City of Redmond
Parks and Trails Commission Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Redmond City Hall
Council Conference Room
August 2, 2019
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. -Meeting

Parks & Trails Commissioners in Attendance:
Shelly Bowman, Chair
Shailee Jain, Vice Chair
Aaron Knopf
Gregg Gottgetreu
Susan Robertson
Heather Sheffer
Gary Smith
Joel Cherkis
Kate Simmons, Youth Advocate

Absent and Excused:
Luke Rusak, Youth Advocate

Staff in Attendance:
Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning and Cultural Arts Manager
Jeff Aken, Senior Parks Planner
Jeff Hagen, Recreation Manager
David Tuchek, Park Operations Manager
Eric O’Neal, Operations Contract Administrator
Cindy Johnson, Outdoor Program Administrator
Julie Holmes, Department Administrative Coordinator

I. Call to order/Welcome
Meeting was called to order by Chair Bowman at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of June 6, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes, and the August Agenda
A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2019 meeting.
Motion by: Commissioner Cherkis
Second by: Commissioner Sheffer
Motion carried: 7-0
II. **Items from the Audience**
No audience members were present

III. **New Business**

Chair Bowman announced that this is the last meeting for Commissioner Knopf. He was a commissioner for 7 years with the City of Redmond and his time and effort are very much appreciated.

**Farrel-McWhirter Dogs in Barnyard (Action Requested)-Cindy Johnson Outdoor Program Administrator (Handout)**
Historically, FM Farm Park, the entire 68 acres, has been open to dogs. Ms. Johnson is proposing to keep the park open to dogs except for the barnyard area. Ms. Johnson spoke about a recent incident at FM Farm Park where a leashed dog was visiting the barn area with its people and managed to kill a chicken. Due to this and increasing awareness industry-wide, they are asking for a change in the park rules which would make the barn area off limits to dogs. Discussion was held.

A motion was made that the Commission approve not allowing dogs in the secured barnyard area of Farrel-McWhirter Park effective immediately.

Motion by: Commissioner Gottgetreu
Second By: Commissioner Robertson
Motion Carried: 7-0

**Hartman Park Fields 5&6 Turf Replacement, Dave Tuchek, Park Operations Manager and Eric O’Neal, Park Operations Contract and Project Management (Handout)**
Mr. O’Neal gave an update on the replacement of the synthetic turf at Hartman Park. The turf was installed on fields 5 & 6 in 2006. There are drainage issues which the City is trying to address along with the replacement of the turf. He brought samples of the product to be used for educational purposes and spoke about the timeline from this point forward. The goal is to have City Council approval at the August 20, 2019 meeting with construction beginning in early September. Discussion was held. Mr. Tuchek added that the lifecycle of turf is 12-13 years.

**Grass Lawn Park Sports Field Lighting conversion to LED, Eric O’Neal, Park Operations Contract and Project Management (Handout)**
Mr. O’Neal explained that Grass Lawn Soccer Field 1 and Softball Field 1 currently have “soft light” installed. The big baseball field was fitted with LED lights as a pilot project. A budget offer was written this past cycle and it was approved for this retrofitting project. It is an efficiency measure with a high return on investment to replace the lighting with LED. This will result in a 50%-60% energy savings and another budget savings in cost to maintain. The lifecycle of these fixtures is approximately 20 years. Discussion followed.

**Introduction to Welcoming Redmond**-Moved to September 5, 2019 meeting due to Fire Chief-Tommy Smith’s schedule.
Comprehensive Plan, Carolyn Hope Parks Planning and Cultural Arts Manager (PPT)
Ms. Hope led discussion on the proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan. She explained that the Parks and Recreation Department asked to be placed on the docket for the Comprehensive Plan Amendments in order to update the Trail Map and the PARCC Plan. Work will also include the Parks American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan and the Facilities Strategic Management Plan. Ms. Hope spoke about each of the areas that will be proposed and provided the information in detail in the Commission Packet. Comments from the Commission will be incorporated into the next version of the memo and the discussion slated for September.

Westside Park Update-Jeff Aken, Senior Park Planner
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is due 8.13.2019. Mr. Aken noted that the City is working from the preferred conceptual plan that was completed in 2009. The hope is to begin the outreach phase in the Fall of 2019 and move the construction phase to 2020. Mr. Aken will include an update at the next meeting with information from the respondents.

IV. Old Business

ADA update for Parks and Trails, Jeff Aken, Senior Park Planner
Mr. Aken updated the Commission on the progress of the ADA Parks Transition Plan. Staff is developing a two-year workplan for 2019-2020. Prioritization of parking, pathways, and restrooms at community parks will be addressed as well as detailed cost estimates for design, contracting and construction.

Sound Transit/Park Replacement Property, Jeff Aken, Senior Parks Planner
Mr. Aken briefed the Commission on the park property replacement about the Sound Transit project. In building the project, Sound Transit needed .1 acres of park land on the western side of 154th. Sound Transit has proposed the replacement property along the Redmond Central Connector at 166th Avenue NE.

Commission Rules of Procedure- Action Requested-Jeff Aken, Senior Parks Planner
A motion was made that the Commission forward the 2019 Parks and Trails Commission Rules of Procedure to the Mayor’s office and the City Attorney for legal review.
Motion by: Commissioner Smith
Second by: Commissioner Sheffer
Motion Carried 7-0

V. Commission Talk Time, Dave Tuchek, Park Operations Manager, Jeff Aken, Senior Planner, All Commissioners

Idylwood Park Beach Closures, Dave Tuchek, Park Operations Manager
Mr. Tuchek spoke about the recent closures at the beach due to water quality issues. He stated that the irrigation system is adjusted to short intervals meant to disrupted water fowl. We hope to have some educational pieces from King County. Discussion was held.

At 8:30PM a motion to was made to continue the meeting past the 8:30PM advertised time.
Motion by: Vice Chair Jain  
Second by Commissioner Robertson  
Motion carried 6-1

**Tree Canopy Outreach, Commission**  
Discussion was held around the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan. Thoughts from the Commission included:

- Updating the city webpage with an acceptable tree species list and a section on how to get involved-shared ask/responsibility.
- Hosting a booth at So Bazaar. Email Jeff Aken if you have availability to work the event.
- Green Redmond-Teresa Kluver, Park Operations Supervisor is working on identifying park sites for additional four acres of canopy.
- Vice Chair Jain asked for more outreach and education for the public on the Tree Canopy.

**Closing ceremony for Redmond Pool-Held over for next meeting**

**Derby Days Debrief-Held over for next meeting**  
Other (once around)

**Director Update, Jeff Aken, Senior Planner**  
Mr. Aken announced that Carrie Hite, our new Parks and Recreation Director, is starting on August 19, 2019. Carrie Hite will attend the next meeting.

**Sustainability Program Manager, Jeff Aken, Senior Planner-Held over for next meeting**

**Commissioner Search/Transitions, Jeff Aken, Senior Planner**  
Mr. Aken announced the search for two commissioners is underway.

**VI. Adjourn**
Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Jain  
Second by: Commissioner Cherkis  
Motion  
Time: 8:45 PM

**Next Regular Meeting**  
Thursday September 5, 2019  
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Redmond City Hall  
Council Conference Room