REDMOND CITY COUNCIL
PARKS AND HUMAN SERVICES (PKHS) COMMITTEE/
SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY

Council Conference Room
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington

Tuesday, November 1, 2011

Council:
Hank Margeson
John Stilin, Chair
Pat Vache
Richard Cole *(Attending Council Member)*

Staff:
Lisa Rhodes, Recreation Program Administrator
Jean Rice, Senior Parks Management Analyst
Carolyn Hope, Senior Parks Planner
Elizabeth Adkisson, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

Convened: 4:30 p.m. Adjourned: 5:05 p.m.

Committee Chair, John Stilin, opened the meeting and overviewed the agenda.

WAVE Aquatics Contract Amendment

Ms. Jean Rice, Senior Parks Management Analyst, presented information on the WAVE Aquatics Contract Amendment:

- item previously discussed at the PKHS committee meeting in August 2011;
- proposed amendment to the payment plan – request to pay on an annual schedule; currently pay on a quarterly schedule;
- revenues lower than expected;
- next payment would be scheduled for January 2012 (as opposed to December 2011); and
- item will be presented to the full Council for approval at the regular business meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011.

General discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendment and seasonal revenues/use of the pool.

Great Day of Play Recap

Ms. Lisa Rhodes, Senior Parks Management Analyst, presented information on Redmond's 'Great Day of Play' 2011:

- first time event – August 19, 2011;
- goal – to promote recreation programs and get people active and into City parks;
- look into grant funding from Playful City USA; becoming a recognized "Playful City";
- the cities of Seattle, Renton, and Mercer Island also put on these types of events;

- 2011 event – Friday, August 19, 2011, 3-7pm, City Hall Campus:
    - 5K running event – over 100 runners participated;
    - 3-on-3 basketball tournament – 12 teams participated;
    - spinning;
    - jump rope;
    - trampoline;
    - rock climbing;
    - recreation class demonstrations;
    - attendance – over 1,000 people;
    - Seattle Sounders FC player Steve Zakauni – gave a motivational speech and signed autographs;
    - a skate competition took place on the plaza;
    - many Redmond employees were in attendance;
- would like to make this an annual event (August/September); and
- attempt to attract a range of age demographics.

General discussion ensued regarding the success of the event, location of the skating competition, and adding a skate event to Derby Days.

Ms. Rhodes inquired as to the Council's participation in the Chili Cook-Off for the 2011 Redmond Lights celebration; general discussion ensued.

Redmond Central Connector (RCC) Update

Ms. Carolyn Hope, Senior Parks Planner, updated the Committee on the Redmond Central Connector:

- timeline goals:
    - currently ten percent design plans and trail preliminaries have been completed;
    - 30 percent plans will be completed by November 7, 2011;
    - 60 percent plans will be completed by January 2012;
    - final plans to be completed by April 2012; and
    - construction to begin in July 2012;
- artist selection for RCC has been completed:
    - artist will work with design team;
    - 29 answered the call for artists;
    - three artists were interviewed and met with the design team;
    - John Flemming was selected;
        - resume includes a wide variety of work;
        - utilizes unique ideas and mixed materials;
    - Mr. Flemming will meet with the Parks and Trails commission on Thursday, November 3, 2012;
    - contract will be before Council for approval in December 2011.

General discussion ensued regarding Mr. Flemming's resume and previous works; incorporating rails, historical aspects of the trail, and reusing materials; and creating art that will draw people to Redmond.

Parks/Transportation Funding Strategy Update

Ms. Hope updated the Committee on the Parks/Transportation Funding Strategy:

- in the last week, two focus groups met with a facilitator for input gathering;
- each group consisted of eight persons, male and female, representing differing demographics of Redmond;
- comments and analysis included:
    - high reviews for City Parks;
    - good reviews of City transportation;
    - staff needs to find a quick and easy way to describe the need for funding; more education regarding Redmond's situation, funding, and budgeting;
    - expressed excitement regarding the Redmond Central Connector, and a regional/aquatics center;
- most representatives in these focus groups were from the Education Hill, Idylwood, and Grass Lawn Neighborhoods, where there are currently well-developed parks; other areas represented included the Rose Hill/Willows, Downtown, and Avondale Way;
- all focus group information will be presented to the full Council at an upcoming study session; and
- next steps include conducting a statistically-valid survey in the near future; asking questions with more detail, to see what 'strikes a chord' with Redmond citizens.

General discussion ensued regarding transportation comments gathered, being specific with pricing and communication, more education on funding in general for the public, and marketing for more involvement.