

The City of Columbia City

In Columbia County on the Columbia River



PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES APRIL 30, 2013 - 6:00 P.M. CITY HALL, 1840 SECOND STREET COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018

Present:

Shannon Fitzgibbons, Chair
Nell Harrison, Committee Member
Jack Hruska, Committee Member
Stan Hopkins, Committee Member
Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder
Sally Ann Marson, City Council Member
Dave Nelson, VFW Quartermaster
Theodore (Ted) Burns, Park Volunteer
Monica Burns, Citizen

Veterans Memorial Park:

Monument: The Committee reviewed the proposal received from Jason L. Jones of Jones Sculpture Studio for the veterans memorial monument. Members were extremely pleased with Jason's proposal, including the design ideas, material selection, project schedule, qualifications, etc.

Moved (Hruska), seconded (Fitzgibbons) and carried unanimously to accept the proposal and recommend the City Council award the contract to Jason L. Jones. Leahnette will invite Jason to the next Parks Committee Meeting.

Flag & Flag Pole: Leahnette said a 30-foot flag pole and a 5' x 8' US flag have been ordered for the park. Dave asked if we'll fly a POW-MIA flag at the site. Leahnette said she had not planned on it due to staffing time associated with putting up the POW-MIA flag on certain holidays, and then taking it down. Dave confirmed that in a Veterans Memorial Park the POW-MIA flag may be flown at all times. Leahnette will look at acquiring a POW-MIA flag for the site.

Quarry Tile Pavers: Leahnette provided members with information about the Seneca Quarry Tiles used in the OSU Alumni courtyard as discussed at the last meeting. She said the glazed tiles will cost approximately \$2.42 each, and the unglazed unflashed tiles will cost approximately \$1.31 each. She said the glazed tiles are available in a variety of colors and can be used to accent the memorial area, but the unglazed unflashed tiles are the ones we need to use for engraving. The unglazed unflashed tiles are available in 6 earth-tone colors (ivory, grey, beige, scarlet, red and brown).

Nell suggested we try to get some samples. Members thought using several colors would add interest to the site - possibly using a different colored tile to represent each branch of the service. Members preferred putting the memorial tiles in a wall of some sort (possibly a short wall extending along the top of the bank above the picnic area?) over placing the memorial tiles on the ground because they'll stay cleaner and be easier to maintain. Blank tiles could be used on the ground around the monument and along the walkways.

Leahnette noted that in response to questions raised during the last meeting, she has determined that anyone that can do portable etching in a cemetery will also be able to etch our pre-installed tiles when we make sales after the park is developed. She said if they make a mistake while etching a tile that is already mounted in the wall, the tile can be removed and replaced by a tile layer.

Members discussed tile sales. Leahnette said from what she has seen, memorial brick sale prices usually run between \$50 and \$100. She said the City's investment will be around \$22 per brick, and we plan to use the proceeds to help off-set maintenance costs associated with the park.

Moved (Marson), seconded (Fitzgibbons) and carried unanimously to sell 4" x 8" engraved tiles for \$75. Engraving will consist of 3 lines, 17 characters. Monica asked if some sort of special recognition or symbol might be used to identify the veterans that were killed in action. Order forms and posters will be developed for distribution at various events, to community organizations, in the newsletter, local newspaper, etc. Dave, Monica and Ted offered to assist with distributing posters and order forms.

McBride Creek Trail System Project: Leahnette said she plans to submit a Trail System Grant Application in October for acquisition of the property along the riparian area to the north of the City to expand the trail system project. She said we are also about to acquire another section of land to the west.

Entrance Sign Site: Leahnette said the lights are in and the flag pole is nearly finished. Members said the lights are in direct view to passing traffic and are distracting. Leahnette said we need to plant some shrubs underneath the sign to screen the lights from passing traffic, and we may also want to add some shrubs behind each light fixture so they are not visible. Members agreed, and it was the consensus of the Committee that we plant azaleas similar in color, size and type to the ones in front of the City Hall. Public Works will add some temporary screening to prevent the lights from being in direct view of passing traffic.

Dog Park: Members were pleased to learn that the Port of St. Helens has agreed to partner

with the City by allowing the development of an on-leash dog park on Port property that is not currently in use along "E" Street. Members expressed preference for the site at the corner of "E" Street and Highway 30 over the site at the corner of "E" Street and The Strand.

Moved (Hopkins), seconded (Fitzgibbons) and carried unanimously to move forward with the site at the corner of "E" Street and Highway 30. A conditional use permit application will be prepared for submittal to the Planning Commission.

Pixie Park: Stan reported that he has cleaned up Pixie Park, and is still working on some blackberry removal.

Other Business: Members welcomed Ted Burns to the City's volunteer team. Ted is a member of the Young Marines and will be serving the community in a volunteer capacity by assisting with park maintenance in Harvard Park and RRR Parks and the development of the Veteran's Park.

Meeting adjourned 7:18 p.m.