

**Parks Advisory Committee
January 8, 2007**

Members Present: Emily Schue, Merle Bottge, Damien Gilbert, Catherine Koehn and Johnny Medlin
Members Absent: Marie Kennedy
Staff Present: Todd Winter and Christine Johnson
Guests Present: Ollie Snowden, Director, Lane County Public Works, Howard Schuessler, Asst. Director, Lane County Public Works

Damien Gilbert, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

I. Announcements/Agenda Modifications

There were no announcements or agenda modifications.

II. Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2006 Parks Advisory Committee Meetings

Medlin asked that the minutes from the December 11, 2006 meeting be approved. Bottge moved that the minutes be approved. Schue seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

III. Public Comment (Maximum of 20 Minutes)

There was no public comment at this time.

IV. Election of Committee Officers

Motion: Bottge moved to nominate Damien Gilbert to serve one more year as Chair of the Parks Advisory Committee. Koehn seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Motion: Bottge moved to nominate Johnny Medlin to serve one more year as Vice-Chair of the Parks Advisory Committee. Schue seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

V. Review 2006 Accomplishments and 2007 Goals

Winter distributed copies of the 2006 list of accomplishments as well as a draft of the goals for 2007 and then briefly went over the list of accomplishments. These included reviewing and supporting the budget for the next fiscal year, finalizing the new parks master plan, taking another park tour, and helping to staff the Sportsmen's show in February. Some other accomplishments included continuing to support Public Works on the new Covered Bridge Coin program; continued support for construction of a new campground at Armitage Park; supporting implementation of the new online reservation system and replacement of the manual fee collection process with a more cost effective automated fee collection system; recommended approval of the Friends of Buford Park's False Bromme Program; recommended adoption of the 5-Year CIP list for FY 06/07 through 10/11; and, endorsed staff's continued work with OPRD to finalize the sale of the Glenada property.

Before Winter began on the list of Goals for 2007, there was a question regarding the Ridgeline Trail. Winter stated that the vision for the trail was to have a trail from the south hills of

Eugene that would connect the Fern Ridge Reservoir with the Howard Buford Recreation Area. Then you would have an uninterrupted bike/pedestrian path where you could walk or ride from Fern Ridge through the south hills to the HBRA. Winter suggested having Jeff Krueger, with LCOG, come back and give us another overview of this project. It was also suggested to add support of this project to the list of 2007 goals. Winter went on to discuss the list of goals for 2007. These included support of the budget, completion and adoption of the new parks master plan, taking another tour of the parks in the spring or fall – items 4. and 5. were repeated from last year, with the addition to the end of item 5. “...and continue to advocate for existing funding mechanisms” especially with the possible loss of the Secure Rural Schools fund. There was an addition to the language in item 6. which was “...and cultivate public support for Lane County Parks.” Items 7. and 8. were brought forward from last year. Item 9. was changed to read “Continue to develop and maintain cooperative partnerships with other agencies and local businesses.” Item 12. Support and promote acquisition of the 1,200 acre Wildish property. Item 13. Support further investigation into the possibility of Blue Mt. Park as a location for OHV activities. Item 14. Review and support a Habitat Management Plan at the HBRA. And the last item added was to support the Ridgeline Trail project.

Motion: Bottge moved that we endorse the goals for 2007 for the Parks Advisory Committee, to include the revisions as discussed. Medlin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Bottge said that regarding the list of accomplishments, she suggested that some of the items be reworded to reflect this Committee’s role. The list was reviewed and revised.

Motion: Bottge moved for approval of the list of accomplishments for 2006, as revised. Schue seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Medlin asked if Winter would put together a list of accomplishments and goals from Parks. Winter said that he would put one together.

VI. Division Manager’s Report – Todd Winter, Division Manager

• **End of Season Stats – Review:** Winter briefly went over some of the highlights for this past season. In 1986 Richardson Campground had a total of 3,800 campsites occupied and in 2006, we had 5,880. Total revenues for 1998, when we started taking reservations at Richardson, were \$74,809 with 474 reservations and in 2006 we did \$144,982 in revenue, with 1,434 reservations. At Harbor Vista in 1995, we had 1,700 campsites occupied and in 2006 we had 4,206. Revenues in 1995 were \$23,000 and in 2006 \$101,172. Picnic reservations in 2006 for Armitage alone were 264 and a total of 422 for all 18 reservable areas. At Camp Lane we had 24 groups use the park and total revenues of \$27,220. GI Joes sold \$16,030 worth of Season Admission Passes for us and REI sold \$8,590. For the use of Zumwalt Park, we received over \$6,000 from the Oregon Country Fair – which has been the best year so far. Fines for citations issued this past season brought in \$17,671 – mostly from citations issued for dumping home trash. We sold \$2,400 worth of our new Road and Recreation map and the covered bridge coin sales this past year totaled \$32,744.

Koehn suggested that we should add something about diversity into our 2007 goals. Discussion followed including whether or not to amend the endorsement already in place and make a new motion. Medlin added that since diversity means a lot of different things to a lot of different people, maybe what this Committee first needs to do is define what type of diversity we are striving for otherwise he can’t support a new motion. Bottge suggested that we leave the list of goals as endorsed, but think about it as we interview for the vacant PAC position as well as in terms of how we cultivate public support for parks by trying to reach out to a variety of people.

Snowden added that diversity is defined, in a sense, in the County's Diversity Action Plan. He can guarantee that in November and December next year, the County Board is going to be asking again what this Committee thinks about how it's doing at meeting the County's diversity goals in the Diversity Action Plan – not just diversity of the Committee but are we providing our services in such a way so that they can be used by the diverse groups within the Lane County community. Schussler suggested distributing a copy of the plan to this Committee prior to the next meeting.

- **Wildish Property – Update:** This topic was already discussed above.
- **Other:** Winter stated that we received 17 applications for the vacant Park Superintendent position posting, which closed today. We hope to be able to conduct interviews in about three weeks.

VII. Good of the Order/Concerns of the Committee

Nothing was presented for the Good of the Order.

VIII. Adjournment:

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Christine Johnson, Secretary