



City of Fairview
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2015

PRESENT:

Steven Marker, Chair
Brian Grattan, Vice Chair
Garth Everhart
Jeff Arnold
Steve Kaufman
Kate McLaughlin

ABSENT:

Councilor Steve Prom

STAFF:

Allan Berry, Public Works Director
Sarale Hickson, Development Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Marker called the meeting to order. Development Analyst Hickson called roll.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Committee Member Everhart moved to appoint Chair Marker as Chair and Vice Chair Grattan as Vice Chair for 2015 and Committee Member Arnold seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. REVIEW AND ADOPT MINUTES

Committee Member Everhart moved to approve the December 18, 2014 minutes with corrections and Committee Member Arnold seconded.

Chair Marker read the statement he read at the September 3, 2014 City Council meeting requesting authorization to send a public notice; which was approved by Council. He inquired if a public notice had been sent to the residents in the Lakeshore Park area. Staff replied their understanding was a survey was go to out with the January bills and potentially targeted areas as well. Staff's intent is to solicit from the public what they would like to see in the park. Chair Marker asked when talking about sending out a public notice, is it a public notice or a mailer? Staff replied the intent is to send out a survey to get input from the public. Committee Member Everhart clarified there will be two documents: a survey and then later on a mailer. Staff replied yes, the survey is expected to go out in the February utility billing and possibly to the neighborhood separately. Chair Marker remarked he thought the survey was more urgent and expected it to go out in December. Committee Member Everhart clarified the neighborhood cannot be targeted within utility billing; all of Fairview will receive it. As with Park Cleone the hope was it would be a targeted mailer to the neighbors, or those who actually use the park, so the results would not be diluted. Is the survey useful if it is from the entire city? Director Allan replied yes, he believes so from a city stand point. Doesn't see the downside for the whole city to know we have a great park and what they would like to see there. Committee Member Kaufman remarked the results can be weighed based on where the responders

live. Development Analyst Hickson replied there are ways to capture that information i.e. “Do you live within walking distance of the park?”

Motion to approve minutes passed. Committee Members Kaufman and McLaughlin did not vote.

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAINED: 2 – Committee Members Kaufman and McLaughlin

4. STAFF UPDATES

Salish Ponds: Director Berry reported speaking with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and they have agreed to meet. They recognize the need to mitigate the impacts of people along the shore lines. He also received information regarding stocking by a private group and estimated cost. (*Exhibit A*)

Chair Marker noted the private group that delivers fish will have to pay ODFW for the permit to do so. Chair Marker inquired if Plan B is for the city to pay for fish stocking or ODFW to stock. Director Berry answered still need more information but from staff's view Plan A is to maintain the quality of the current environment with no degradation and determine if it is possible to do so and stock the pond. Committee Everhart commented if ODFW stocks the ponds and advertises it we get free fish, but we lose the park or we go to Council and request funding (\$2,000 twice a year) for the city to stock the pond but we don't publicize it. The kids get to fish but it not a guaranteed fish result and the park doesn't get degraded. Still gathering data, commended staff for securing a meeting with ODFW.

Committee Member Kaufman commented on a “catch and release” fishery. To do so would require limiting type of hooks and requiring artificial bait. Fish caught on bait tend to swallow deep and don't tend to survive release. Committee Everhart remarked policing it is the issue; ODFW will not assist with that. Director Berry noted public works staff is concerned about monitoring fishing activities as well because hooks and lines get left endangering the birds, the bathrooms tend to get trashed, etc. Committee Member Everhart commented we can get the data from ODFW, and try it and see what happens. Make a one-time \$2,000 recreation expense and monitor the impact to the park over a year. Need to honor the commitment made to the fishing people prior to the parks restoration, but also need to prevent degradation to the park, and part of the recreation plan is to get fishing for kids. Don't have to make a long term commitment, try for a year. First need to see what ODFW is willing to do. Director Berry noted ODFW agreed to meet in January, but a date has not been set yet.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (Public to be heard)

No public to be heard, but Chair Marker made a statement. “I feel like I have been disrespected by a member of the staff here and in fact I think our whole committee has been disrespected by the article that was in the Portland Tribune and the one that was in the Gresham Outlook. They are both published by the same publishing company. Allan, you and I had a discussion a long, long time ago when we were working on Salish Ponds and you had gotten an article produced by somebody and you had said you had done a lot of stuff and everything like that and this committee, it was almost like we are not even here. I talked to you about it and you said that you were sorry and that you would not let it happen again. And now it has happened again and I'm really upset because I thought that this committee and the city are supposed to be working as a team. When I read this article there was no mention of the Fairview PRAC and what work we have done to try to help the

parks in this town. I'm very unhappy. I'm upset to be truthful and honest with you. I can't believe that you would leave us out."

Director Berry, "You know when these articles are not written by staff, we answer questions..."

