

City of Redmond
PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

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

Thursday, February 3, 2011
6:30 p.m.

Meeting Convened: 6:32 p.m.

Adjourned 9:10 p.m.

Commissioners:

Cindy Jayne, Chair
Mary Bourguignon, Vice Chair
Peter McDonald
Ray Smalling
Tom Sanko
Tina Sarin
Colin Worsley
Becky Reininger

Staff:

Craig Larsen, Parks Director
Mark Hickok, Parks Business Operations Manager
Jean Rice, Park Analyst
B Sanders, Sr. Parks Planner
Carolyn Hope, Sr. Parks Planner
Sharon Sato, Dept. Coordinator

Youth Advocates Present

Priya Ganesan

Absent and Excused

Mandy Lin, Youth Advocate

Audience – 0

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

Commission Chair Jayne called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and Commission members and staff.

II. Approval of January 6, 2011 Minutes

Commissioner Sarin motioned to approve the January 6, 2011 meeting minutes with the following amendments: date change from 2010 to 2011 page 1 and word change in Section IVC. - New Business (LEED Certification); 1st paragraph, from “amend” to “adopt.”

Second by Commissioner McDonald

Motion to approve minutes carried: 8-0

III. Items from the Audience

None

IV. New Business

A. Parks Bond Discussion – Jean Rice & Carolyn Hope (handout)

Ms. Rice gave a brief overview related to a potential future bond measure. The agenda included:

1. Demographics
 2. Redmond's Property Tax
 3. Other cities? Rates?
 4. Long Term funding options
 5. Direction?
 6. Next step?
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1. Population Trends – past, present, to 2030. Employees, residents, as projected in PARCC Plan.
 2. Income 2008 – Redmond's average annual household income is higher than the state's projected household income - \$88,300 (R) to \$57,200 (S). Poverty comparison 4.1% (R) to 7.9% (S).
 3. Property Tax (2007) – City of Redmond (16%), LWSD (30%), King County (14%), Port of Seattle (2%), Hospital (5%), EMS (3%), Library (6%), State (24%).
 4. Redmond in Comparison to other cities (levy rate) – Jurisdiction Portion of Levy rate (\$1.56), Total Property Tax rate (\$9.48 per \$1,000), Tax per household (\$4,215).
 5. Long Term Funding Strategies – Levy (levy lid lift – property tax increase), Bond (types, length, approval requirements), Metropolitan Park District (Boundaries flexible, legal authority, taxing authority, process).
 6. Costs – Estimates in PARCC Plan – Rec. Center (\$45M), Community Park Construction (\$8M), Neighborhood Park Construction (\$2M), 1 mi. paved trail \$250k+, 1 mi. soft surface trail (\$150k) – What is a reasonable request? What will people pay for (community center, trails, parks, community park renovation and construction, key projects).
 7. Next Step – March – evaluate projects and beneficiaries and update Council. April – initial recommendations on funding options and plan for public outreach.

Director Larsen will bring two viable options back to the Commission in March for comment. Commissioners indicated they would like an approximate date for a potential bond measure, clarification of precinct data presented, previous bond rate and dollars, and greater public input along the process.

B. "Let's Plant a Seed" Presentation – Commissioner Bourguignon

The Commission convened to the Trestle Room to view the "Let's Plant a Seed" presentation created by Commissioner Bourguignon.

Bourguignon asked fellow members to critique the presentation. Commissioners brainstormed ideas as to where and how the presentation could be viewed (et. al. webpage, YouTube, etc.), adjustments to presentation after first showing, statistics, and survey questions (1. What does your neighborhood need, 2. What should happen city-wide, and 3. How much would you pay)? Staff will create charts with what would be provided for each dollar increment (property taxes - \$25 per yr., \$50 yr., \$75 yr. and \$100 yr.).

The presentation will be shown at the City's Parks & Humans Services Committee in March.

Director Larsen asked members to email a list of organizations or meetings they will be making the presentation to. Staff will compile a list which will track which organizations will be and has been addressed.

A staff member or members will attend the presentations to answer any budget related questions.

C. Redmond Central Connector – CJ Hope

Ms. Hope briefed Commissioners on the January 27th Redmond Connector public meeting. She noted that for those that were unable to attend; the PowerPoint presentation is available online on the city's website. <http://redmond.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=1605>

Ms. Hope asked Commissioners if they had anything to discuss in regards to the project. Commissioner Sarin noted that the Redmond Historical Society requested to work with the City on this project., noting that there are many places along the corridor for historical information opportunities.

Commissioner McDonald added that a trolley feasibility study was important in giving the public a clearer picture of the issues involved. Commissioner Sanko noted that he is not in favor of any thing that needs to be subsidized by the residents.

D. Experience Redmond Parks – J. Rice (handout)

Ms. Rice shared the "Experience Redmond Parks" booklet, which was created by Parks staff as part of a program to promote and highlight City of Redmond activities, parks, and facilities. The booklet will be used for tourism promotion and at events.

