

CITY OF CORVALLIS

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

WORK SESSION

OCTOBER 18, 1999

Attendance

Jo Anne Trow, Chairperson
Charlie Fisher
Ellen Hooven
Tom Kirch
Margaret Puckette
Reenie Sumner
John Kwait
Betty Griffiths, Council Liaison

Staff

Réne Moye, Parks and Recreation Director
Ellen Daily, Parks and Recreation
Michelle Love, Recorder

Absent

Pete Bober (excused)
John Griesmeyer (excused)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

| Agenda Item | Information Only | Held for Further Review | Action/Recommendations |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Approval of Minutes | | X | The minutes of the September 16, 1999 will be held over to the next Parks and Recreation Board meeting on Thursday, October 21, 1999. |
| Visitors' Propositions | X | | Ms. Daily shared information on the department's five-year CIP and bond issue information she attained from Nancy Brewer. |
| Current Five Year Plan | X | | |
| Future Bond Issue Projects | X | | |
| Adjournment | X | | |

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Trow called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 16, 1999 minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be reviewed at the October 21, 1999 meeting so all the board members can be present.

III. VISITORS' PROPOSITIONS

Ms. Daily shared information on the department's five-year CIP and on bond issue information she received from Nancy Brewer.

IV. CURRENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Mr. Moye provided background to the Board members for the current five-year CIP plan. The Open Space Commission is obtaining appraisals on open space properties that they will evaluate and then submit a recommendation to the City Council in January or February of 2000. The City Council will then have a public meeting.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would like to have a work session to meet with the Open Space Commission members in December or early January to talk about projects to have Council consider for future draft bond issues. Council is considering a bond issue for open space in November of 2000.

Ms. Daily discussed how she has spoken with Nancy Brewer regarding the upcoming bond issue.

Ms. Brewer indicated that there is a Federal law that states that after you have an approved bond levy and you have issued the bonds, you have to spend a certain percentage within sixty days, then another percentage within six months. If you do not meet those targets then the City could have to pay the IRS fees, which could mean a loss of interest earnings.

Ms. Daily wanted to make sure that we make sure that the Board members had this information so the department does not get into this type of position.

Petition from Ana Sayavedra

Mr. Moye discussed a petition from Ana Sayavedra regarding Franklin Park. There is a group of individuals requesting some new swings for Franklin Park. Mr. Moye said that he would try to see if there is a way to finance a swing set sometime this year.

Franklin Park is one of the parks that the Board has discussed making some changes to. The Board will take a look at what this group is requesting and compare that with the proposed changes being considered for the park.

Letter from Debbie Kopp

Mr. Moyer discussed a letter from Debbie Kopp regarding softball fees, conditions of the Corvallis fields, payphones and concession stands.

Mr. Moyer discussed the issue of softball facilities and complexes and asked the Board whether now is the time now to consider this issue.

The Parks and Recreation Department Five-Year Plan

⇒ Mr. Moyer listed out items for the five-year plan and discussed Acquisition and Development of Park Land.

Mr. Kirch felt that it was important to acquire the land now. The land is available now and may not be available later. His recommendation would be to acquire as much land as is possible.

Mr. Moyer discussed how this could be a factor of whether or not we raise our SDC's.

⇒ The Administrative office will be expanded to better accommodate staff and this item is funded.

⇒ Parking lots are not funded. We have a number of parks that do not have paved parking lots and we are required to have a plan in place. Mr. Moyer has asked the department's Park Planner to update cost estimates for the parking lots.

⇒ Park improvements - some are funded and some are not.

⇒ In 2003/04 there are three tennis courts that need to be resurfaced but they do not have funding sources. This could be part of a bonding package.

⇒ The irrigation and landscaping at the new Timberhill park would be completed in 2004/05. The park design would be completed in 2003/04.

⇒ The Senior Center expansion is not funded. The proposal requests adding 3,800 square feet added to the Senior Center.

⇒ Trails and Bike Paths is an item that the Riverfront Commission identified. This would propose adding a trail that would go from Willamette Park and it would tie into the bike path that takes you across the river into Riverfront Park.

V. FUTURE BOND ISSUE PROJECTS

Mr. Moye asked the Board members which items should be passed on to City Council for consideration on the November bond issue.

Mr. Kwait commented that acquisition and development of parks are a priority.

Mr. Moye felt that the Board needs to go back to the master plan and identify specific areas of properties and come to agreement on what we will be asking for in dollar amounts. Would this be for neighborhood parks, community parks and sports complexes? This would need to be considered.

Ms. Griffiths asked the question of how the acquisition and development of lands tie in with what the Open Space Commission is doing. How are they linked?

Mr. Moye discussed how there will be a work session with the Open Space Commission and the Parks and Recreation Board in December or January to discuss these issues.

Ms. Griffiths brought up the importance of linkages and how trails and bike paths linking to key properties is important to the public. Logical linkages to properties being considered for open space should be a priority.

Mr. Kirch commented that it seems that the master plan should first be approved and accepted by the City Council so the Board can work off of that plan.

Mr. Moye stated that the public hearing by the Planning Commission on the master plan is scheduled to be on December 1, 1999. (Note: this has now been moved to February 2, 2000 because policies have to be developed for the plan.)

Mr. Moye discussed what he felt was a key question, which is how much will the community support funding of open space and park projects. This is why it is important to have dialogue with the Open Space Commission. Mr. Moye discussed that the Board needs to find out what is the appropriate balance and mix of projects that the Board feels are most important.

The Board members discussed how acquisition of land for both neighborhood and community parks, are very important and open space is second or third on their list of priorities. They also thought the development of the Willamette Park bike path was important. Perhaps this is a project that can be phased?

Ms. Sumner commented that she would like to see the SDC's charged enough so that the City can get enough income in for neighborhood and community parks.

Mr. Kirch asked if SDC's will address the issues because there are some neighborhoods that do have playgrounds but will not have development. Should we expect that the SDC's will support that area as well?

Chairperson Trow stated that Mr. Moyer has identified approximately 1.3 million dollars on the acquisition and development of parks for the bond measure.

Mr. Moyer commented that another good candidate for the bond measure would be the Senior Center expansion.

Mr. Kirch asked if 3,800 square feet for the addition to the Senior Center was big enough?

Mr. Moyer discussed how there were limitations as to how large the expansion could be especially since the center is in the park.

Chairperson Trow felt that for the November 2000 bond issue the Board should concentrate on a few items, like trails. This would be a great connector and trails tend to be supported by the public.

Mr. Moyer reiterated the conversation by saying that the Board's first choice is to aggressively pursue SDC's for funding new facilities and then pursue a bond issue when considering acquiring open space lands. We also need to be identify where these lands would be.

The Board members discussed priority levels on these issues and decided that the Senior Center expansion will be a lower priority, to be considered for 2002/03.

For the Pioneer ballfield there is no funding for the \$50,000 worth of lighting. This is a project that could be lumped with other maintenance projects, such as the resurfacing the tennis courts. This maintenance package would give the public better facilities and could be lumped together, costing approximately \$200,000.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.