



City of Fairview
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2015

PRESENT:

Steven Marker, Chair (left meeting ~5:50 PM)
Garth Everhart
Jeff Arnold
Darren Riordan
Steve Kaufman (arrived late ~6:00 PM)
Councilor Steve Prom

ABSENT:

Kate McLaughlin

STAFF:

Sarale Hickson, Development Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

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

2. REVIEW AND ADOPT MINUTES

Committee Member Everhart moved to approve the February 19, 2015 minutes with a minor edit and Committee Member Arnold seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. ELECT VICE CHAIR

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

4. STAFF UPDATES

Development Analyst Hickson reported the following.

- Tomorrow is the deadline for submitting the Lakeshore Park Survey. Have received 190 responses to date. Results will be tabulated, including comments, and presented (potentially) at the next meeting.
- Checked on the height of bushes being trimmed in the pocket parks. They have to be pruned above the bud and that is the height of the bud.

Committee Member Everhart inquired about the formal process for PRAC to make a budget request for funds to be allocated for fish stocking at Salish Ponds and removing the stonework and installing concrete near the pavilion in Community Park. Development Analyst Hickson replied the requests should come from PRAC and she was not sure of the date budget requests were due. Committee Member Everhart proposed adding PRAC's budget recommendations to the April agenda for discussion.

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

Vice Chair Arnold inquired about the grant Friends of Fairview received for the plantings at Fairview Woods Park. Development Analyst Hickson replied the plantings were part of the original plan and the city would have done the project if the opportunity for volunteers and funding had not arisen. The city leverages opportunities, volunteers and/or funding, when they are available.

Committee discussed the city creating a list of grants. Development Analyst Hickson noted the direction for staff to research and compile the list would need to come from the Department Director. There are a lot of grants available; researching and vetting the criteria can be time consuming. Committee Member Riordan noted Friends of Fairview is building a grant database.

6. PELFREY PARK

Mr. Henry Pelfrey and Ms. Lynna Woods were invited to join the discussion regarding the review and recommendations for the Pelfrey Park master plan update.

The group discussed adding a basketball court to the park. Mr. Pelfrey noted the park is used frequently by kids playing soccer; not sure a basketball court is appropriate for the park. Committee Member Everhart remarked during the summer, kids frequently play basketball in the street; would like to provide a safe and easily accessible place for them to play. Ms. Woods commented most residents are happy with the parks as they are. Prior to the park's construction many ideas were vetted, including a basketball court. The final design was constructed with the assistance of a landscape architect. She would expect that the Lakeshore Park survey results will indicate most residents want to keep Lakeshore as a natural park and would assume the same would be heard, keep as is, for Pelfrey Park. Potentially there could be support for a "natural style" play structure at Lakeshore but does not think there will be support for basketball courts. Committee Member Everhart noted the park was not constructed per the master plan.

Mr. Pelfrey commented Pelfrey Park has about a 2% grade and installing a basketball court would require grading work to bring it to a level grade. He also noted half of Lakeshore Park was built to meet wetland mitigation requirements. The area under the power lines is the only area amenities could be added. Committee Member Everhart remarked that is the area being considered for a play structure and the master plan also supports the location.

Committee Member Riordan asked about expanding the walking paths at Pelfrey Park. Committee Member Everhart replied the suggestion was to install a pathway along the northwest boundary to connect benches located in the back near the creek with the play structure. The grass is very wet during winter and crossing the park is not feasible without getting wet and/or muddy.

Ms. Woods commented the design of Pelfrey Park as it seems safe. There are no complaints and no teenage issues. Mr. Pelfrey proposed, and if approved, repurposing two small gazebos salvaged from the Park Cleone Park project to cover picnic benches; providing parents and patrons a place to sit out of the sun or rain.

Ms. Woods asked if there will be a Pelfrey Park survey similar to the Lakeshore Park survey. Committee Member Everhart replied Lakeshore had a capital budget for improvements; Pelfrey Park at this point is a master plan update only with no associated budget. Typically a survey is not initiated until there is an associated budget.

Committee Member Everhart noted only two parks have basketball courts for teenagers and queried if the group is not concerned for youth and teenagers playing in the streets. Committee Member

Riordan commented it is a different experience playing in front of your home vs. a court at a park and wondered if there are enough basketball players that would go to the park.

Mr. Pelfrey reiterated soccer is very popular, maybe more so than basketball, and putting a basketball court in will take way from the soccer opportunities. If PRAC recommends installing a basketball court only put in one park not all the parks. Should also consider who will patron the park in the evening; basketball court could bring in teenagers/adults from out of the area and increase issue in the park i.e. smoking/drinking. Committee Member Everhart noted the police enforce park rules and if there is an issue with undesirable evening activities than the park hours can be adjusted providing increased enforcement options for the police.

