



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
CITY OF ALBANY
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Calapooia Room, City Hall, 333 Broadalbin Street SW
Wednesday, December 14, 2011
6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVE MINUTES November 2011
3. BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC
4. ACTION ITEMS
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. South Albany Area Plan
6. REPORTS AND UPDATES
 - a. Capital Projects Update
7. ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION
9. NEXT MEETING DATE
The next regularly scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, January 4, 2012.
10. ADJOURNMENT

City's Web Site: www.cityofalbany.net



**CITY OF ALBANY
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Calapooia Room, City Hall
Wednesday, November 2, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Commission members present: Mike Graham, Russ Allen, Sharon Edwards, Jill Van Buren, Keith Underdahl

Staff present: Ed Hodney, Parks & Recreation Director; Katie Nooshazar, Recreation Program Manager; Craig Carnagey, Parks and Facilities Maintenance Manager; Debbie Little, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Graham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF September 7, 2011

MOTION: Russ Allen moved to approve the September 7, 2011 minutes as presented. Sharon Edwards seconded the motion, and it **passed** unanimously.

3. BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

a. Follow-up to request for equestrian trails

Ed confirmed the Commissioners' receipt of his e-mail in response to Bruce Erickson's request for equestrian trails. Staff is currently looking into the possibility of opening up a trail to horses on a trial basis at Simpson Park. But it is dependent on a number of factors: the level of demand, adequacy of the existing parking lot, possible effects on Talking Water Gardens, willingness of the equestrian users to police themselves, and the level of maintenance required. Brief discussion followed.

4. ACTION ITEMS: None.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. REPORTS AND UPDATES

Capital Project Update

Hodney reviewed the Capital Projects Report:

- Regarding the East Thornton Lake Natural Area, the auction held on October 6 at the Wheelhouse Building raised additional funds. Currently a table made and donated by Mark Azevedo is displayed at City Hall and will be auctioned off in the future. The process to auction the table is still being determined, with a possibility of targeted proposals to corporations. Bids have already

come in between \$3,000 - \$5,000. Several donations for the project have been received from the residents around the lake.

- Regarding the Timber Ridge School track and soccer field project, the field should be ready for use in the spring of 2012, pending the establishment of the grass. The City will manage facility usage after hours, on non-school days and will not sublet the space. Before spring, there will be a usage agreement created by City in place.
- Regarding the Bryant Park BMX bike course, Ed had a meeting with a representative of a non-profit group that constructs and manages BMX courses. Staff is considering a possible contract with the organization, primarily for the price of insurance to direct the building of a new course using volunteers. They would operate the course for approximately 1-3 years as the City explores the organization of a permanent entity as a 501c3 to take over the operation. The new course would replace "Area 51" that has been torn down, but not in the same location in the park.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recreation Program Manager Katie Nooshazar reported there is group of people that are interested in creating a Fourth of July fireworks event. The option is currently being explored and how it might fit with other summer events such as River Rhythms and Northwest Art and Air Festival. Parks & Recreation will be involved in the event at some level (support, logistics). Ed noted that it would be funded by private sponsors and possibly require parking charges.

Katie confirmed that Parks & Recreation is planning normal events and RFP responses, with several seasonal events scheduled in the next two months. The winter brochure is being finalized. Currently there is a lot of feedback from parents regarding more activities for "tweeners" (13-14 years). Parks & Recreation is brainstorming ideas for possible activities.

Ed reviewed the information regarding the projected shortfall of around \$146,000 in property tax revenues for Parks & Recreation this fiscal year. Wes Hare, City Manager, is presenting options to the City Council that could address the problem for the current year. The City is projecting approximately a one million dollar shortfall this fiscal year.

Next fiscal year the shortfall is estimated to be around a \$1.8 million, a problem that must be dealt with during the upcoming budget process.

8. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

a. Update on Timber-Linn Park soccer field maintenance,

Craig noted park maintenance has been working on issues with gophers through aeration and drainage improvements. Keith has access to donated top dressing materials through AYSO. Discussion continued about more extensive improvements. AYSO can bring in heavy equipment to change the grading; currently there is a low area around Blue Ox RV Park that consistently floods. There is some concern from AYSO about investing in a near-term project in Timber-Linn as a new soccer complex could possibly be constructed in the future in a different location. Ed provided feedback; a new complex is not in the budget for at least the next 10 years. Craig noted there is an in-house plan to address some of the drainage issues, and it is currently on the park maintenance work plan.

Ed had a conversation with a rugby interest about using Timber-Linn for a rugby field and how to approach a collaborative effort with AYSO. Ed is currently waiting on a proposal from the interested party. A synthetic surface could be made available for both rugby and soccer. An

international regulation rugby field would easily accommodate three small fields, two larger middle age group fields, or a full sized soccer field. It is something to take into consideration before earth work, fill, seeding, and irrigation on the soccer area and then propose a rugby field overlay. Keith will update AYSO at the board meeting next week. Ed would like both interest at the table within the next 30 days.

A brief discussion regarding the four trees removed at Bryant Park: the issue received the appropriate review before a final determination for removal.

Russ inquired about the responsible party for the Blue Ox road. There is some confusion about the legality of people parking on the road. The Blue Ox RV Park put the road in, but there was never an easement. The road is on City property, it is regulated and maintained as resources allow. APD decides to enforce or not to enforce traffic infractions.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Little, Administrative Assistant

Capital Projects Report

PROJECT	STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE	NOTES
Bike Park	Council has approved the Skate Park as the location for the Bike Park; Task Force is raising funds at this time.	TBD	TBD
Bryant Park BMX bike course replacement	Working to replace a previously constructed, unsanctioned bike jumps course in Bryant Park with a new facility in a more manageable location.	Spring 2012	Map of proposed new bike course received from bike group; working on an agreement with Black Rock Mountain, a non-profit organization to build and operate it.
East Albany Neighborhood Park Acquisition	City Council has elected not to purchase the property at this time. Staff has been directed to negotiate an option to purchase the site at a later date.	TBD	SDC funded
East Thornton Lake Natural Area	Council has approved final funding strategy to retire \$1 million note due March 2012.	2012	Pepsi settlement funds, Parks SDC, grant funds, private donations
Eleanor Hackleman Park shelter replacement	COMPLETED	June 2011	Private gifts and grants, City resources
Henderson Park playground replacement	Pending resolution of funding issues.	TBD	Grants, donations, annual appropriations
North Albany Neighborhood Park development	CANCELLED. Project has been reprogrammed as ETLNA. City will attempt to sell all or part of the property donated by original developer.		
Park shelters @ Lexington, Tadena, Gibson Hill parks	Postponed due to budget considerations.	Spring 2012	Park SDCs
Pineway Park playground replacement	Indefinitely suspended due to lack of City funds	TBD	Grants, donations, annual appropriations
Tadena Park Wading Pool	Fundraising group established, with target of \$160,000.	TBD	Private funds
Teloh Calapooia Park playground replacement	COMPLETED	Winter 2010-11	Parks and Rec funds, private gifts and grants
Timber Linn Park soccer field improvements	TENTATIVE--AYSO and City are discussing field enhancements to improve playability.	TBD	AYSO, City in-kind
Timer Ridge School track and soccer field	Project under construction.	2011	Pending GAPS contract for track construction
City gyms	Secure use of GAPS and Albany Boys & Girls Club gyms for City programs. Draft agreements with both entities will be ready for consideration in January 2012.	2011-2012	Parks SDC revenues, reallocated from YMCA project