Chair Marker, "It doesn't matter."

Director Berry, "Quite frankly I thought it was a very positive article about the park. We answered questions, they write their article. We don't see it before it is published."

Chair Marker, "Well the bad part about it, here ...and I want to...just a couple of items in this article that I turned around and saw. One, is you say "I know these people they love the nature located next", I went down to ten people in neighborhood and they said they never even heard of you. So how can you turn around and say "I know these people?""

Director Berry, "The question there...they were asking me about the FLPOA membership and the FLPOA people have all indicated they love their natural environment: the otters, the birds, and the turtles. That was what that was about."

Chair Marker, "But the thing about it is, is FLPOA is only one part of this equation. We've got a bunch of people, a bunch of residents that live right on Lakeshore Park and right near it that use it every day and..."

Director Berry, "And like I say, that's answering questions and they write an article."

Chair Marker, "Then you have another one here, "What we want it to be is a resource. This is an approach we've been thinking of." Who's we?"

Director Berry, "Well, this is staff..."

Chair Marker, "No, no, no. It is not staff, it staff and the PRAC."

Director Berry, "Well, no, I mean PRAC is an advisory committee to..."

Chair Marker, "We are and we are not even getting credit for being that. Staff is taking over everything. We ought to just turn around and name all of these parks Berry Park. Every park in town. Berry Park."

Director Berry, "We answer questions and, I mean that's..."

Chair Marker, "It's not right. It's not right at all. And how you can let something go like this in print and not even talk to us is beyond me."

Director Berry, "We don't see it until after it has gone to print. Quite frankly I thought it was a very positive article."

Chair Marker, "It is a positive article, but what I am saying is...I will give you an example. I don't mean to turn around and embarrass anybody. I go to Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church. We have a member on our committee here who is principal at that school, Fairview Elementary School. We have people from our church that go and help with the kids. The people that go and help with the

kids when they come back to church they are recognized...they are asked to stand up in church and they are asked to be recognized for them going and having a really, good and meaningful time with the kids at Fairview Elementary School. I'm not saying that I want you, or I want the Portland Tribune, or the Gresham Outlook to publish any names from this committee. The only thing that I am asking you is to mention our committee, period. Because it seems like everything is staff driven and to heck with us. And it is not right. I am almost willing to bet you that if you ask some of the other people on this committee they feel the same way that I do. I didn't put any words in anybody's mouth before I came here. As a matter of fact, nobody knew that I was going to say anything about this."

Committee Member Arnold, "I think if you are going to be interviewed about parks, I think it would have been helpful maybe...the Chair or Vice Chair had been present on that interview it might have...maybe wouldn't have felt so blindsided."

Director Berry, "These things happening...I mean, I think if you don't like us talking to the press and answering questions you should go to the Council and ask that we don't do that. I have no problem telling people we don't answer questions. I have no problem doing that at all. We try to get the word out about the positive aspects of Fairview. The idea is not to offend, and I am offended that you even infer that I would get any kind of personal gratification over this. It is absolutely...it is offensive. I have no problem not participating in any of those things. The idea is to get...I thought it was a very positive article. It didn't sell the single praise of anybody particularly it just told about the fantastic facilities we have in this city. That is the intent, and that is what it said."

Committee Member Everhart, "I haven't read the article and this could go on for a while. I think the point has been made and I understand where Allan is at in terms of being asked for comment. I think the way it could be handled in the future is you as chairman could write a letter to the editor pointing out the works done. Obviously, Director Berry always has the opportunity to correct the record afterwards; he could have elected to write a letter to the editor after the article reminding them of the volunteer work. It didn't happen, but maybe that is something city staff could consider in the future when they present information to the press. I agree with Allan, I have been quoted and miss-quoted, Allan doesn't get to see the articles. But it could be something the city could do... that is when a director does make comments and committees are left out that the director can write the record in a letter to the editor or somebody else in the city could, to validate what the committees do. That maybe a way to head this off in the future."

Director Berry, "Like I say, I thought it was a very positive article. I have to leave right now. We will talk about this later for sure."

Chair Marker, "The only other thing about this article was it seemed like...and everybody read it the way they want to, but it seems like in the article we are wanting people to use Park Cleone as a place for play and not want it for Lakeshore Park. That is the other thing that I noticed in the article that we are earmarking Park Cleone for the kids to go play in because it has a play facility and Lakeshore doesn't. That was the other thing that I wasn't very happy about either. That is my only gripe that I have. Does anybody else have any opinion about what I said tonight?"

Committee Member Everhart, "I think this something that the city can choose to correct in the future when these articles come out. It is important to share information about the city with the public. I would defend Allan Berry on this, you don't necessarily know what the press is going to write, but directors, the mayor, and the city manager always have the right to write a follow up article

or a letter to the editor to balance the scales so to speak, so no committee or no people are disrespected by being left out for their efforts.”

