



**Clackamas County Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes, Tuesday January 18, 2022
Via Zoom Webinar @ 6:00 pm**

Members Present: Rob Smoot, Mike Ferrell, Mark Elliott, Tom Hester, Dana Hindman-Allen, Walter Hull, Louise Lopes, Don Morgan, Justin Ostrander, Morgan Parks, Eric Pfeiffer-Robinson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Tom Riggs, Mark Shaw, Sarah Eckman, Barb Guthrie, Thomas Gray

Guests Present: Gordon Tolbert, Total Golf Management

I. Call To Order

Rob Smoot called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm

II. Citizen Input & Correspondence

Walter Hull and his wife went out to Eagle Fern Park recently; people were fishing near the newly reconstructed dam area. The area looks very nice, and he wanted to tell everybody to go out and take a look at it. The staff did a terrific job on the project.

III. Meeting Minutes

There were some suggested amendments to the meeting minutes from November's meeting. These amendments have been incorporated into the minutes.

Amendments include:

- Clarifying that the Boones Ferry Marina roof is still under warranty
- Concerns the number of boat slips at the Marina and the possibility of adding slips to rent at Hebb Park
- Mike asked about the reasoning behind adding office staff/supervisors in lieu of field staff. The Dump Stoppers office position is grant funded and part of the Forestry Division; the Parks Operation Supervisor position was Tom's old position, not a new one. Additional field staff will be added as funding is secured.
- Tom Hester asked if there was a question of the parks survey about perceived value versus cost. It was not on this year's survey, but could be added to future surveys.
- Additional information regarding donation boxes at Wagon Wheel and Knights Bridge and if that would be a factor in Metro bond money used at those sites.

Rob called for a motion to approve the minutes from November 16, 2021 with amendments; Walter so motioned, Louise second the motion, minutes were approved by the PAB.

IV. Stone Creek Update – Gordon Tolbert

- We had 15 inches of rain in November at the course, 14 inches in December and we lost a week due to the snow in and around the Christmas holidays.
- We missed our numbers for December, January is off to a better start- more dry days. We made \$30,000 in the last four days.
- The walk-in cooler is being installed-about half way done.
- The course stood up well to the wet weather
- Nets are back up.

- The nutria problem continues- they and the beavers are something that the course will deal with ongoing- we remove them and the following week they are back. There is no stopping them.

V. Selection Of PAB Officers for 2022

No nominations were received prior to the meeting. Tom Riggs called for nominations from the floor. Rob was asked to continue as Chair, but he asked if someone be willing to chair the PAB, considering he has done it for many years and thought it was time for someone else to have the opportunity to do this.

Justin Ostrander was asked if he would like to be Chair, and he agreed that he would be willing to do so. Discussion followed about nominations for Vice Chair; Mike Ferrell agreed to continue as Vice Chair. Tom Riggs called for the members of PAB to vote via the Chat function on Zoom. Justin was voted in as Chair, Mike Ferrell as Vice Chair.

Justin will Chair the meeting at this point.

VI. Interview PAB Applicants

Justin started the interviews by introducing a possible new member, Charles Parker, who owns his own Advertising and Media Production company. He Lives in Lake Oswego. Justin began with each PAB member and staff member present to introduce themselves. Questions and answers followed and then discussion between the current members followed.

Justin called for a motion to approve Charles as a member, Tom Hester so motioned, Louise seconded, motion carried. Justin then called for a motion to reappoint Tom Hester and Louise Lopes to the PAB; Rob motioned for the reappointment, Dana seconded the motion; motion was passed.

VII. Action Item 22-0101 Park Fee Increases for FY 22/23

Tom reviewed the spread sheet sent out to the PAB concerning our proposed fee increases for next fiscal year. We have been looking into a 25% surcharge for out of state RV campers similar to the one that Oregon State Parks has adopted. At present, our reservation system cannot accommodate this function, but we are working to see if that can be accomplished.

Basically, we will ask the Commissioners to increase the fees across the board by around 8% and to implement that change as of July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The other important change will be to the parking fees. Currently they are \$8 per car on the weekends, and \$6 during the week. There has been some confusion with park staff and the inability of the reservation system to consistently charge the right amount at all times for parking. We are proposing to have one fee for all days, \$8, which we will ask to be implemented as of May 1, the beginning of the camping season.

A motion was called for to accept the proposal for fee increases; Mike so motioned, Rob seconded the motion, it passed.

VIII. Budget Updates

We have been considering pursuing an operating levy or a bond or System Development Charges to increase revenue and have been in conversations with leadership. Additionally we are planning to ask for more general funds from the county budget. Staff has come up with a list of staff positions we need to fill moving forward.

- Restoration of three park ranger positions in the field.
- Realignment of positions funding sources- Tom is currently funded from Parks, Forestry and Economic Development- Sandy in Parks and Forestry.
- Support the pay increase for seasonals.
- Have been losing ground on keeping parks in good repair-maintenance backlog.
- There is also a need to restore office staff as well.
- And funds for future planning and other improvement to the parks.

Discussion followed with members concerning the concerns with relying on general funds - which is never a sure thing- that developing a revenue stream with a more diverse portfolio would be better. It will be requested that if we receive additional general fund monies that these funds stay in place until we can put in place other funding sources. Charles offered to do some work on our marketing messages on getting a levy passed if we do go that route. Members also mention donations and possible naming rights for picnic shelters, etc.

IX. Park Updates – Tom Riggs

Tom Riggs suggested that due to the length of the discussions concerning the above items, and the length of the meeting to this point, the Parks Updates will be held over to the next meeting in February.

X. Good of the Order

Tom reviewed with the PAB members some of the ins and outs of linking up to our zoom meetings and how to load the invitation that Tom sends out to PAB members on their respective calendars. Sometimes the invitation gets lost in your spam filter so check there. Tom will be re-sending the invitations for next month's zoom meeting, and hopes that will make it easier to connect. When looking at the invite- be certain to scroll down further into the link and click on the "JOIN MEETING" not the first link item at the top of the invite. Hope that helps.

VII. Adjournment

Justin called for adjournment at 8:05 pm—Rob so motioned, Walter second.