

DOUGLAS COUNTY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting on March 15, 2007

10:00 a.m.

Helleck Hall at River Forks Park

PRESENT: Lonnie Ferber, Dennis Acton, Dale Christiansen, Don Larson, Dick Swartzlender, Bill Swift, and Jim Dowd

ABSENT: Jon Hill (excused)

GUESTS: Commissioner Joe Laurance, Bobbi Jackson

Ferber called the meeting to order.

MINUTES: Don Larson moved for approval of the minutes with the spelling correction of Dale Christiansen's name in the first paragraph. Dick Swartzlender seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Park Department Budget

Dowd reviewed the Park budget in light of the potential loss of the safety net funds. If the safety net is reauthorized for an additional year, the budget will be similar to the current year's budget with the completion of Miwaleta Campground and the roof repairs at Windy "A" restroom. If the safety net is not reauthorized, the lost revenue will cause the department to make a shift in the level of services and number of facilities that we are able to provide and maintain.

After a long discussion and input from the board members of possible ideas to help the loss of funds, it was agreed that the Park Department needs to look for ways to produce more revenue and cut costs. Many ideas were brought forth including "Adopt-A-Park" projects, day use fees, volunteers, and potential fee increases. Dowd handed out a questionnaire and encouraged the board members to come up with ideas and possible questions for the Commissioners.

Helleck Hall Rental Fee Proposal

Dowd reviewed the improvements that have been made to Helleck Hall in order to make it available for the public to rent. Comparable fee schedules were looked at in order to establish what the fees should be to rent the facility. The board encouraged Dowd to look into purchasing tables and chairs in the near future.

MOTION: It was moved by Swartzlender and seconded by Swift to establish the fees of Helleck Hall at \$150 per day for the building, \$50 per day for the kitchen, and \$100 refundable cleaning deposit. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: It was moved by Acton and seconded by Swift to establish a day use rate if used before 4:00 p.m. at \$100 with a refundable cleaning deposit of \$100. The kitchen would not be included. Motion passed unanimously.

Fee Increase Proposal

Dowd explained that Park fees will need to be adjusted regardless of the outcome of the safety net reauthorization. It was noted that fees haven't been raised for seven years. Dowd reviewed the proposed fee increases recommended by staff.

MOTION: Christiansen moved and Acton seconded to accept the fee increase proposal presented by Dowd in his memo. The motion was amended to increase all full hook-up camping to \$20 per night, all non hook-up camping to \$15 per night (year-round fees) with a \$2 discount for Douglas County residents. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Swift moved and Christiansen seconded the following fee increases:

Stanton Group camping - \$200 per night

Whistler's Bend Group camping: Section A - \$50 per night Section C - \$100 per night

Whistler's Bend Yurts - \$32 per night with a \$2 discount for Douglas County residents

Cable T.V. rates - \$3 per day

Amacher Pavilion - \$50 per day

Chief Miwaleta Pavilion - \$50 per day

Pass Creek Pavilion - \$50 per day

River Forks Pavilion: ½ - \$75 per day Whole - \$150 per day

Singleton Pavilion: ½ - \$55 per day Whole - \$110 per day

Swiftwater Pavilion - \$25 per day

Special Event fees:	1 – 100 attendees	\$50 / event
	101 – 300 attendees	\$75 / event
	301 – 400 attendees	\$150 / event
	401 – 500 attendees	\$200 / event
	501 – 600 attendees	\$250 /event
	601 and up attendees	\$300 / event

Motion passed unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Larson inquired about the required number of portable toilets per attendees for a special event and who is responsible to pay for extra toilets. Dowd reinforced that the Oregon Revised Statute does have a required number per attendee and that it is written in each agreement who will be responsible to pay for extra toilets.

Acton inquired on the status of the Pitchford Master Plan. Dowd informed that he will make a presentation at the next Board of Commissioners meeting to ask the Commissioners for approval and adoption of the plan.

Dowd reviewed the proposed Senate Bill 29 with the Board. The proposal is asking for the County's distribution of RV revenue to increase from 30% to 40%. Our portion will also increase once the potable water is in place at Half Moon Bay by 20%. The estimated amount of increased revenue is \$100,000. Dowd has encouraged the Commissioners and the Board to contact Senator Kruse to show our support for this bill.

A field trip was tentatively planned for later this spring. The proposed areas to visit were Half Moon Bay Campground, the coast area by Smith River, Bolin Island, Sparrow and possibly Scottsburg.

It was discussed that camping at River Forks will only be in conjunction with a Special Event and/or use of the Helleck Hall facility.

Dowd informed the Board that they a dog exercise area at River Forks Park where people can walk their dogs on a leash is currently being worked on.

NEXT MEETING April 19, 2007 10:00 a.m. at the Douglas County Park Department office.

A motion to adjourn was made by Swift and seconded by Larson. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Wilson, Office Manager
Douglas County Park Department