Committee Member Kaufman, “One thing that I thought when I was reading that that, when they said “we”, I felt I was a part of that “we”. So I guess I don’t feel like that. Being on the committee and working with staff, I was a part of that “we”.”

Chair Marker, “I guess you could read it a lot of different ways.”

6. PELFREY PARK

Committee Member Everhart noted he and Vice Chair Grattan visited the park last week. It is a nice setting, you don’t see much of the lake, it is very wet, and it was not built per the master plan. Took the approach similar to Park Cleone; assess the park against the master plan, the definition of a neighborhood park, consider the different age categories, and the amenities. He commented on the location of a bench located across the wet field, proposed installing a pathway along the northwest boundary to connect the bench and play structure. There are no amenities for children over 6. It would be nice to have a structure for children over 6. He is concerned about the location of the play structure being so close to an intersection with 30 mph traffic. The park benches and tables are nice, but would be used more if set on concrete and not the grass (very wet in winter). He proposed adding a basketball court for older children. Many “public street” hoops are set out in the neighborhood during nice months. Committee Member Everhart noted the proposals fit within the top five priorities for a neighborhood park and he would support any effort PRAC could get behind in seeking funding to make these kinds of changes.

Chair Marker inquired what could be done to solve the drainage issue. Committee Everhart replied for good drainage about twelve inches of sand should have been added on top of the clay. He suspects by the conditions it was a “scrap and turf” installation. The park has good slope to it, but with just the clay the water just sits on the surface.

Vice Chair Grattan commented when they visited a lot of joggers were out. The proposed pathway, sidewalk, would be beneficial to the joggers and walkers. There is a doggy pot, but it would be nice to have a garbage can at the north end. Chair Marker noted he sees a lot of people walking thier dogs in the park.

Mayor Tosterud asked if plugging the grass would help, like on golf courses. (Mumbled voices, could not hear responses). Development Analyst Hickson commented we are in an area with high ground water.

Committee Member Kaufman remarked the park is in a great location. It is a popular park and he would support providing additional recreation opportunities. Fixing the drainage issue would allow the park to be used more months of the year. Committee Member Everhart commented providing access via pathways will allow access to the amenities i.e. bench, tables, basketball court which will increase those types of use. Use of the open area eg football during the wet season would destroy the turf. It is fortunate is has not happened yet.

Committee Member Everhart offered to put the items discussed into a list, for recommendation, and submit them at the next meeting. The Committee agreed. Committee Member Everhart requested it be put on the February agenda and Chair Marker agreed.

7. SALISH PONDS

Discussed during Staff Updates. Chair Marker requested to be present at the ODFW meeting, would like to hear what ODFW has to say. Development Analyst Hickson will notify Director Berry of the request.

Committee Member Everhart asked if there would be a Council Liaison by the next meeting. Mayor Tosterud replied he thought he would be here tonight. Council Prom is the new liaison.

Committee Member Everhart Proposed briefing the Council Liaison prior to the ODFW meeting, so two people could be available for the meeting in case one cannot make it.

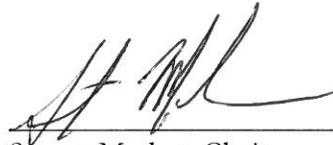
8. TENTATIVE AGENDA – February 19, 2015

- Pelfrey Park Recommendations
- Review Recreation Plan – Break into Segments; Process for Update

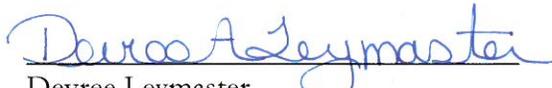
- Pocket Park History – March 19, 2015

9. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Everhart moved to adjourn the meeting and Committee Member Kaufman seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM.



Steven Marker, Chair


Devree Leymaster
City Recorder



Date

A complete recording of this meeting is available by contacting the City of Fairview Administration Office,
1300 NE Village Street, Fairview, Oregon 97024 • 503.665.7929

1-15-15

Allan Berry

From: Allan Berry
Sent: Friday, January 02, 2015 10:05 AM
To: Parks Advisory Committee
Subject: Salish Ponds

Greetings and Good Morning,

I have talked to Todd Alsberry (ODFW) and he agreed to come out to Fairview this month to discuss stocking options. I explained our concern with regard to the degradation of the banks and related maintenance concerns, and he concurs that any stocking would have to be controlled and monitored.

I also followed up with a private stocking group and we could put 1000 fish in the pond for approximately \$1500-\$2000. That is based on the fish being diploid and 8-9". There is a permit to be obtained but the company make that application for us. We can discuss this more when we meet.

Happy New Year to Everyone. I hope 2015 brings only good things.

Allan

	<p>Allan Berry, PE Public Works Director City of Fairview 503.674.6235</p>
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