

DOUGLAS COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting – December 15, 2016

9:00 a.m.

Commissioners Chambers Room 216



JAN 24 2017

PATRICIA K. HITT, COUNTY CLERK

PRESENT:

Dennis Acton - Chair, Jim Peterson, Richard Patten, Lonnie Ferber, Christine Goodwin, Holda Crocker, Rocky Houston

ABSENT: Don Larson

GUESTS:

Greg Logan, Diana Wales, Jerry Mives, John Hunter, Landa Baily, Joe Ross, Kat Stone, Susan Roden, Diana Larson, M.A. Hansen

Acton called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

MINUTES:

Ferber motioned for the approval of the November 17, 2016, Peterson seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Agenda was approved as submitted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Recognition
 - Houston recognized Bill Swift and Greg Logan for their support of being on the Board. Logan was present to accept his letter, Swift was not.
- Office Position
 - Administrative Assistant position interviews have been completed and an offer has been made.
- Projects
 - Crab Dock
 - Crab dock, waiting for state parks to give us a notice to proceed. Tentatively approved. Hopefully in early 2017 we will have a contract.
 - Windy Cove "B"
 - The new restroom will be a CXT brand prefab building. Working on RFT for the office replacement. Cabin addition is pending, if we need the money due to cost overruns, we will hopefully be able to get that out early spring.
 - Half Moon Bay
 - One change, we had two parks, one for Half Moon Bay and the other for Umpqua Light House for development planning. Now only working on Half Moon Bay.

- Grants we applied for:
 - Windy Cove A restroom replacement has been tentatively approved. Still needs to go in front of the OPRD commission for approval in February.
 - Peterson is a member of the County Opportunity Grant Program. He said that Houston, his staff and whoever prepared the Grant for Windy Cove did a great job, they got second highest score out of all the applicants with only a 5 point spread.
 - Future Grants are to be determined, pending the CIP Process. Consideration is currently going for Half Moon Bay Phase II Development. We would be potentially pursuing an ATV grant as well as a local government grant. Those grants are due until the first or second quarter of 2017.

- Early 2017 items for consideration
 - 12 month parking permit vendors
 - Parking Enforcement options
 - Pay-by-Phone Pilot (parking day use)
 - Capital Plan
 - FY 18 Budget Preparation

- Hawthorn Eradication Party
 - The third Director's Hawthorn Eradication Party is this Saturday, December 17, 2016. We've made great progress, probably covered four or five acres in the past three months. We have about 600 more acres to deal with. In February we will have our next party. After March, we will be moving on to other parks.
 - PAB member has questions on attendance numbers, spraying and other efforts or means to address the Hawthorn at the park.

Questions:

Parking permits

- A review of the prior PAB request to modify the 12-month parking pass program. Staff, Commissioner Boice and the PAB discussed the constraints and options available. The Department will look into discounts if both passes are acquired.

PAB Subcommittee – Capital Improvement Plan / Inventory

- Crocker requested to be part of this sub-committee

Email regarding contracts

- Houston said he had an email with a question on contracts or work for logging and other work. Currently we have one contract or agreement with Brit Nichols, Callahan ridge property that burned in 1953 and we entered into an agreement with the Kiwanis and they would assist in reforestation. It would become an educational process for them. When the trees mature we would share revenue with those two entities. Looking at getting copies of those leases/agreements and get them to the person that made the request.
 - PAB members asked questions about specific examples and requirements.

NEW BUSINESS:

Agenda Item: Parking Advisory Board Members

Presented by: Rocky Houston, Director

Action Item Informational Item

Rocky introduced the two new Parks Advisory Board members Christine Goodwin and Holda Crocker.

Christine Goodwin

Christine lives in Myrtle Creek and owns the SOCO Coffee shop. She has been on several boards over the years including the South Umpqua School Board, UCC Foundation Board, etc. She was the chair of the School Board and took on other leadership roles on other boards. She came to Douglas County as a teacher and coach at Roseburg High School. After leaving teaching, she developed her own company fitness. She assisted her husband in developing their new office and managing the his optometry office.

Holda Crocker

Holda grew up in South Dakota. She went to Stanford University where she received a degree in engineering while being a member of crew. She speaks five languages. Holda has lived in Oakland for more than a decade. She has background in engineering and web design and even has a passion in treehouse design and construction. She works with public schools on projects, and does some teaching for the S.T.E.M. program. She is part of the new principal search committee for Oakland High School. She stated her family has been here in Oregon for over a 120 years. Her mom grew up here and all her childhood camping memories are from Oregon.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parks Master Plan

If the public would like a copy, it is available online to download from our website. Staples will print it in black and white 8 1/2 x 11 pages for about \$18 and about \$45 if you want it in color and oversized maps. The Department will be working on making it smaller pieces online to make it easier to download.