Committee Member Riordan moved to strike the half-court basketball court from the plan and add re-engineering of the gazebos to install over the two picnic tables on the parks south side and Vice Chair Arnold seconded.

Committee Member Kaufman proposed deferring the basketball court decision pending the experience from Lakeshore Park. Keep the basketball court option open.

Committee Member Everhart moved to re-engineer the gazebos to install on the south side and defer the basketball court pending the Lakeshore Park experience and Committee Member Riordan seconded. The motion passed unanimously. *(Committee Member Riordan withdrew the prior motion and the Committee supported the motions withdrawal.)*

7. RECREATION PLAN

Committee Member Everhart requested clarification regarding the tasks as directed by Council. Vice Chair Arnold replied the direction from Council is to create a recreation webpage design with links to various identified recreational opportunities for citizens of all ages i.e. Troutdale Recreation Program, Reynolds School District, Boys and Girls Club, County Library, Metro Parks and Recreation etc., identify opportunities for low income families or reduced cost opportunities, and identify transportation accessibility of programs.

The Committee agreed the recreation plan is still fairly applicable; the primary hindrance to fully implementing the plan is people/staff time. The Committee agreed the focus is not on recreating the plan, but on updating the information and making it available via the website. Committee Member Riordan noted he has accumulated 85% of the local recreational data. This information does change frequently and should be updated at least quarterly. Committee Member Everhart proposed to make the information web friendly; create a recreation drop-down tab, descriptions of each of the opportunities and links to websites with current information (dates, times, etc.)

Committee Member Everhart inquired about the status of subsidizing program for Fairview residents in the Troutdale recreation program. Councilor Prom replied Council has discussed offering a subsidy program for Fairview families but no final decision has been made.

Committee Member Everhart proposed if the city does initiate a subsidy program, instead of having families apply for a rebate from Fairview, having the city pay a flat fee to Troutdale each year and in turn Troutdale would charge Fairview residents as they do Troutdale residents. It would be simpler for Fairview parents and saves staff time for processing the rebates. The Committee agreed it better serves the community to pay the subsidy upfront. They discussed making a motion to recommend the proposal to Council.

Vice Chair Arnold proposed each member bring what recreation information they have to share to the next meeting. Committee Member Everhart suggested creating a master list, writing a one sentence description with a link to the website (verify URL).

Committee Member Everhart moved to recommend City Council allocate \$5,000 for an IGA with the City of Troutdale to cover premiums for Fairview kids to partake in the Troutdale recreation plan in fiscal year 2015-16 and Committee Member Riordan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Prom suggested capping the surcharge per event, i.e. \$5, as they did the total expenditure of \$5,000.

Committee Member Everhart moved to amend the main motion adding a \$2.50 surcharge per event. The main motion was a recommendation; City Council and the City Administrator can vet the details during the IGA negotiation. Vice Chair Arnold seconded the amendment to the main motion. The amendment to the main motion passed unanimously.

8. POCKET PARKS

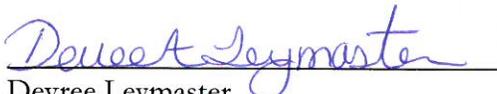
Committee Everhart remarked the issue is not getting rid of the pocket parks but the associated maintenance costs. Options include selling the property, even following the process to sell city property, the cost would be nominal; or lease the property if the city provides water. Need to determine what value there is to the person taking ownership or leasing the property. Committee Member Riordan suggested reducing maintenance costs by removing the turf and installing low maintenance landscape options. Committee Everhart noted how the city allocates the maintenance costs, the parks that serve as detention ponds for stormwater treatment, and proximity of parks where staff and equipment will already be dispatched, will all need to be evaluated to determine if the turf can be removed and what the true savings would be. City could lease the pocket parks to the HOA's and reimburse the HOA for maintenance. The HOA's can secure private maintenance options vs public employee costs for maintenance; resulting in reduced costs, but there would need to be an incentive for the HOA's to do so i.e. ability to make changes.

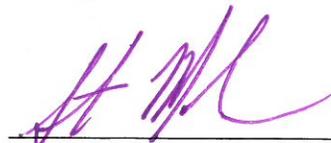
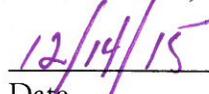
9. TENTATIVE AGENDA – April 16, 2015

- Budget Recommendations
- Web Content for Recreation Plan
- Pocket Parks

10. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Kaufman moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice Chair Arnold seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM by consensus.


Devree Leymaster
City Recorder


Steven Marker, Chair

Date