

# The City of Columbia City

*In Columbia County on the Columbia River*



## PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 23, 2012 - 6:00 P.M. CITY HALL, 1840 SECOND STREET COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018

### **Present:**

Shannon Fitzgibbons, Chair  
Marian Calnon

Nell Harrison  
Leahnette Rivers

**Entrance Sign Site:** Leahnette said no progress has been made on the electricity and flag pole. She said we may need to put this project on hold again until next spring.

**Plant Donations:** Leahnette said three residents have offered some plants to the City for park purposes. She said the plants need to be dug up and moved. It was the consensus of the Committee that the Shasta daisies be planted in the area east of "J" Street and west of the highway, the roses be put on the bank around the entrance sign, and the calla lilies be planted in Caroyln King Park. Nell and Marian will make a decision on where to place the hostas and get back to Leahnette later this week.

**Jim Bundy Memorial Park:** Leahnette said Helen did a fantastic job of designing the new information signs, which are now installed in the kiosk in the park.

**Bike Path/McBride Creek Trail System:** Leahnette said a large dangerous tree that was on the bank above the new picnic area has been removed by a tree cutter for \$750. She said the work crew continues to cut up and remove wood and work on removing the blackberry bushes and other roots from the first leg of the trail system.

Leahnette said the City will acquire a second leg of the property immediately to the west along the south side of McBride Creek in the very near future when the partition plat is recorded. She said she has also been discussing acquiring the property along the north side of the creek with a representative of the property owner to the north. She said the representative suggested that the owner may be willing to trade the property for the installation of a fence along the top of the bank. It was the consensus of the Committee that

Leahnette continue to pursue this and look into the cost of the fence.

Leahnette discussed the Veterans and War Memorial Grant opportunity with Committee Members. She said the grant will cover up to 80% of the project costs, and requires a 20% match. She said the match must consist of at least 10% cash, and the remainder of the match can be in-kind. She said a veterans group must partner with the City on the project. She said the partnership requires, at a minimum, a letter of support, and the support can consist of more than that, such as a commitment to help maintain the site, an in-kind contribution, assistance with the design and/or a cash contribution. She said the deadline for the application is November 16. She said she has been in touch with David Beldon, a local representative of the VFW, who was very interested in the project. He is looking into some items, such as a cornerstone marker, that currently are being stored and are in need of placement somewhere. He also provided her with contact information for the VFW Commander, Jason Hester, and the VFW Quartermaster, Dave Nelson. She said there are also four Columbia City residents that are active VFW members. She said the VFW is scheduled to meet on November 12. Leahnette will work on communicating with the VFW representatives about the project and soliciting their support and/or participation in the project.

Committee Members reviewed photos of the Veterans Memorial located in McCormick Park, along with photos of several other memorials from around the country. Members preferred creating a memorial similar to one designed and carved by Charlie Hunt on granite in memory of all American Veterans. They also preferred the Veterans Memorial located in Santa Clara consisting of a circular area of engraved red bricks with individual granite markers representing different branches of the military. Members agreed that the memorial site needs to include an American flag, which will also require a flag pole, electricity, and lighting fixtures. Leahnette will work on getting rough cost estimates for projects similar to the ones depicted in the photos, as well as cost estimates for running electricity to the site.

*Memorial designed by Charlie Hunt*



*City of Santa Clara Memorial*



**Dog Park:** Shannon said she recently spoke briefly with Patrick Trapp, Executive Director of the Port of St. Helens, about her interest in working with the Port to allow the development of

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a dog park on the Port's vacant property adjacent to "E" Street between First Street and The Strand. She said she'll be meeting with Pat, Leahnette and the Port's Property Manager tomorrow afternoon to discuss the idea.

Meeting adjourned 6:52 p.m.