

City of Redmond
PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

Farrel McWhirter Park
19545 NE Redmond Road
Redmond Washington

Thursday, June 7, 2012
6:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened: at 6:45 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Commissioners:

Tina Sarin, Chair
Tom Sanko, Co-Chair
Cindy Jayne
Sheri Sanders
Peter McDonald
Colin Worsley
Nicholas Lee
Barney Kinzer
Joel Cherkis

Staff:

B Sanders, Sr. Park Planner
Dave Tuchek, Park Operations Manager
Eric O’Neal, Park Operations Contract Manager
Mark Hickok, Recreation Division Manager
Cindy Johnson, Recreation Program Manager
Sharon Sato, Parks Planning Dept. Coordinator

Youth Advocate

Paul DeWater

Audience – Tom Hinman, Miguel Llanos, Lynn Lambert, and Anton de Leon

Chair Sarin announced that this would be Commissioner Jayne’s last meeting and thanked her for her time served on the Commission. Commissioner Jayne has been on the Commission since June 2006.

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

Ms. Sarin called the May 2012 Commission meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed guests, commissioners, and staff members.

Chair Sarin welcomed Commissioners, staff and audience and introduced newly appointed commission members Barney Kinzer, Joel Cherkis, and Nicholas Lee. Each new Commissioner introduced themselves; highlighting their backgrounds and favorite recreation activities.

Chair Sarin, on behalf of the Commission, thanked Ms. Johnson for the farm tour given before the meeting.

II. Approval of May Minutes

Motion by Commissioner McDonald to approve May minutes as transcribed

Second by Commissioner Worsley

Approved Unanimously: 9-0

III. Items from the Audience

Miguel Llanos – Redmond Historical Society

Mr. Llanos addressed the Commission regarding the Centennial Trail. He asked the Commission to consider a “soft” inaugural of the “yet to be completed” Centennial Trail Loop Trail in commemoration of the City’s 100th birthday celebration. Mr. Llanos suggested organizing an informal walk to debut the trail sometime this year. He suggested late August or early September.

Mr. Llanos also added that the Dudley Carter Park dedication is scheduled for Saturday, September 8th at 1:00 p.m. Lyn Lambert is putting together the history of the park. Ms. Carolyn Hope is putting together a walking tour (along the Sammamish River Trail) from City Hall to the Dudley Carter Park site.

Mr. Llanos has contacted the “Feet First” organization to discuss creating an app for the Centennial Trail. “Feet First” will be working with the Redmond Historical Society to add historical information to the app.

Ms. B. Sanders indicated that Ms. Hope is working on a flyer for the September Dudley Carter dedication. She announced some of the activities that would be on the program.

The on-site kiosk will be used to display historical information about the park site and Dudley Carter. Mr. Llanos suggested including information about why the park was named after Dudley Carter and information about the property before Dudley Carter used the site. He also mentioned including information about the dedication on the City’s website, as well as information about the book.

IV. New Business

A. New Commissioners – Nicholas Lee, Joel Cherkis, Barney Kinzer Introductions

Commissioner Lee – Viewpoint neighborhood resident, grew up in area, enjoys biking and spending time outdoors, experience working on park surveys, and has professional public service work expertise.

Commissioner Cherkis – Union Hill neighborhood resident, mountain bikes, family enjoys outdoor activities, enjoys being part of the community, wanted to give back by serving on the commission and has served on boards of technology and education institutions.

Commissioner Kinzer – Education Hill neighborhood resident, active in non-profit groups and sports organizations, family has used the Redmond Parks facilities (active and passive), wants to serve community, and has capital planning and master planning background.

B. Hartman Park Artificial Turf – Eric O’Neal (handout)

Mr. O’Neal gave a brief history of the existing artificial turf field on the big baseball field at Hartman Park. Mr. O’Neal reported that the existing turf was installed in the winter of 2001 and that the field has been used consistently (approximately 5,000 scheduled games) throughout its 12 years since installation.

Mr. O’Neal reported that the project is in the design phase and that the budget would be closely followed and met. Staff is working closely with user groups (Redmond West Little League, Redmond High School, and DOW Baseball) to make sure the quality of turf and guidelines are carefully met and in line with the high standards set by the City, organizations and users.

Staff is working with D.A. Hogan Associates Engineering and Landscape Architects, a firm that specializes in outdoor sports fields/facilities.

Mr. Tucheck added that typically the City saves 70% in cost of maintenance (water, mowing, fertilizer and overall maintenance costs) over the life of the turf; synthetic turf also increased the number of games that can be played since it can be used in all weather conditions, and the quality of play is a big improvement over natural grass in wet weather.

Mr. O’Neal noted that with new technology of the new field may extend in length, over the current 12 years, of the existing turf.

Mr. O’Neal summarized the schedule for the project - final documents would be drawn up in the next two weeks, bidding will take place in July, to City Council in August, and construction sometime in Late September or early October (weather dependent).

Grants have also been sought out to rebuild the large batting cage at Hartman Park.

