked on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan has recommended that one way to fund capital improvements would be through a bond issue; however, this is a Council decision and no decisions have been made. He suggested that the Board hold a work session with the Open Space Commission, and then jointly share with the Council those projects which might be appropriate for a bond. In response to an inquiry from Councilor Griffiths, Mr. Moyer agreed that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Commission should also be included in the process at some point.

Mr. Trow noted that the Board has worked with staff and the consultant on the master plan for more than two years. She invited comments from the Board.

Mr. Kirch referred to the chart under Financing Strategy, Capital Expenditures, on the first page of the document. Mr. Moyer explained that the figures listed for open space acquisitions were inserted by the consultant and will very likely be different. Mr. Kirch stated that the figures listed for land acquisition appear to be low and he expressed concern about including misleading information in this document. Ms. Trow suggested that a note be added which explains that this is a five-year plan financial plan and that it is SDC driven. Ms. Griffiths added that the narrative also fails to explain that this is a five-year financing strategy.

Mr. Moyer stated that any concerns noted this evening will be passed on to Council along with the current draft of the document.

Ms. Griffiths referred to previous discussions regarding the desire to add a park at Timberhill. Mr. Moyer stated that the document references the existing park at Timberhill and does not recommend additional improvements. Ms. Griffiths stated for the record that she does not agree.

It was noted that Table B-8 on Page B-15, under Timber Hill Acres facility, should be revised to read "Future School site (includes park)." Ms. Trow said it should be clarified within the document that the names of undeveloped sites (including Timber Hill Acres) were made up by the consultant in an effort to identify the general area and are not necessarily what the sites would be named.

Councilor Griffiths referred to Table 15 on Page 5-11. She expressed concern that it is not made clear what design standards were used to identify facilities and that there may be other facilities in the community which are not listed.

Councilor Griffiths referred to Table 14 on Page 5-5. She noted that she has testified previously that the Dixon Creek trail recommendations include a section which is on private property and in the drainage way access. In discussion, Mr. Moyer noted that the Board evaluated this section earlier and did not make any changes. Ms. Griffiths noted that the proposed trail crosses her personal property and she acknowledged that her comments on this matter should be considered as public testimony.

Ms. Trow initiated further discussion regarding the Financing Strategy at the beginning of the report. She noted that the information is repeated in Section 6 and she queried whether it should be eliminated from the beginning. In discussion, it was noted that this appears to have been intended as part of the Executive Summary. Mr. Moyer acknowledged that the main body of the Executive Summary was inadvertently left out and he will follow up.

Mr. Kirch expressed concern about having too few dollars identified for land acquisition. He stated that land availability is likely to decrease as time goes by; therefore, the first step should be to acquire the desired properties. He expressed support for open space acquisition, but stated that it may conflict in some ways with park land acquisition. Ms. Trow stated that she is not really concerned about such conflicts and that she is interested in pursuing possible co-usage of land for both open space and parks. Councilor Griffiths said she also is concerned about not identifying enough money for park land acquisition. She added that, if there is to be a bond measure, it is important to be very clear about what citizens are being asked to vote on. Mr. Moyer noted that master plans are generally used as planning documents and that actual numbers typically change throughout the life of the plan.

**It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously to recommend the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the City Council along with the comments made this evening.**

#### IV. CIP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Moyer distributed and reviewed a staff report on the CIP Update, which includes the following projects: Acquisition/Development of Parks, Administrative Office Improvements, City Parks Parking Lots, Open Space Acquisition, Park Improvements, Senior Center Expansion and Enhancements to Chintimini Park, and Trails/Bike Paths.

Mr. Kirch noted that staff has indicated that several of the projects would be candidates for bonding; however, these projects quickly add up to several million dollars. In discussion, Mr. Moye explained that priorities must be determined and he again suggested that the Board hold a joint work session with the Open Space Commission in late November or early December. He further suggested that it may be appropriate, at some point in the process, to poll the community to gain a sense of their threshold for additional taxes. Brief discussion followed regarding the limitations of SDCs.

Mr. Moye noted that the Board's recommendation will be forwarded to the CIP Commission for review and then go on to Council.

Mr. Griesmeyer noted that a significant amount has been set aside to gravel parking lots. He opined that the money might be better spent elsewhere. Brief discussion followed.

**It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to recommend the Parks and Recreation fifth year CIP Update to the CIP Commission.**

V. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Trow reviewed several items from the minutes of the September 2nd Recreation Committee meeting.

Mr. Kirch provided an update on efforts to identify alternate swimming facilities for the period of time that the Osborn facility is under construction. Ms. Hooven suggested that, if Stoneybrook's pool is completed by then, they might be persuaded to allow use by other seniors for a limited time. Mr. Griesmeyer suggested that the Board send a letter to the President of OSU requesting that, in the spirit of cooperation, every effort be made to allow for use of OSU's swimming facilities during this six-month period. Mr. Moye agreed to draft a letter for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Moye advised of an open house for Doug Dollarhide on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 -5:00 p.m.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into an executive session under ORS 192.660(1)(e) real property transaction from 7:55 to 8:05 p.m.

VII. OTHER

Ms. Trow advised that Council voted 7-2, with Councilors Griffiths and Schmidt in opposition, to expand the dogs off leash areas to include a portion of Porter Park and to include the Crystal Lake Sports Fields when they are not being used for recreation. Mr. Moye noted that a group of citizens who plan to use the dogs off leash area have indicated a willingness to assist in

maintenance of the sports fields. In discussion, Councilor Griffiths noted that many citizens testified in favor of this use and that there was very limited testimony in opposition. Mr. Moye added that, because it was not a unanimous vote, a second reading is required.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.