A summary of the Board of Commissioners hearing was made and the concerns raised by citizens. The plan was adopted by the commissioners. On a quarterly basis the PAB will review the Departments plans to determine if an amendment to the master plan is needed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS):

Greg Logan (Elkton, OR)

Greg brought up some ideas on the parking pass program and provided some advice to the new Park Advisory Board members.

Diana Wales (Roseburg, OR)

Diana voiced concerns with spending money on the crab dock, raised some concerns on the parks pass program and raised a question about weed abatement as a part of the grazing lease at Kanipe.

Jerry Mivers

Jerry made some observations about Kanipe, had questions about the parking permit program and who the

concessionaire was at Winchester Bay.

John Hunter (Tenmile, OR)

John agreed with Diana's concern on the crab dock. He raised concerns about the PAB selection process this time and in the past. He does not like that he has to pay for a hard copy of the master plan.

Landa Baily (Oakland, OR)

Landa welcomed the new members. She thanked Rocky for the Hawthorn party, not only for the opportunity to pull the community together in such a great way but also for the, you called it symbolic but it's much more than that, it's a way people to be aware of the park, to participate in a problem solving effort and it's real leadership on your part Rocky, thank you. She reviewed her understanding of the park department's mission and how it can be an economic engine and community builder. Landa had questions and concerns surrounding the parking permits.

Joe Ross (Roseburg, OR)

Joe commented on the selection process for the new PAB members. He reviewed the public comments on the parks master plan. He would like a presentation on the inventory review that we are performing in the future. He would like to have better visitation numbers.

Kat Stone (Roseburg, OR)

Kat had questions about the review of the master plan in the future and what the costs would be. She had comments about the process to appoint the new PAB members.

Susan Roden (Oakland, OR)

Susan provided comments on some future actions of the Department. She felt that the county is trying to discourage use of Kanipe by having two park passes. She discussed the maintenance needs and hawthorn issues, eradication parties and bringing more partners to the table to assist.

Diana Larson (Myrtle Creek, OR)

Diana had comments and concerns on the master plan and process. She had never been to Mildred Kanipe until the hawthorn eradication parties.

MA Hansen (Roseburg, OR)

MA would like to know where the proposed maps are for the logging at Brent Nichols Park. She referenced the rally that was done in protest of the master plan. She doesn't want any chemicals sprayed at Kanipe.

Houston responded to questions.

Commissioner Boice was conferenced in and apologized for having to step out of the meeting he had to go to another meeting down in grants.

I wanted to thank the two former Parks Advisory Board Members for their service and Greg for his comments today. Also thank the new Parks Advisory Board Members for stepping up.

I wanted to address some of the concerns that I heard while we were in the meeting.

- Number one, the crab dock at the coast. Keeping in mind, I understand the concern about that except, know this, the County owns it whether we like it or not. And, associated with that comes a lot of liability.

Even if were to put fence up, which we have done, to keep people out of the parts of that thing that are dangerous, people still get in, they climb over it, they climb on the fence and we own the liability regardless. Keeping that in mind it is absolutely in our best interest to get that thing repaired to a condition where it's safe for people to use. And that's really the issue.

- As far as the Parks Advisory Board appointment process and John Hunter mentioned specifically his concerns about that. It's a little frustrating, I'll tell the issue the way I see it. First of all he's absolutely right. The process has changed depending on which commissioner is liaison on the Parks Board. But understand this, the process changed this time because I listened to your complaints. The first time that this process happened there was a tremendous amount of concern about the board members picking their own replacement? The second time they didn't like the process that Commissioner Morgan came up with and I understand and we changed the process again this time to address those concerns. What we heard was that we wanted some geographic representation and some gender diversity and we accomplished that specifically. I understand the process changed, but the process changed because we heard your complaints. So, that was my goal, we ended up with two people that I'm excited about being on the board, and obviously both of them brought of some very valid points today.
- I think this issue that Holda brought up specifically about the grazing lease at Kanipe, we need to look into that because I think there is some accountability there for the lessee that needs to be dealt with. So I wanted to address those issues specifically.
- If you have any questions for me I will be happy to answer them. I pulled over here, I got good cell service, otherwise I just want to make those few comments and thank everyone for their participation.
- And also, regarding the master plan, most of the folks that are there today were at the meeting yesterday and understand I know it's not perfect but it is accomplishing at this point what we set out to accomplish and I hope we continue to work on it and make it better and address some of those issue that were brought up that were very valid. And I do appreciate people's input. That's all I have unless anyone has any questions. No questions asked.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Greg Logan (Elkton, OR)

While I was on the board one thing that I noticed was that we were always reactive to things rather than proactive to things. It's unfortunate so driven by the budget, because that is not a significant way to manage things. He suggested a PAB retreat to work on annual goals and develop a mission statement.

