

City of Redmond  
PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

Redmond City Hall – Council Chambers  
15670 NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street, Redmond Washington

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

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Meeting Convened: at 6:32 p.m.  
p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10

Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Craig Larsen, Director of Parks & Recreation  
B Sanders, Sr. Parks Planner  
Carolyn Hope, Sr. Planner  
Sharon Sato, Dept. Coordinator

Youth Advocates Present

Priya Ganesan and Mandy Lin

Absent and Excused: Commissioner McDonald

Audience – 0

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I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

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

II. Approval of January 6, 2011 Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Sarin to approve the February 3, 2011 meeting minutes with the following amendments: under New Business – Parks Bond Discussion – change wording to reflect, “.....the brief overview related to a potential future bond measure”, and in reference to what date the Commission would like to see a potential bond measure – precinct data (clarification on data presented), previous bond rate, dollars of bond that expired recently, and greater public input as the process moves along.

Second by Commissioner Smalling

Motion to approve minutes carried: 7-0

III. Items from the Audience

None

#### IV. New Business

##### A. Redmond Foundation – Jeni Craswell

Ms. Craswell spoke to the Commission regarding the functions of the foundation, future endeavors and goals in the community.

Background – Redmond Foundation originated as a request from the mayor to create a partnering non-profit to work with the City to address needs for parks, trails and events.

Ms. Craswell noted that community input indicated that parks, trails, and events are important factors of the city. It became clear that support would need to come from the Foundation, as well as support by the City.

Vision – “Who Redmond is and where is Redmond Going”? Community wants an individual/unique identity and does not want Redmond to grow tremendously. However, the community would like a more vibrant downtown, more actively, and more opportunities.

Vision process – begin process reaching out to the entire community (lives, works, plays in Redmond) what should Redmond look like in 100 years – parks and trails and events that celebrate who we are will be a significant part of that process. The Board has put together a strategic plan to put organizational elements of the Foundation in place. Organizational planning included early fundraising (individuals and corporate donors) for operations. Shifting the focus, emphasis and work on the entire community.

Rebranding Campaign – name change to Realize Redmond. The Foundation would like to use the Downtown Park as part of their rebranding campaign. The Downtown Park will be the Foundations first capital campaign. Public launch is targeted for June 2011, based on inter-working and timing (coordinated effort).

Goal – reach out to the community, bring community together to envision what they would like projects to look like and raise funds to create project.

Earliest fund raising effort for the development of the downtown park (est. \$6M) will be mid-2012.

Ms. Craswell requested questions, comments and ideas to her email address – [jeni@realizedredmond.org](mailto:jeni@realizedredmond.org).

- B. Juel Park Pea Patch/Community Garden – Greg Byszeski/Carolyn Hope (handout)  
Mr. Byszeski gave the Commission an update on the success of the Juel Park Community Garden. Mr. Byszeski noted that the Juel Park garden is the Parks Department's first attempt, which was very successful. The department added several extra garden plots to accommodate the waiting list (22 participants, total). The goal of the garden was to provide a safe, clean, and healthy place to socialize, grow food, and feel safe (clean soil and water, and structure).

Mr. Byszeski reported that public parks and open spaces (not necessarily city owned property – rights of ways, open lots, utility property, private property, developer property) can play a big role in the bigger picture of food sustainability (edible landscaping, vertical gardening, roof top gardening, and education). He added that people use the garden as a place for contemplation, gathering, growing flowers, a food resource and artistic expression.

Ms. Hope reported that, with increasing interest, the city is working on several comprehensive plan amendments that encourage community gardening and encourage private developments to allow community gardening in open spaces.

Mr. Byszeski stated he sees an opportunity, in the future, to partner with Full Circle Farms, who might provide support, in building a community garden at the Sammamish Valley Park site. He also added that there is interest by neighbors in the SE Redmond neighborhood to build a community garden. Informal discussions have taken place regarding what may be good potential locations and what perimeters identify good sites. In reservation programming, the vision would be to have one central reservation site on the web to visit to reserve a garden plot from several community gardens located around the city. He added that the city is partnering with Redmond Elementary School to experiment with "hay bale" gardening (March – June).

Discussion took place. Mr. Byszeski handed out a Juel Park community garden brochure explaining the history, seasonal plot schedule, frequently asked questions, and registration.

Mr. Byszeski will return to discuss the Park's Department's future plans to expand the community garden concept to other parks in the system. He will discuss locations, costs and sustainability of sites.

- C. New Park – Commission Sanko and B. Sanders (PP Presentation)

Commissioner Sanko gave background information regarding a proposed park idea and Ms. Sanders gave property information.

Background: The park property is located off of West Lake Sammamish Parkway Street approximately above the fork between West Lake Samammish Parkway and

Bell-Red Road. The property is two lots with abandon buildings, surrounded by greenbelts, a pond, and stream. One property is in foreclosure (north property), and one to be short platted, no vehicle access, greenbelt (huge buffer zone), not part of sub-division, and large trees on site.

