



MARION COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

January 16, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

North Santiam Room at 5155 Silverton Road NE, Salem, Oregon

PRESENT: Members: Josh Faulkner, Marty Heyen, Alton Hoover, Ryan Mann, Wayne Rawlins

Board Liaison: Sam Brentano

Staff: Brian May, Russ Dilley, Brian Nicholas, Jolene Bray

ABSENT: Member: Kyleen Zimmer

ADMINISTRATIVE (Information/Discussion/Action)

Call to Order: 1:10 p.m.

Wayne called the meeting to order and attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of November 21, 2019, Meeting Minutes

Marty made a motion to approve the November 21 meeting minutes. Alton seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Public Input

None.

Commission Member Announcements and Upcoming Events

- There were no announcements from commission members.

MEETING DATE / TIME DISCUSSION

Open Council Position

Wayne asked if any recruitments for the vacant parks commission position have been done. Russ said this is done through the Marion County Volunteer Coordinator's office and encouraged commissioners to invite interested persons to apply. Wayne said he would like to share this opportunity with the Hispanic community since they are active users of county parks.

Optimal Time / Date to Achieve Better Attendance

Attendees talked about the optimal meeting date and time for commission members to attend the Parks Commission meetings. After some conversation, Marty made a motion that the Parks Commission meeting time be moved from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to 3:00-5:00 p.m. with the meeting day remaining on the third Thursday of every other month. Alton seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Jolene will send out updated appointments.

PLANNING FOR 2020

Goals / Objectives / Potential Projects

Russ asked the commission to share what goals or objectives they would like to work on in the coming year. Members said they would find the following meeting topics helpful to the commission's work: budget

presentation; parks tour; park project funding discussion; Parks Master Plan overview; and overview of parks building and/or development. Wayne suggested that he work with Brian and Russ to compile a list of the above suggestions and will bring back to the March meeting.

STAFF UPDATES

Budget FY 20/21

Brian M. said the parks program had a very good year and the money from the Auburn Park sale will help with other projects. He said the county also has to do a conversion with the Santana Park property. Russ said while in the conversion process, the Parks Program is unable to apply for any grant funding from the state. Brian M. said the county has decided to not pursue disc golf at Bonesteele Park because of other possible options for the park.

Russ distributed a five-year project list to commission members and said the Auburn Park conversion development is the number one focus in the coming fiscal year. He said several projects were accomplished in the previous year and is looking forward to working on those on the list. Brian M. said Parkdale Park is on the list for 2021-22 because a road improvement project is going to be done on Hayesville Road. Brian N. said public Works will do improvements on the street front, so parks doesn't have to, but parks will have to pay for a parking lot and facilities. Marty asked if Parkdale would be a good use as a soccer field. Brian N. said a lot of the land is wetlands. He said a full-sized regulation field will not fit in the land outside the wetland, and while a smaller field would fit, it would flood during heavy rains which will damage the sod. Brian N. said the property provides some stormwater retention and is completely surrounded by houses so fencing and/or netting would be needed if a soccer field was built. Brian M. said most people use it as a green space, an area to go for walks, and imagines a more nature setting with educational opportunities.

Park Updates

- Labish Village Park - Russ updated the commission on improvements to the park, which include new picnic and bus shelters. He said the picnic shelter has two tables with a concrete pathway leading from the bus shelter.
- New park kiosks - Russ said new kiosk has been installed at Spong's Landing Park. He said a graphic that shows trails and park amenities will also go on the kiosk. Russ said there will also be new kiosks installed at Aumsville Ponds and Bonesteele parks, and shared the new signs that will go in those kiosks.
- Archived news - Russ shared several news articles he found in local news archives.
- North Fork Road Parks - Russ said North Fork Park was closed this week because of the snow storm. He said it will reopen when the weather improves. Russ said Salmon Falls Park is also closed because of ice.
- Property Line Issues - Russ said a survey was done at Salmon Falls Park at the request of Elkhorn Corp. and it found the fence that was thought to be along the property line is actually encroaching three feet. He said this will be fixed. Russ said the fence separating the park from BLM property is also encroaching on their property. He said the county and BLM will work together to resolve this. Russ said they did a survey of the Scotts Mills Park property and found a neighboring property is 1 foot from park property.
- Graffiti Issues – Russ said there has been graffiti issues at some county parks, including the restrooms at Spong's Landing and Bonesteele. He said the person responsible was arrested by Aumsville Police.
- Homeless Camping - Russ showed a photo of a homeless camp discovered at Eola Bend Park. He said it took three visits from the Sheriff's Office before they vacated. He said the site has been cleaned and when weather dries out they will walk that area and clear vegetation for visibility.
- Cougar at Bear Creek Park – Russ said Steve Nerrow took a photo of a cougar track at Bear Creek Park. He said they installed a trail cam but haven't gotten any other photos.

- Rogers Wayside Camera – Russ said they are installing cameras at Rogers Wayside because people are dumping home trash.
- North Fork Corridor Cooperative Agreement - Russ said staff met last week with BLM and are working on finalizing a coop agreement with BLM and the Forest Service. He said they have been meeting for about two years on regular basis about communications and fee collections. Brian M. said the public doesn't differentiate between the different agencies parks and want to have a communication booth that is staffed to answer visitor's questions.
- Parks Work Session – Brian M. said there is a work session meeting with the board of commissioners next Tuesday and they will be discussing the Auburn Park Conversion and Scotts Mills Dam Removal.

FUTURE TOPICS / EMERGING ISSUES / OTHER BUSINESS

Other Business

None.

Future Meeting Topics

- Wayne said we need one hour session that includes training on advisory committee member's roles to help them understand how do to conduct themselves as a county volunteer.

ADJOURN: 2:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: March 19, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. in the North Santiam Room (1st Floor) at Public Works.