

Public Works Director David Vorse opened the July 10, 2013 Park Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Park Board Commissioners Charles Rutherford, Roy Henson and Linda Moody. Also present was Public Works Secretary Barbara Roller.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Moody made a motion, seconded by Rutherford to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2013 Regular Park Board Meeting. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

REPORTS

Riverfront Trail Extension Enhancement Project

Vorse reports that Rod and Brian Engkraf have built a three section kiosk for the North Trailhead. This kiosk will provide a nice display for visitors. The center section will accommodate an informational map for travelers while funding signage can be included in the side sections.

The bench has been installed on the platform. The picnic table and bike rack remain to be installed. In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse specified that the bike rack will be installed near the kiosk. An additional 100 plants have been purchased to be planted this fall, where needed. An interpretive sign will be purchased if sufficient funds remain. This project should be completed by the end of the month.

Skate Park

Thanks to Commissioner Rutherford the skate ramps have been rebuilt. However, the equipment has not been mounted into its final position. Roller will contact the manufacturer for layout suggestions.

The Latter Day Saints Youth Group painted basketball court lines. We have sufficient funds for one hoop. In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse specified that a second hoop would cost approximately \$1000.

High Banks

Vorse reports that no funds were appropriated this session for the land swap with DNR of riverbed property for upland property. Representative Orcutt has sponsored this project to allow a transfer of funds from DNR Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account to fund the additional appraisal needed to facilitate this swap. A mechanism to transfer funds has now been established. This issue will be brought forth again next session.

Lions Pride Park

Dr. Blaine Kennington has rebuilt the display case at Lions Pride Park that was destroyed by vandals. Vorse noted that a manager is needed for the kiosk at the North Trailhead and

display case at Lions Pride Park. Roller suggests contacting the Chamber of Commerce to ascertain if they would oversee management of these informational displays. Vorse explained that the city cannot control the content of signs. Councilmember Rose would like sign placement specified. However, the Chamber of Commerce could establish criteria if they managed these displays.

OLD BUSINESS

Lynda Frantsvog Memorial

Vorse reports that he installed Lynda's memorial plaque and planted a Western Hemlock on Memory Lane for a total cost of \$218. Roller and Commissioners Moody and Henson will each contribute \$55 towards this purchase. As it is the dry season, watering would increase this tree's likelihood of survival.

Lions Memorial Park (Magnuson)

Vorse clarified that once commissioners determine a preferred name for this park, they could recommend a name change to City Council. Tranquility Point was considered. This park will have a separated landscaped point. The landscape will flow into the park and around the eastern edge and the shelter. The rhododendron's will be removed and replanted in September. Commissioner Henson feels that a new name is a good idea, however to avoid offending the Lions Club we should let them prioritize name options. Commissioners will provide name suggestions.

Commissioner Karnofski is discussing finding a new location for the Truman Memorial closer to Mt. St. Helens with Cowlitz County Commissioners. Truman was never a resident of Castle Rock. He lived on the mountain which is a more appropriate location for his memorial. The gazebo could be used for Concerts in the Park if the memorial was relocated.

Roller researched local woodcarvers and found quite a few with a rate of \$100 per foot. Vorse reviewed the Big Idea - each year a different city will receive funds from the motel tax for a project to promote tourism. Castle Rock will receive Big Idea funding next year. Hiring a woodcarver is an option that can be considered for the Big Idea Project.

Old Jail Park

Commissioner Moody stated that Coni Bush from Lacey Rha's Deli pointed out that although kids are still frequenting the Old Jail Park, since the makeover, they are no longer vandalizing or leaving trash. Vorse noted that Ryan Penner's Agriculture Class will redesign Jackson Street Retention Pond as a wetland study.

Park Board Commissioner Position #5

Vorse clarified that as Glenn Pingree is not running for reelection to City Council, Mayor Helenberg asked him to serve on the Park Board. Mr. Pingree will begin his term as Park

Board Commissioner on January 1, 2014. Glenn's term on City Council ends on December 31, 2013. Glenn is a past Park Board Commissioner (1996-2002).

Sponsor Riverfront Trail Section

Vorse noted that we still need to research how other agencies manage privately sponsored or adopted trail sections. Adopted sections could be ½ mile and may also include financial support or just maintenance such as weeds, trash, reporting damage and assisting with repairs.

Entrance Features

In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse clarified that although the right-of-way along SR411 and I-5 belongs to the State, the City manages this right-of-way within city limits. However, improvements can only be made through an agreement with WSDOT. Improvements along I-5 require federal approval. Nancy Chennault's landscape design for entrance features required submittal of an AutoCAD drawing for federal approval. Vorse will contact WSDOT to ascertain if there are painting restrictions that would apply to the Pizza Well building at Exit 49. If WSDOT has no objections, a piece of plywood painted with "Welcome to Castle Rock" could be placed over the block walls. In addition, this structure needs a new roof. Chennault has plants donated for the entrance features.

In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse specified that City Council approved two temporary, part-time positions to assist with landscaping maintenance.

Metropolitan Park District

Vorse reports that Mayor Helenberg sent Cowlitz County Commissioners a letter requesting that voters be allowed to decide if they would like a Metropolitan Park District formed to fund recreational facilities. This could incorporate libraries.

Budget

Vorse reports that the largest expense for the DOT Spoils Fund is electricity for the trail lights. The photo light sensor can be blocked by vegetation causing a light to stay on throughout the day increasing this cost. A timer could be cost effective or a grant to upgrade to LED lights may be available.

Exit 49 Connection

Vorse reports that the Recreation and Conservation Office accepts grant applications on even years. An application may be submitted for pedestrian accommodations in the Exit 49 area where there is significant need. Particularly on the northwest (C&L, Burger King) side of Mt. St. Helens Way NE where pedestrian hazards are greatest.

EVENTS

Mountain Mania

Vorse reports that Mountain Mania will not be held this year. However, the Mountain Mania Fun Run, The Rock Rod Show and the Pancake Breakfast will be downtown on July 27th.

July 4th

Commissioner Henson noted that Lions Pride Park looked very nice for Fourth of July festivities. The flagpole is a welcomed addition. A flagpole at the North Trailhead would also be appreciated. A bee's nest was spotted at 'The Rock'. Vorse noted that the bee's nest has been removed. Anyone observing a hazard should promptly report it. Commissioners recommend providing the public with a place to note suggestions.

National TT Motorcycle Races

The National TT Motorcycle Races will be held on August 3rd.

Harvest Festival

Vorse reports that a Harvest Festival at the Community Garden is in the early planning stages.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Park Board Meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2013.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vorse adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.