C. July Parks and Trails Commission Meeting

Chair Sarin reminded the Commission that the July 5 meeting has been cancelled due to the 4th of July holiday. However, in lieu of that meeting a tour of park projects was scheduled for July 26th.

Commissioners are asked to R.S.V.P Sharon.

D. Commissioner Talk Time – Commissioners McDonald, Worsley and Jayne

Commissioner McDonald

Commissioner McDonald reported on the SR520 Trail at Leary Way and West Lake Sammamish Parkway. He noted the lack of lighting for bike commuters traveling on the narrow and curvy trail coming into and going out of Redmond is a safety concern.

He also reported on Bridle Trails State Park in Kirkland. He reported that the facilities are not heavily used and are for horse and walking use only.

Commissioner McDonald requested that the Parks and Trails Commission receive a report in the future on the Transportation Management Plan. He asked whether any bike accidents have been reported, and about a bike website.

Commissioner Worsley

Commissioner Worsley inquired why there had been little interaction between the Senior Advisory Committee and the Commission. He stated he would like to see a future meeting include members of the Senior Advisory Committee. Staff will arrange a meeting at the Senior Center in the coming months and invite members of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Jayne

Commissioner Jayne reported that the meadow trail at Bear Creek Park behind Safeway (Bear Creek Shopping Center) was very muddy during the wetter seasons and could use some wood chips on the muddy areas on the trail. She also mentioned that the meadow trail isn't obvious when coming from the south and that signage on the southend would be a welcome amenity to the trail.

Commissioners assigned to report at the August meeting – Lee and DeWater (youth advocate).

V. Old Business

A. Outstanding Items from May Meeting – B. Sanders

Ms. B. Sanders reported that each month staff will be providing updates and responses to questions from previous meetings.

A. Dave Chicks trail proposal/inquiry – Mr. Chicks is working with City staff (Parks and Transportation) to discuss this trail proposal. Peter Dane of Public Works has met with him in the field and the trail proposal is in the Transportation Management Plan (TMP).

B. Website –minutes from 2010, 2011 and 2012 and current agenda will be posted to the web and updated regularly.

C. Wayfinding Signs (handout) – wayfinding signs on the Redmond Central Connector will use the same designs as the existing signs recently installed in

the City (Old Town option) will be used, outside of Old Town the standard option will be used. Directional signs will be aimed more to pedestrians and bicyclists at intersections and off trail locations.

D. Connection – SR520 and NE 76th and Redmond Way – Ms. B. Sanders handed out a map of the draft wayfinding configuration of the East Lake Sammamish Trail.

E. Walk and Talk – collaboration between departments, introduction to John Fleming (Redmond Central Connector artist), 120 attendees, art collection exhibit and reception at Veloce in Redmond. Feet First organization was in charge of the event.

VI. **Project Updates/Commission Updates**

A. Dudley Carter Park – covered in “Items from the Audience”.

B. Derby Days Booth Volunteers – sign-up sheet will be emailed to Commissioners. Volunteer Commissioners are needed for various times slots during the day (July 14). Time slots are in one hour increments. Commissioners are welcome to volunteer for as many time slots as they wish. This year’s theme will be the Downtown Park (What would you like to see at the park?) and will be staffed to accommodate a larger number and type of interactions with the public. The booth will be staffed during each time slot by one Park Planning staff member and 1-2 Parks Commissioners and one Arts Program staff member and 1-2 Arts Commissioners.

C. E-mails – NRPA, WRPA, etc. – Staff discussed whether commissioners would like to receive their city emails through their personal email addresses or through an email box set up for city business only. Staff is looking into individual city email boxes.

D. Spiritbrook Park Grand “Re-Opening”

Ms. Sanders reported that staff is working on the opening day celebration. Ms. Sanders has coordinated with the staff at Ben Rush Elementary School to make sure it does not interrupt the school’s planned year-end activities. Ideas for the celebration would be a small barbeque and/or neighborhood picnic. Information will be sent through the school’s PTSA’s weekly newsletter and on sandwich boards at the park and at the school. A press release will be sent out to the local paper well before the event.

The celebration is scheduled for June 26 at 12:15 p.m.

E. Downtown Park (handout)

Ms. B Sanders reported that a three prong approach will be taken to activate the Downtown Park this summer;

- 1) Prepare the site – minimal site work is proposed for this year, and is designed to maximize visibility of the site. Proposed work includes banners on light poles, red bistro tables and chairs, an evergreen hedge along Redmond Way.
- 2) Provide events and activities – a new event called Sundays in the Park will offer the book mobile, the City’s Poet Laureate and LeRoy Bell on stage and will kickoff and provide casual Sunday afternoon entertainment.
- 3) Plan for interim site development – the City will launch a planning process for the interim development of the park site.

Event schedules for all the summer long activities at the Downtown Park will be handed out at Derby Days.

Commissioners discussed future free WiFi access at the park site.

VII. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Jayne

Second: Commissioner Sanko

Motion carried: 7-0

Next Commission Meeting

July 5, 2012

No Meeting

July 26, 2012

Commission Projects Tour

6:00 p.m.

Redmond City Hall

August 2, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Grass Lawn Park Pavilion