



Clackamas County Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes, Tuesday May 16, 2023

**Hybrid online or at Development Services
Building, Room 401, Oregon City, OR 97045
@6:00pm**

Members Present Via Zoom: Justin Ostrander, Morgan Parks, Rob Smoot, Eric Pfeiffer-Robins

Members Present at DSB, 401: Mike Ferrell, Dana Hindman-Allen, Louise Lopes, Walter Hull, Tom Hester

Members Absent: Don Morgan, Charles Parker

Staff Present: Tom Riggs, Dan Johnson, Chris Dannenbring, Mark Shaw, Barb Guthrie, Thomas Gray

Staff Present: Commissioner Mark Shull

Guests Present: Mike Turley

I. Call To Order

Justin Ostrander called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm

II. Citizen Input & Correspondence

Commissioner Shull asked to bring to the Board's attention to Dodge Park. It is right down from his property and near the confluence of the Sandy River and the Bull Run River. It is currently owned and operated by Multnomah County- they are not keen on maintaining the park. My question for the Board, would you want me to begin to advocate for Clackamas County Parks to take over the care of this park?

III. Meeting Minutes

Justin called for a motion to approve the minutes from April 18, 2023. Motion to approve the minutes with was called for; Rob motioned, Louise seconded the motion; minutes were approved.

IV. Stone Creek Update and Financial Review – Mike Turley

It has been a very wet spring, May has been drier and warmer; on the warm sunny days the course is very busy. We are getting into the routine of golf course maintenance-with the warmer weather the grass has to be mowed almost daily. Tournaments are starting up again and looking forward to a very busy season.

V. Budget Info/Discussion - Chris Dannenbring

Chris presented an overview of our budget: our capital projects for next year will be scaled back. Our operating budget for 23/24 is projected to be \$2,973,175- that is the requested budget amount. (The Budget Summary for 23/24 and Purpose Statement was shared with the Board). Total revenue is set at \$3,489,755. Operating expense is set for \$3,212,351. Total expense, Debt Service, special payments, transfers, etc. is \$3,489,755. Revenues less Expenses is \$516,580.

We are looking to develop a more stable revenue stream and how to minimize allocated administrative costs. Dan Johnson was introduced to the PAB and he spoke about Parks being under the Department of Transportation and Development, which has changed the Parks budget development. We are looking for ways to increase our revenues and will look for new and creative ways to this. We will work closely with our Tourism Department and look for funds they have available; such as funds for the new primitive tent and van sites at Metzler and others at Barton Park. As for Stone Creek, Dan and Sarah are working on setting a baseline transfer balance from Stone Creek each year at \$225K. It could increase, depending on the outlook of their revenues. We are working with Metro to get our local share of the bond monies, with public outreach benchmarks.

Chris noted that our budgets are tied to performance measures, and shared the proposed new measures for Parks, including “Identify Two Surplus/Under Performing Properties for Liquidation by 2025”. This prompted much board discussion about how to define surplus or under performing in the context of public parks, which have inherent value to society, wildlife and other environmental benefits. It was noted that the ad hoc committee on outlying properties had generally recommended against getting rid of park lands. A question was asked if this had anything to do with the courthouse funding, staff clarified it did not, but was about operational efficiencies, what we can afford in the Parks program, and how to get the most ‘bang for our buck’ in delivering park services. Clarification was sought if the selling of some properties in our portfolio might enable us to take on new properties, such as the 180 acre offered donation, and staff confirmed they considered that a possible favorable outcome. Conservation values were reiterated, and staff clarified that liquidation could include transfer to another entity with a conservation mission, or could include exchanging property for other property better suited for Parks use. It was suggested that we continue the discussion in the context of “if” we sell 2 properties, what we would hope to do with the revenue from those sales. Before the end of the meeting, staff clarified that the “Surplus/UnderPerforming” language had actually been removed from the performance measures in the submitted budget, and it now reads “By 2025, County Parks will liquidate two properties”.

VI. Administrative Updates – Tom Riggs

- a. Metro Local Share—We have 5.3 million dollars ear marked for us, but there are certain thresholds in order to qualify for the funds, such as environmental considerations, recreational impact, and other criteria we have had to meet in the past, but for this iteration of the bond, we also need to include outreach to a more diverse population and those that are in marginalized communities. To meet this goal, we are meeting with consultants that specialize in public outreach and will be setting up a process for this outreach. The total cost of the project will be \$75K, monies from Forestry will help to defray this cost.
- b. Park Ranger Coordinator—We are close to making a hire for that position. That person will be the coordinator for the South area, and Thomas will be responsible for the North area.
- c. Other—We recently hosted the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association (ORPA) Counties and Outdoor Recreation section meeting at Metzler Park. Folks from other counties in Oregon came to check out our Metzler Park and discussed association business. The PAB meeting on June 20 will be at Barton Park and the Forestry Board will also attend.

VII. Park Updates – Mark Shaw

1. Wilhoit Trail is complete
2. Metzler Camping Expansion is close to being done and will have primitive tent and van sites. A crew from Department of Corrections helped with the layout and site work, and we added port-a-potties and fire pits. These sites should open to the public the latter part of June.
3. Kids in Parks Signage is being finalized.
4. Barton Boat launch crackseal has been completed, and ready for the busy summer season.
5. Also for the season, we have reviewed and repaired all of the playground equipment.
6. Operational Updates:
 - Hiring of Seasonal Staff –
 - We are off to a good start, staffing at 70%
 - We have potentially 2 shuttle operators for the 2023 season that will run between Barton and Carver.
 - The Boones Ferry Dock Install will start on 5/24.

VIII. Adjournment Justin called for adjournment at 7:45 pm—Tom Hester so motioned, Louise second.