

City of Redmond
Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes

Redmond City Hall and
Remote Meeting via MS Teams.
May 4, 2023
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. -Meeting

Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commissioners in Attendance:

Jim Kleppe, Chairperson
Ella Elman, Vice Chairperson
Tammy VuPham
Garrett Michaud
Kristina Wayland
Stuart Hargreaves

Youth Advocate

Joshua Feldon
Jamie Judah-Bram

Vacancies

(0)

Absent and Excused:

Shelly Bowman
Jennifer (Jen) Brun
Gary Smith

Absent and Unexcused:

Staff in Attendance:

Caroline Chapman, Park Planning Manager
Cameron Zapata, Senior Park Planner
Valerie Asaro, Parks Operations Administrative Assistant

.....

.....

I. Call to order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kleppe at 6:30 p.m. with five commissioners in attendance and the Chairperson.

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made to approve the May 4, 2023, meeting agenda as written.

Motion by: Commissioner Hargreaves

Second by: Commissioner Michaud

Motion Carried: 5-0

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the April 6, 2023, meeting minutes with the amendment to make the following corrections:

- Change unexcused absences for Commissioner Hargreaves and Commissioner Brun to excused
- Correct the spelling of Commissioner Michaud’s first name in section IV, item a.

Motion by: Commissioner Wayland

Second by: Commissioner Michaud

Motion Carried: 5-0

III. Items from the Audience

Audience member, Mr. Gottgetreu made comment towards the sign-up procedure for the National Trails Day Event.

Another audience member on the phone conference audio line asked for more information about pollinator conservation. The topic is not on the agenda and the audience member was asked to email Ms. Chapman with their questions.

IV. New Business and Guest

a. Volunteerism in Parks, Cameron Zapata, Senior Park Planner

Ms. Zapata explained a pilot volunteer program for the City. She described the City’s current efforts with volunteerism, and explained what other cities are doing in the region. She said Jason Brown is the City’s Volunteer Coordinator.

Ms. Zapata encouraged an exercise of answering a series of questions about volunteerism. The exercise generated a discussion about the priorities the Commission has towards the volunteer program. Some suggestions were, larger “one day” corporate events, regular volunteer presence in the parks to maintain invasive species, web site content about a park, social media content, and park docents who are knowledgeable and present to answer questions in the parks.

Further discussion took place regarding types of volunteer work desired, community groups to reach out to, what the participant finds meaningful about volunteering, and specific areas that should take priority.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Pop up Dog Park Update, Caroline Chapman, Park Planning Manager

Ms. Chapman reviewed questionnaire responses from the community and said the results will be reported to the Council.

b. Retreat Follow up: Rules of Procedures, Caroline Chapman, Park Planning Manager

Ms. Chapman reviewed the Rules of Procedures revisions that were discussed at the April 6, 2023, Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission Meeting. Additional revisions were as follows:

- **Strike item #4:** – It was noted that ordinance 4.10.030B5 covers the procedure for absences.
- **Preamble:** A request was made to keep the preamble or include “as noted in the ordinance”.
- **Strike a section in item #5B:** A request was made to strike the following portion of the first sentence; “and be responsible for updating and recommending amendments to the operating procedures of the Commission”.
- **Correct wording in Item #6:** Replace the word “Chair” with “Chairperson”.
- **Question about Item #11:** Commissioner Wayland would like to know the meaning of this rule.
- **Correct wording in Item #17:** A request was made to change the wording in the first sentence from “officers” to “members”.

Ms. Chapman confirmed that voting for the revisions on the Rules of Procedures can be canvassed among the Commission members.

VI. Staff Updates

a. Ombuds – Ms. Chapman reported a few comments made about the dog park.

b. Community Gardens at Juel & Marymoor Village – Ms. Chapman described how Parks Operations staff is preparing the new garden plots to open at Juel Park on May 12, 2023.

Ms. Chapman explained how the development at Spectra Apartments, in Marymoor Village will provide 42 new garden plots that will be open to the public. The plots will be available on a first come first serve basis. She explained the amenities that will be provided.

c. PARCC Plan Update – Ms. Chapman explained edits are being made by the consultant, Steve Duh. She said a study session with Redmond 2050 will take place, and the PARCC Plan is on track for adoption in the fall of 2023.

d. Southeast Redmond Park Update – Berger Partnership will lead the masterplan development for Southeast Redmond Park. The scope of work has been given to Planning staff. Public outreach will take place in the summer of 2023. The contract will move before the Council on May 16, 2023.

- e. **Bear and Evans Creek Relocation** – Ms. Chapman explained how permits for this project have been delayed by one year, and work is anticipated to begin in 2024. She explained removal of the canary reed grass continues.
- f. **Derby Days Do Gooder Scholarship**
Commissioner VuPham volunteered to participate in reading, evaluating, and scoring applications for the Derby Days Do Gooder scholarship.

VI. Commission Talk Time

a. Trails Day Check-in/Update

Chairperson Kleppe said that he submitted the link for the volunteer sign up on the Nextdoor app. He recommends sharing the link on other platforms. A suggestion was made to contact the Redmond High School track coach for possible volunteers.

b. Seattle Times: Urban Trees

Commissioner Elman summarized an article in the Seattle Times about a nonprofit organization formed by American Forest, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. She said the organization is called, the Washington Tree Equity Collaborative. The Collaborative will support projects that assist with increasing the tree canopy across cities in Washington.

Commissioner Elman explained funding for this program stems from the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. The Act included 1.5 billion of funding for the USDA Forest Service’s Urban and Community Forestry Program, with \$6 million going to Washington State. Commissioner Elman urges the City of Redmond to take advantage of this funding opportunity, as well as other grants offered by the Department of Natural Resources.

c. Topics for Commission Deep Dive

The commission discussed ideas for topics to cover in future Commission meetings. Suggestions were as follows:

- o Wetland Mitigation Banking
- o Parks Trails & Recreation Foundation
- o Social and economic stratification with tree canopy and climate

d. Commission Contact List

Chairperson Kleppe asked if the commission would be interested in a contact list of the Commission. There were no objections.

e. Commissioner Leaving

Chairperson Kleppe announced Commissioner Brun will leave her term early, due to relocation.

f. Name Tags

The Commission asked if new name tags will be provided with the new Commission name, Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission.

VII. Adjourn

At 8:25 pm Chairperson Kleppe declared the meeting adjourned.

Redmond Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission
May 4, 2023

Next Regular Meeting

June 1, 2023
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.