

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
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1) **ROLL CALL:**

a) Commissioners-Brad Bafaro, Tammi McLaughlin, Howard Sullivan, Susan Taylor, Paul Waterstreet Absent: Ralph Brown, Kenneth Cobleigh, Mackenzie Johnston Carey, Glenn VanBlarcom

b) Council Liaison-Malynda Wenzl

c) Staff-Tom Gamble and Matt Baum

2) **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None

3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from February, 2020 were approved.

4) **ADDITION/DELETIONS:** None

5) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **Fernhill Wetlands Nature Themed Play Yard (Jared Kinnear)**

(1) Log climber, Nest and Water Play features

(2) Make area flat, add handrail to existing stairs, and decide on safest Nest feature

(3) Slats on Nest feature possibly used for community recognition purposes

(4) Water Play would have activated sprayers, sloped rapids, river system that would drain back to treatment plant to be treated

(5) Numerous benches would be used

(6) No parking spaces will be lost, additional parking may be added as a future project, depth of water 2-3” only and a spongy rubberized material will be used on this project with a possible start date of Dec/Jan and surface weather pending for April

(7) Possible shortage of restrooms with this expansion could result in future addition of more restrooms

Note: PDF will be sent to Tom Gamble for distribution to Rec. Commission

b) **Promotion of Tourism, Branding & Logo (Court Carrier)**

(1) Focus on “traveling” vs. “vacationing” and communicate in a way that welcomes everyone

(2) Digital advertising and a new website that will completed in about a month

(3) Firm guidelines on how the logo can be used (must adhere to colors and fonts)

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intended and get permission for use)

- (4) Currently gathering photos to use that we already have access to
- (5) This could drive the potential for future businesses including hotels, etc.

6) OLD BUSINESS:

a) Updates-Concerning Volunteers of the Year (Tom Gamble)

(1) Reminder about last meetings business (February 2020 due to Covid 19) and a decision passed to move forward with Volunteers of the Year 2019. Mitch Taylor was selected for his individual community contributions as well as the FGSC for their contributions as the longest running non-profit organization in Forest Grove. Selection of these two groups passed.

(2) Discussion about TTM and Susan and Tom Robinson being moved forward for Volunteers 2020

b) Parks Updates (Tom Gamble)

(1) Rogers Park had a large oak tree fall during the wind storms—no damage but with current weather conditions and clean up needed for tree removal, the Rogers Park project will be up to 2 weeks behind original opening date.

(2) Large donor rock will be delivered on site this week

(3) New signage describing appropriate use/time frames on pickle ball courts will be installed soon

(4) Discussion about a “celebration of completion” and possible Commission Board volunteer to help coordinate that event

(5) There have been no further discussions with the group that was interested in the bike jump project at Lincoln Park at this time.

(6) Due to the difficult finances involved with a softball hitting facility at P.U. they have made the decision to put that project on hold at this time.

(7) Shelters and playgrounds have reopened under new Covid guidelines. Tables are limited to (2). Guidance banners posted at each park.

(8) Aquatic Center reopening in early October under strict mandated Covid guidelines.

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7) COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT (Malynda Wenzl)

- (1) Virtual Chalk Art Festival Sat. 9-19-20 with Corn Roast located at Cornelius Cinema parking lot (requires eating in vehicle only).
- (2) Library is offering curbside pick-up and you can currently check out WIFI hot spots for two week intervals.
- (3) Recent fires stretched resources thin and an emergency declaration was completed by Chief Kincaid.
- (4) Three City Council terms are expiring. There are five candidates who have applied. Three of the five would be returning.
- (5) The Police Dept. is back up to a 24 hr. staffing level without having to rely on outside sources. The interim current Chief will remain on for an additional amount of time.
- (6) Referenced Site B will have a specialty type (more similar to a Trader Joe's) store on the bottom and apartments built above.
- (7) Discussion about the Rec Commission's desire to be involved in art/mural installation process when it directly pertains to City parks. The Arts Commission will be coming up with draft/proposals to determine if a project meets proper criteria. New protocols will guarantee all groups are treated equal. After much discussion and because of past involvement from Rec. Commission members, the board decided it would like to be involved in projects specific to parks.

8) STAFF REPORTS: (Tom Gamble)

- (1) Goats are onsite and making good progress.
- (2) Parks staff have been off work Monday and Tuesday due to unhealthy air advisories.
- (3) Matt Baum has been working closely with the Rogers Park contractors and this is the first week that the Parks Dept. is fully staffed with the part time position filled and in the training process.
- (4) RFP for Stites Park Phase 1 for new community garden space possible next spring.
- (5) Private donations not including Harpers Playground (\$400,000) have reached the

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\$200,000 mark for Anna & Abby's Play Yard.

9) **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:** Scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

10) **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.