Rationale for Neighborhood Park: no playground in close proximity, steep hill, no land in area available, neighbors are willing to help with labor, help provide park amenity in neighborhood, and give neighborhood children a safe place to play. The distance to other neighborhood parks is: 1.2 mi. from Idylwood and Westside Parks, 1.3 mi. from Cascade View, 2.4 mi. from GrassLawn Park, and in close proximity to Marymoor Park. A park in the neighborhood will increase property values.

Ms. Sanders reported that each parcel equals approximately 1.03 acres (approximately the same size as Sunset Gardens, Scott's Pond) in size. Assessed value for both sites is approximately \$561,000.

Mr. Larsen agreed that this is an underserved area and an opportunity.

Commissioner Sarin suggested tabling the item for a motion to a future meeting, after staff meets with King County to discuss pending future plans of Marymoor Park.

Staff will add this project to the Capital Improvement list and will investigate costs and funding sources and will return next month with more information.

## V. Old Business

### A. MPD/Bond/CIP – Hope/Larsen (handout) (PP Presentation and handout)

Ms. Hope reported that at the February meeting staff presented a brief overview of potential funding sources, she added that she would be discussing current costs of parks, voting trends for bonds in other cities, and review potential funding packages.

Ms. Hope proceeded to explain where CIP dollars originate and sources of funding (remaining previous year funding, impact fees, transfer, general fund transfer, real estate taxes, other contributions, interfund transfers, sales tax, REET, interest on investments, etc.).

Funded (key projects)- Downtown and Overlake Centers, establish neighborhoods, Fire Station 17, Redmond Central Connector, Downtown Park, extension of 164<sup>th</sup> and 161<sup>st</sup> (downtown across from BNSF tracks) and Redmond Way Stormwater Trunk.

She noted that the parks budget is normally between \$1.5M - \$3M yearly.  
6-year projected CIP (adopted)

- 2012
  - Redmond Central Connector construction - \$1.6M
  - Downtown Park (remaining dollars)
- 2013
  - Centennial Trail
  - Improvements at Farrel McWhirter
  - Meadow Park Sports Improvements
- 2014-2015
  - No dollars
- 2016
  - Dudley Carter Park
  - Trail Easements

The 6-year CIP is consistent with the current Parks Plan (PARCC Plan). Ms. Hope noted that 12% of the capital budget goes to park (\$8 of CIP a year).

| Bond Amount | Per Household | Per Month |
|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| \$30M       | \$76          | \$6       |
| \$100M      | \$253         | \$21      |

Does not include operating levy from 2007 (\$ .05 per \$1,000 house value = \$24 year).

Voting Trends:

- 2003 – King County Park Levy - approved 57%
- 2007 – Parks and Recreation Proposition – approved 59%

Option A (Improve and Build)

|                    |              |  |
|--------------------|--------------|--|
| Neighborhood Parks | \$12M        | Downtown, Westside, SE Redmond                                       |
| Community Parks    | \$10M        | Perrigo, Idylwood, Farell McWhirter Sports fields                    |
| Trails             | \$5M         | Redmond Connector, Centennial, PSE (Rose Hill), PSE Easement, others |
| Recreation Centers | \$4M         | Teen Center, Sr. Center (Ph. 1)                                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>\$31M</b> |  |

Option B – Option A + \$35M Pool and Community Center

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Option A                | \$31M        |
| Pool/Community Center   | \$35M        |
| Hartman (Redevelopment) | \$ 4M        |
| Sr. Center - Ph. 2      | \$ 2M        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>\$71M</b> |

Option C + Option B

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Option B  | \$71M        |
| Field House<br>(indoor/outdoor)<br>facility for active sports | \$10M        |
| Redmond Central<br>Connector – Ph. 3                          | \$ 6M        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$87M</b> |

Further discussion took place. Mr. Larsen would like to refine the lists and have a discussion at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Hope inquired if Commissioners needed any assistance with their public involvement campaigns (postcards, survey - Survey Monkey) efforts to educate the community on a potential bond/levy (What three park projects/improvements/additions would you like to see in our community?) measure.

Ms. Hope will forward a list of organizations that Commissioners can select from to make their presentation to.

Commissioners agreed that at the April meeting they would like to discuss the pros and cons of a levy or a bond measure.

B. Youth Advocate - Rice  
Tabled to the March meeting.

VI. Project Updates/Reviews  
A. None

VII. Commissioner Updates/Review

A. Master Plan Review Process – Sarin (handout)  
Commissioner Sarin reported that she had sent an email out to all Commissioners and staff regarding the corrections on the Master Plan review. She asked the Commissioners to review the document and email her with comments.

VIII. Adjourn  
Motion by Smalling to adjourn  
Second: Sarin  
Motion carried: 7-0

Next Commission Meeting

March 3, 2011  
6:30 p.m.  
Redmond City Hall  
Council Conference Room