

City of Redmond
PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

Redmond City Hall – Council Chambers
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond Washington

Thursday, September 8, 2011
6:30 p.m.

Meeting Convened: at 6:40 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Commissioners:

Mary Bourguignon, Chair
Tina Sarin, Vice Chair
Peter McDonald
Cindy Jayne
Tom Sanko
Sheri Sanders

Staff:

Craig Larsen, Director
Carolyn Hope, Sr. Parks Planner
Teresa Kluver, Maintenance Operations Supervisor
Kim Dietz, Planning & Community Dvlpmnt Planner
Sharon Sato, Department Coordinator Parks Planning

Absent and Excused

Colin Worsley
Ray Smalling

Audience – 0

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

Mary Bourguignon, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Chair Bourguignon welcomed Commissioners and staff.

II. Approval of May Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Jayne to approve the May 5, 2011 minutes as corrected - Page 3, last (C. Recreation Programming), bullet 5, typographical error "Hartmand" should read "Hartman".

Second by Commissioner Sarin

Motion passed: 6-0

Motion by Commissioner McDonald to approve the June 2, 2011 minutes as corrected. Page 2, paragraph 1, typographical error - "spacebook" should be written "facebook".

Second by Commissioner Sarin.

Motion passed: 6-0

Motion by Commissioner Sarin to approve the July 7, 2011 meeting minutes as presented.

Second by Commissioner Jayne

Motion passed: 6-0

III. Items from the Audience

Teresa Kluver, Park Operations Supervisor, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation updating the Commission on the Green Redmond Partnership. The “partnership” consists of the City of Redmond, Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) and volunteers. The presentation included; 1) a brief history of the organization, 2) background, and 3) volunteer success, to date, of the organization. Ms. Kluver added that volunteerism, since it began, has topped each year’s expectation.

Ms. Kluver noted that Park Operations and Cascade Land Conservancy held an appreciation picnic for Green Redmond Forest Stewards at Idylwood Park recognizing the efforts of the dedicated Green Redmond Partnership volunteers.

Ms. Kluver invited Commissioners to visit the www.greenredmond.org site for more information.

IV. New Business

A. Comprehensive Plan Update with Planning Staff – Dietz (handout)

Ms. Dietz is a planner from the Planning Department and staff for the City’s Comprehensive Plan updates. She is currently working on consideration of an update to the animal husbandry codes and policies. In addition to the list of small animals listed in the code, Ms. Dietz is seeking to change the code to add chickens. The change would include a tiered approach that would be zoned based to allow ease in code enforcement and interpretation.

Ms. Dietz asked Commissioners to specifically comment and give their perspective on the possibility of allowing other parks in the Redmond Parks system to allow community gardens with the addition of chickens. Ms. Dietz added that there would be two scenarios – chicken ownership at each community site or a co-op approach at each site.

Commission comments included:

- 1) Predators
- 2) Chickens loose (animal safety issue)
- 3) Community property (Pea Patch) – who will monitor (chicken containment)?
- 4) City liability
- 5) Properly built amenities
- 6) Safety of citizens
- 7) Monitoring
- 8) Multiple owners – same pen (high maintenance – diseases spreading)
- 9) Need on-site manager
- 10) Proper set up – above ground coop, screen, proper set up
- 11) Buy share, PCC start program

- 12) May open the door to other types of fowl (ducks, geese)
- 13) Complex issue, Parks Department remains open to the issue

Ms. Dietz comments:

- 1) Controlled by the City Code Enforcement in partnership with King County
- 2) Interested parties will ensure success
- 3) 4H – ability to link with schools, volunteerism, educational ambassadors
- 4) Many interested parties
- 5) Daily maintenance
- 6) Rules
- 7) HOA rules would apply
- 8) Other jurisdictions allow chickens (Bellevue – 13 complaints a year)

Chair Bourguignon summarized the Commission's comments which included keeping open to the idea of chickens in parks but to further explore the issue more thoroughly and in depth (professional management). Ms. Dietz asked the Commission to clarify allowed use in public parks.

Chair Bourguignon responded that conditions and rules would allow uses, but restrictions would be enforced.

With the popularity of organics and fresh products the motivation for "home grown" products (quality of food, comparisons in freshness and purity, vitamins and minerals) are in high demand. The number of chickens allowed (per lot size) would be based on zoning. Eight chickens are the maximum number on the largest lot size. Roosters would not be allowed.

Ms. Dietz added that in other jurisdictions chickens are allowed but restrictions and guidelines need to be maintained.