E. Brochures – J. Rice

Ms. Rice shared brochures created by elementary school students in Redmond. Each student was assigned the project of creating a brochure promoting Redmond parks. The brochures will be scanned and placed on the city's web page under Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Rice suggested using the brochures in the upcoming bond campaign. She added this would encourage children to participate in the bond process and let voters know what aspects are important in a children's perspective.

V. Old Business

A. Youth Advocate Voting Discussion –J Rice (Handout)

Ms. Rice summarized past discussions regarding youth advocate (YA) voting rights. She gave a brief overview of what policies and procedures are practiced by other local jurisdictions. (Bellevue, Kirkland, Sammamish, Renton) She reported the following policies were enforced by:

Renton

- Allowed to vote
- Approved by City Council

Bellevue

- No YA on Park Board
- Separate Youth Board (Youth Link – city manager lead)

Sammamish

- No YA on Park Board
- Separate Youth Board
- Approve by City Council
- 1 year term
- Advisory to City Council
- No voting rights

Kirkland

- 1 YA
- Approved by City Council
- Equal voting rights

Ms. Rice noted that she had referred to the City Clerk and was advised that in order to change or amend the policy an ordinance change would be necessary, as well as City Council approval. She also added that if a YA would become a voting member they would become part of the Commission's quorum meaning that regular attendance would be essential, a more dedicated commitment would need to be made by students applying for the position, the entire recruitment process would change, and there may be less applicants applying for the position(s) due to stricter policies or length in term.

Further discussion took place regarding pros and cons (quorum, term lengths (1-2 yr), scheduling, incremental benefits).

Co-Chair Bourguignon recommended deferring the discussion to the March meeting so that Commissioners could review the handout information.

VI. Project Updates/Reviews

A. None

VII. Commissioner Updates/Review

A. Master Plan Review – Commissioner Sarin

Commissioner Sarin met with parks staff regarding project master plan review and discussed what standards would be needed to ensure comprehensive review and uniformity. Sarin presented a draft of the review procedures to the Commission as follows:

- 1) Commission site visit
 - Review the site and objectives (from staff), during initial presentation by consultants
 - Specialty of the site – staff, Commission discussion or site visit
 - How does the park plan work together with the objects work together with the property and site. (Active, passive, lay of land – constrains). Signage – interpretive, ballfields
 - Program development – programming on site
 - Site maintenance – costs
- 2) Consultants – 2nd meeting
 - Review of consultant results from public meetings, design related to review
- 3) 3rd meeting – final presentation

Commissioner McDonald recommended adding the current procedure of group (Parks & Trails Commission, Arts Commission, Planning Commission, Pedestrian Bicycle Committee) presentations by consultants which was not only beneficial in discussions, but also a good way to save time and resources. Director Larsen suggested it be added to step 2.

Commission Sarin asked Commissioners to comment on the draft. After comments are received she will finalize and email to Commissioners for final review.

B. LEED Design – Commissioner Smalling

Commissioner Smalling discussed the findings on his research on the city's policy on LEED design requirements for private and public construction. He noted that it is suggested that city projects be designed per LEED Gold standards, not necessary certified.

Process costs range from \$100k to \$200k; noting that a good portion of the costs goes to the design consulting team (who ensures that requirements are being met) documentation, and certification fee.

Commissioner Smalling suggested that the threshold be raised from \$1M to 2% of the project costs (\$10M) for major building or remodeling projects. He also added that the city's efforts in maintaining quality LEED study standards are an important step in the process. Commissioner Smalling noted that he would like to modify language to his previous motion (see January 2011 meeting minutes) to,, "The Redmond Parks and Trails Commission encourages the Redmond City Council to adopt an ordinance or mandate that all new or remodeled public facilities that cost over \$10M to construct, or any major renovation of an existing facility, and in whole or in part by the City shall be designed, constructed and submitted for U.S. Green Building Council LEED Certification at the Gold level or higher. The use of bid alternatives for Platinum certification is encouraged to be included in any design build formatted project construction. The Commission supports a motion to encourage Council members to adopt a USGBC LEED certification or other similar third party rating system for all future construction projects". Commissioner Smalling added that this would coincide with the staff's interpretation and allows further updates to rating system.

Commissioner Sarin stated she felt there needed to be a limitation on precise wording, as to not affect those projects that are currently city projects or limit what the city may want or can accomplish, taking into consideration monetary aspects.

Commissioner Smalling commented he would like to add, "...we encourage that projects under \$10M would adhere to the LEED Gold standard, but necessarily..."

Commissioner McDonald recommended removing the words "mandate" and "major" from the request to Council, which was agreed upon by Commissioners.

Commissioner Smalling will meet with Cathy Beam, Planning and Community Development Planner, to continue further discussions and will report back to the Commission at a later date.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by Smalling to adjourn

Second: Sarin

Motion carried: 8-0

Next Commission Meeting

March 3, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Redmond City Hall

Council Conference Room