

The City of Columbia City

In Columbia County on the Columbia River



PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES APRIL 8, 2014 - 5:00 P.M. CITY HALL, 1840 SECOND STREET, COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018

Present:

Sally Ann Marson, Co-Chair
Larry Preston, Co-Chair
Nell Harrison, Committee Member
Kathleen Devlin, Committee Member
Dave Nelson, VFW Post 1440
Gary Tanner, Rusty Cowboy
Wayne Mayo, Mayo Construction
Debra Hebard, St. Helens Garden Club
Craig Allison, Port of St. Helens
Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder

Dog Park: Craig Allison from the Port of St. Helens said for the most part, things seem to be going quite well at the dog park and it gets a lot of use. Gary said West Oregon Wood is attempting to route truck traffic through the Pacific Street access in an effort to keep away from the dog park activities. Leahnette reminded Craig to send her the desired wording for the "Port Parking" signs, as well as the quantity needed, so she can get them ordered. She reported that she has ordered all of the other signs for the dog park. Leahnette said Thomas Bluhm, Crew Leader for the Columbia County Community Corrections Crew, has recommended his crew weed eat around the fence line instead of spraying. Leahnette suggested the Committee hold off on spraying and wait for a few months to see how things go. Committee Members agreed. It was noted that the trash cans need to be emptied on a more frequent basis. Nell suggested the picnic table be moved further away from the trash can. Kathleen said the pile of rocks needs to be removed, and she could use the larger ones at Harvard Park.

Harvard Park: Kathleen said the park needs to be mowed- it has been 18 days since it was last mowed. She presented some grass she had pulled from the park, some of which stood 12" high or more. Leahnette said she has hired the Columbia County Corrections Crew to

mow every Friday. She said they are also power washing all of the benches and tables as needed. She said things should improve now that things are drying out - it is a difficult time of year to keep up with mowing between the rain events. She will also have them spread broad leaf weed killer in the park.

Veterans Memorial Park:

- **Benches/Tables:** Wayne said he would be willing to make six-foot benches designed like the ones that are in Ruth Rose Richardson Park for \$600 each. Members felt Wayne's price was very reasonable, and agreed they would be nice benches to have along the bike path or within some of our other park sites. However, Members suggested that within Phase I of the Veterans Park we make the investment in the benches and tables as proposed by Gary of the Rusty Cowboy because they are so unique from what might be found in other parks and they will add artistic value to the site.

MOVED (PRESTON), SECONDED (HARRISON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THAT WE MOVE FORWARD WITH PURCHASING THREE FABRICATED METAL PARK BENCHES AS SHOWN IN GARY'S PROPOSAL WITH THE ADDITION OF THE LIBERTY BELL BELOW THE EAGLE.

MOVED (PRESTON), SECONDED (MARSON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THAT WE MOVE FORWARD WITH PURCHASING TWO FABRICATED METAL PICNIC TABLES AS SHOWN IN GARY'S PROPOSAL, EXCEPT THAT THE ARTWORK WILL BE CHANGED TO REFLECT AN EAGLE IN ONE PANEL, AN AMERICAN FLAG IN ONE PANEL, AND THE LIBERTY BELL IN ONE PANEL.

MOVED (PRESTON), SECONDED (HARRISON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO HAVE GARY FINISH THE TABLES AND BENCHES WITH SATIN BLACK INDUSTRIAL PAINT.

MOVED (HARRISON), SECONDED (PRESTON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO HAVE LEAHNETTE DRAW UP A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY AND THE RUSTY COWBOY LLC THAT MEETS THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF THE THREE PARK BENCHES AND TWO PICNIC TABLES FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$10,000, WITH THE FIRST PAYMENT OF \$5,000 PAID UPON ENTERING INTO THE CONTRACT SO GARY CAN PURCHASE OF THE NECESSARY MATERIALS, AND THE FINAL PAYMENT OF \$5,000 DUE UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE CITY, WITH A TOTAL CONTRACT DURATION OF 90 DAYS. Gary said he will do his very best to have two benches and one table complete and installed in time for the Memorial Day Dedication Ceremony.

Construction update: Wayne reported that the foundation pour went very well. He said the concrete looks good and did not get disturbed during the drying period, and they are preparing to pour the walls this Friday. Leahnette said Micah Rogers is scheduling the ground disturbing activities with the NW Natural representative for April 10th, with April 16th serving as the second choice. Members noted that completing the utility work this week is essential because there are so many other items that are on hold until the

underground work is completed.

Leahnette said she has ordered the signs for the Veterans Park, with the exception of the signage along Highway 30. She said she has talked with ODOT representatives, and we will need to use temporary signage on barricades for the paved drive at the park on event days. Meanwhile, throughout the year, traffic to the park will be directed down Pacific Street and onto Tahoma Street. Members discussed whether or not a handicapped parking space should be added somewhere near the bike path entrance at Fifth and Mattie Streets.

Members discussed the two dangerous trees near the vet park site that need to be removed. Leahnette is currently getting cost estimates from tree cutters.

Leahnette said Micah has two coastal redwood trees and two giant sequoia trees in pots that he is willing to donate if the Committee has a place for them.

Larry, Nell and Debra will meet tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. to spread bark dust in the rose garden.

The Garden Club plans to plant the USA flower bed during the first week of May. They will spread bark dust behind the lettering. Larry will have the foundation work completed by the end of April. He will frame the flower bed area with redwood. Dave has located some really good top soil, and he will be picking up the blocks for the flower bed area in the next few days.

- Bike path maintenance: Members noted that a dead branch is hanging loose in a tree and needs to be removed. It is located towards the west end of the bike path.
- Dedication ceremony: Members reviewed the proposed dedication ceremony that was included in the April 1, 2014 meeting minutes.

Leahnette said Mayor Young recently made contact with Senator Betsy Johnson's husband, John Helm, and it sounds like Senator Johnson will be available to speak during our event. The Mayor suggested that John introduce her during the event. Members expressed an interest in a flyby. Leahnette suggested that we have representatives from the VFW and the American Legion participate during the ceremony. Dave will check to see if he can find a couple of good speakers. Dave will also check to see if he can find a Chaplain. Sally Ann said the High School Band will require so much time to coordinate that we should look elsewhere. She said she's been told that Joe Strandjord of the First Lutheran Church has a fantastic voice, and he would be pleased to sing the Star Spangled Banner. She said he suggested he could have the audience join him in God Bless America. Members noted that we need a bugler for Taps. Dave suggested Leahnette check with the Funeral Home to get the name of the bugler that plays taps during their services.

Jim Bundy Memorial Park: Members discussed the large pile of debris in the park, which will be chipped up and spread around the picnic tables in the Veterans Park. Kathleen said

there are a lot of sticks and debris that could be gathered up from within the park, which would be a great job for some young volunteers.

Datis Park: Leahnette said it appears as though the ivy still needs to be removed from the trees - she will have the Corrections Crew cut the ivy on the trees, and remove the ivy from the area.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.