B. Bond/Levy Project Lists and Update on Coordination with Transportation - Hope

Ms. Hope handed out (projects lists of potential funding requests 2012 ballot for Parks Transportation, Derby Days and Plant a Seed presentations and Potential Funding Requests 2012 Ballot for Parks Transportation project List) survey results and briefly explained the intent of each document and how it plays a role in a potential bond or levy initiative. She also discussed how those results played a part in putting together most effectively packaging a bond issue. The information will be used for staff to meet with the consulting firm who will conduct focus group research. The first step would be to test some of the ideas with a focus group; a four month process of research involving the public, commission and council. Ms Hope added that once this process is complete and further examination is done, a statistically valid survey will be completed to test ideas.

Per last month's discussion, Ms. Hope reminded the Commission that the Public Works Transportation Department is also considering going out for a bond/levy

measure in 2012 as well and that Parks and PW could package projects to maximize funding for the benefit of the community.

Chair Bourguignon requested that staff bring back statistics taken from outcomes of bond measures from other jurisdictions – bond length, amount of bonds, duration of bonds and which amenities were most generally favored.

Focus group questions will involve asking which packages or combination of packages, would be most important or is designed to add the most value to the community (parks, trails, transportation), and how citizens would be willing to pay and the length of the bond/levy. Ms. Hope added that a short term ballot measure might be another avenue.

Ms. Hope began discussion with the 6-year Transportation piece consisting of six projects:

- 1) DT couplet conversion – converting Redmond Way and Cleveland Streets to two way streets. Cleveland will become a very pedestrian friendly street, wide sidewalks and could be closed for community functions (farmers market, events) between the Redmond Central Connector and DT Central Park. Redmond Way – through fare, less traffic due to the two way conversion. Sherrows and bike lanes will be added.
- 2) 116th completion (north Redmond/Education Hill) improved – widen, sidewalk and trail.
- 3) Round-about at West Lake Sammamish Parkway and Bel-Red Road. Necessary to complete the 6th project.
- 4) Redmond Central Connector – paving from the Sammamish River Trail to 90th Street
- 5) Grade separated trail at 520 at 40th
- 6) Street improvements on W. Lk. Sammamish Parkway and trail to Marymoor

Total cost for projects is \$76M. The top three projects are approximately \$35M with the possibility of lower to \$25M by leveraging funding sources. In consideration of the projects, as an example, the average cost per household would be approximately \$120 per household per calendar year (\$12 per month).

Miss Hope went through the various levy package options (per handout), went over the packages and discussed six and ten year bond/levy options.

A representative from Transportation will be attending the October meeting to further elaborate on the Transportation side of the proposed bond/levy issue.

Mr. Larsen noted that there are many variables and many things need to be taken into consideration before a final bond package could be developed (et. al. needs of the community, potential partnerships, need or size of a new community center facility, etc.).

Ms. Hope added that site selection for a community center is now in progress; three to five sites will be selected and a cost estimate of each site will be assessed. Sites will be determined by their accessibility and feasibility along with other amenities.

Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of a 6-year vs. a 20-year bond/levy. Commissioners requested staff to bring information back to the Commission in regards to what guidelines other jurisdictions have used (cost per household, amount of bond/levy, time length of bond) and outcomes.

V. Old Business

A. Summary of "Plant a Seed" Presentations

Ms. Hope and Mr. Larsen gave the Commission an update on the Plant a Seed presentation questionnaire and comment results. Mr. Larsen noted that the Redmond Central Connector and Downtown Park projects were favored by all most organizations. Neighborhood parks and a pool were also favored.

Ms. Hope stated that at the October Commission meeting a draft approach for the Focus group will be shared and Focus Group would be formed by mid to late October.

Commissioners discussed the importance of packaging projects would work two-fold; get support and benefit the community.

Ms. Hope suggested that maintaining support by getting out in the community, talking about the projects, gathering comments and concerns, working on existing facilities, and working on a master plan (conceptual) to prepare would be greatly beneficial toward preparing for a proposed bond/levy measure.

Focus Group Schedule – Ms. Hope

- Week of September 12 - meeting with consultant to discuss focus group approach – who, where, when. Refine discussion point – done by the end of October
- November – CC study session reveal results – more refined project list
- Council approval for survey contract
- January – survey (get surveys back, put together proposal)
- February/March – present to Council
- Public meetings
- Council – vote on resolution for ballot
- End – April or May 2012

VI. Project Updates/Reviews

A. Downtown Park Update

City is trying to working on property exchange for a piece west of 161st. The city is currently working finalizing all acquisitions by the end of 2012. Existing buildings will be removed by the end of 2012. Master Plan is scheduled for sometime next year.

B. Haida House

Haida House has been designated a regional landmark.

VII. Commissioner Updates/Review

A. None

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by Sarin to adjourn

Second: McDonald

Motion carried: 6-0

Next Commission Meeting

November 3, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Redmond City Hall

Council Conference Room