

# DOUGLAS COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting – April 29, 2016

9:00 a.m.

Conference Room 310

DOUGLAS COUNTY OREGON  
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FILED  
MAY 27 2016  
PATRICIA K. HITT, COUNTY CLERK

## PRESENT:

Lonnie Ferber, Jim Peterson, Richard Patten, Don Larson, Bill Swift, Dennis Acton, Greg Logan

## ABSENT:

## GUESTS:

Joe Coyne, Heather Robbins-Hinton, John Hunter, M.A. Hansen, Joe Ross, Diana Wales, Diana Larson, Crystal Lynn Stone, Kat Stone, Alan Buntz, Larry Lynch,

Lonnie Ferber called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Ferber announced the PAB re-appointment of Acton, Swift, Ferber, and that Logan will continue to be on the board until the Board of Commissioners appoints a new member.
- Ferber nominated Acton as the new PAB chairman, Swift seconds the nomination, and the nomination is approved.

## MINUTES:

Peterson motioned for the approval of the March 18, 2016, Larson seconds the motion. Minutes were approved.

## REVIEW AGENDA:

Acton announces the revision made to the agenda for the advisory board meetings and the new process for audience participation.

## AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Agenda Items only):

### Joe Ross

Would like to see the county preserve the parks system and look beyond the day to day management of the parks.

### Diana Wales

Does not feel the agenda has enough information for the public to have the ability to comment, and requested clarification on Logan's re-appointment.

### John Hunter

Agrees with previous statements, and expressed his disappointment with decision to temporarily re-appoint Logan.

### MA Hansen

Agrees with previous statements and stated that one of the Commissioners expressed that they need people on the board that they can work with and that is not controversial.

### Diana Larson

Agrees with previous comments, doesn't understand why this board is called an advisory board when everyone just wants to get along.

### Crystal Lynn Stone

Agrees with previous comments, and feels the meetings are not an advisory board, and doesn't feel that the time of the meeting is adequate. Feels Diana should have been appointed or another qualified person that applied.

Kat Stone

Stated she is a 62 year resident and announced that she will be here to watch how the government is running. States that she feels the parks system should be managed by the private sector just as Saving Grace is and does not feel the PAB is involved enough with the people in the community.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**Grant Applications

The sale of Swiftwater Park is coming to completion, the deed was signed this morning and the escrow documents will be signed this afternoon. The property was sold based on the original purchase and sale agreement for \$1,422,000.00. Due to county policy the money from the sale can only be used for capital improvements.

Crab Dock

The county now has a 30 lease with the Department of State Lands to operate the land, the cost of the lease is \$500 per year with a 2% increase each year. This will allow parking fees to be accepted there and overflow camping.

Land and Water Conservation have notified the county that the grant for \$202,000 has tentatively been approved. The repair process may take some time due to procedures such as SHPO review and in water work periods.

Logan expressed concern that the county is investing money into property that does not produce revenue. Gary explained that we can now charge for parking fees and overflow camping. This should cover the expense for maintenance. Patten explained that many of our campers are there for the crab dock, and also support the local businesses. Swift suggests we ask for financial support, such as "buy a board".

Amacher Boat Ramp

The county has received many complaints regarding the drop off at the bottom of the ramp. The county has received the permit from the CORPS to allow the repairs for this ramp. The county also received approval from Oregon State Marine Board for the grant application. The project estimated cost is \$50,000 the awarded grant amount is \$25,000

Kanipe Trail Grant

Match 20%, the project total is \$40k, the match will be provided by in-kind work. This application is pending

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**Adopt-A-Park document review

Commissioner Morgan explained that these documents have not been revised for a long time. A committee was put together to revise these documents.

"Program Guide"

Commissioner Morgan read the entire program guide to PAB. Commissioner Morgan provided an additional description of the designated areas within a selected park as it is a new option to the program. This document explains the process and procedure for the program. Acton reiterated that only one park can be adopted, or a designated location in the park.

"Application"

Commissioner Morgan introduced the information request in the document and the submission information. Patten commented on advertising the program to get this information out to the public.

Swift comment on funding possibilities

Logan comments on the agreements and options to cancel.

"Agreement"

Commissioner Morgan read the entire contract to PAB.

Patten commented on concern of garbage dumping

Peterson states if you are volunteering you volunteer and do whatever is required, you can't just do what you like to do.

"Liability Release (Adult & Minor)"

Commissioner Morgan reads entire minor liability release to PAB.

Commissioner Morgan asks the PAB for a motion. Ferber motioned to recommend the Adopt-A-Park document as read by Commissioner Morgan to the BOC, Peterson seconds the motion. And the motion is approved.