Acton thanked Mr. Logan again for his service of being on the board.

Diana Wales (Roseburg, OR)

Diana had a concern that leases didn't go through the PAB. She raised concerns with the leases of park property being with the lands department and viewed as similar assets as other county holdings. She doesn't support the crab dock improvements.

John Hunter (Tenmile, OR)

John wanted to know if the park department looked into turning slash into biochar. He identified some uses of Busenbark that are not beneficial.

Landa Baily (Oakland, OR)

Landa indicated that she is a board member of the friends of Mildred Kanipe. She wanted to know how the park's department went from \$22,000 a year in 2012 to \$48,000 a year today to operate the park?

Joe Ross (Roseburg, OR)

Joe wanted to ensure that all of the PAB members received a copy of the letters from SHPO on the parks master plan. He inquired on the status of using park budgeted funds to assist a development for Salmon Harbor. He referenced some opportunities for the department to pursue funding and address the development of goals and objectives.

Kat Stone (Roseburg, OR)

Kat indicated that there is shooting occurring at Busenbark and other activities.

Diana Larson (Myrtle Creek, OR)

Diana voiced concerns with the management of Mildred Kanipe and that the focus of the county has been to log the property since the beginning of it becoming a park.

MA Hansen (Roseburg, OR)

MA indicates that parks are front page news, people are concerned with them. She is part of a new group, the Douglas County Parks Resource Advisory Committee that will be watching out for parks.

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS

Crocker - I she appreciate the participation. I know that at least judging from the commissioners meeting that there is a lot of frustration out there in the communication process and how soon are people hearing what the parks board is thinking. I have not been to many of the parks board meetings in the last several years, but I have been following it in the paper and in conversations. So I think that I second that there is a lot more interest out there than what we are just seeing here. There are people like me, who up until recently, working full time at a job that didn't allow me to be here. I think there is a lot of collaboration that could be happening. There is obviously a lot to be done. I don't envy Rocky's position of having a mile and half of to do items with a limited staff and a shrinking budget. So, any way we can help is going to be importantly. Hopefully we can keep the dialog going even if it's uncomfortable.

Goodwin - I have lived in Douglas County for 36 years and care very much about this county and the people who live in it. I have volunteered my time to learn, to study and to be fair minded at what the problems might be and what good solutions to those problems. I promise you I will listen, I may not always agree, but I will listen for different perspectives and I will try to understand what the variety of solutions are they may be brought forward. I know in our lives there are not always perfect solutions but I will do my best.

Peterson - Greg's encouragement to visit the parks, is very good advice, however don't just go to Whistlers Bend, Mildred Kanipe or Half Moon Bay, go to some other parks that are on the unclassified list and you'll start to understand where some of our trust is coming from. Some of those properties are never going to be parks and never meant to be parks; they are land holding for us. They were given to us as tax foreclosures; we didn't go out and buy them. They had to have a place to put them and they gave them to parks. There's places we can't even get to. You can stand on one side of the road and look and across the river and say yeah we own all of that but we don't have a way to get to it. So, what are we going to do with that? So put that in your final assessment of what do we want to do with parks.

I hope I didn't misunderstand Mr. Mivers comment. I understood him to say that he was finding leased land that was being tie up and locked up are barring access to public lands. Did anyone else understand that? Houston said no. I think what he pointing out was there some timbering holding that have gates, there gating up with because the check point of ownership between BLM and private land limits access to those public

lands behind the gate.

Peterson said so the public lands are not park lands. Goodwin said he's talking about BLM.

The other thing I view the master plan as a living document. My intent in voting for it, at the quarter we will not be taking mass input. The thought was every quarter we need to look at the plan and see if there anything we are trying to do that is being impeded by the plan and is the plan forcing us to do something that we don't need to do or don't want to do. If the answer is no to both of these we move on. We don't have money every quarter to modify the plan for maybe a lot of things that maybe should be in there. But the plan is as it currently stands, meeting the intent that we had when we put it in place and is giving us competitive advantage in seeking grants. We got what we wanted.

Joe Ross said that when he made the suggestion yesterday that when we in new information that is consistent with the plan comes in, don't just file it away, but document the plans, it's called plan maintenance. You just update stuff that's consistent with the plan without going through formal review.

Houston - Said we won't be amending the plan unless we go through a process, but if there is information is would be brought to this group.

Acton motioned to adjourned.

Adjourned 12:06 pm

NEXT MEETING:

The next park board meeting will be January 19, 2017

Location: Commissioners Chambers Room #216

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Holland

Reservations Specialist, Douglas County Parks Department