Commissioner Morgan commented that in addition to the review of these documents in this meeting that the public has had time to review the document prior to the meeting to allow time for the public to comment on the agenda item.

Parks Master Plan schedule

Cowie, Planning Department discussed the postponement of the dates for the master plan. The new schedule of events (see attached) for the remaining process for the Master Plan will be posted on the Parks Department's website. Cowie explained in detail the different categories that make up the master plan. The current plan will be posted online Monday, announced that public comments will be due to the Planning Department by May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. Peterson requested additional information regarding the dates, Cowie explained that the dates listed are the regularly schedule meetings for the Planning Commission workshops and public hearings.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**John Hunter

How much of the crab dock grant will be applied to administrative fees? Requested information regarding previous applications received for the Adopt-A-Park? Requested dates for budget meetings?

MA Hansen

Asked if the Swiftwater sale would have happened sooner would the county have logged Busenbark, feels locals should pay for a portion of maintenance expenses related to the Crab Dock. Expressed her disappointment with the language in the revised Adopt-A-Park document, she feels it doesn't give them any rights. Would like to know what they are getting and feels like a volunteer should be refunded for out of pocket expenses. Asked for clarification regarding 5.2 of the liability forms, and inquired what happens if there are children on site while parent is volunteering?

Diana Larson

Would like to see tourism funding for Crab Dock rather than logging, hopes to see the Swiftwater funds spent wisely, and would like to see women on the PAB.

Crystal Lynn Stone

Feels the government is wasting money specifically on hiring an attorney to draft Adopt-A-Park and have the timber value re-evaluated. Shared her disappointment with the overall process and liability policies.

Kat Stone

Asked for name of chair, and feels that ladies have been discriminated against for coming in late.

Joe Coyne

Thanked the PAB for getting documents online and available prior to meeting. Feels 30 days for the public process for the master plan is not enough time. Asked who changed and/or approved the new agenda.

Joe Ross

Parks master plan, would like to have Cowie explain how the comments have been implemented and would like to receive hard copies of changes and documents. Commented on the parks system being run like a business, and stated he feels the Adopt-A-Park program be more generalized and should be able to adopt more than one park.

Alan Buntz

States he witnessed herbicides being sprayed into ditches flowing into the Umpqua River and does not support the use of herbicides.

Larry Lynch

Recommends garbage bags with logos for disposal at the dump and the use of security cameras be set up to see the people dumping trash.

Heather Robbins-Hinton

Thanks the PAB for the new meeting process and getting the information available online prior to the meeting. Also stated she is happy that the Adopt-A-Park program has continued to move forward.

**PARKS ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS:**

Gary Groth

Explained that the county is adding additional amenities and more developed parks because that is what is used, the current parks are full. This is how we support other parks, the new campground at Whistler's Bend will generate additional revenue (approximately 60K). The busy parks (Coast, Whistler's Bend, etc.) produce revenue that allows us to support the other parks that do not produce revenue to support themselves.

Explained that none of the \$202,000 of the grant for the Crab Dock will go to administration, these funds will go toward permits, engineering, and construction.

Explained that the sale of Swiftwater and the timber harvest at Busenbark are completely unrelated and that the County's capital project list is longer than what the Swiftwater funding alone will cover. Explained that the Crab Dock is not just a service for the local business it is the part of the community and a service to the campground users.

The herbicides used in parks are registered by the State Department of Agriculture, and explained if there is a safety concern regarding the product use then it should be addressed to the State Department of Agriculture. Garbage bags for garbage pickup will still have to be worked on.

Commissioner Morgan

Explained the issues with cameras in the parks, and the Sheriff's Department has not recommended this due to the cameras not having clear detailed footage. This falls back on the citizens being diligent.

On behalf of the BOC would like to thank Ferber for his service as the Parks Board Chairman, and appreciates the time he has been in the line of fire of the last few months. Stated she is pleased to see there is a new process to follow for the meetings that will allow the public to make their opinions known and allow the Parks Advisory Board to clearly take care of the business it needs to.

Lonnie Ferber

Announced that it has been an honor to serve as chairman for this board, and appreciates all the input and support, and suggested the new Chairman coordinate a meeting with the Parks Foundation Board.

Dennis Acton

Provided a brief introduction of himself and apologized to anyone he may have embarrassed.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next park board meeting will be May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Location: Court House Conference Room #311

A motion to adjourn was made by Larson, Swift seconds the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Veronica Van Drimmelen*

Department Assistant, Douglas County Parks Department