

**Parks Advisory Committee**  
**May 12, 2003**

Members Present: Damien Gilbert, Merle Bottge, John Rosselli, Emily Schue, Steve Davis, Johnny Medlin, and Janet Alexander

Staff Present: Rich Fay and Christine Johnson

Guests Present: Sabine Dubois, Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah

*Please Note: Any gaps in the information provided or the discussions during this meeting, are the result of a malfunction in the recording/transcribing machine.*

Merle Bottge, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**I. Announcements/Agenda Modifications**

There were no announcements and one addition to the agenda regarding the dam repair at Fern Ridge Reservoir, under the Park Manager's Report.

**II. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2003 Parks Advisory Committee Meeting**

Bottge asked that the minutes from the April 14, 2003 meeting be approved. Schue so moved, Davis seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**III. Public Comment (Maximum of 20 Minutes)**

There was no public comment at this time.

**IV. General Obligation Bond:**

Fay stated that the idea of going out for another General Obligation Bond was brought forward by Roxie Cuellar, from the Lane County Home Builders Association and some other people. They thought we should try again. Fay felt that we should pursue it and asked for volunteers from this committee. Discussion followed. Bottge felt that we really need to do some strategic planning. Medlin would be interested in a break down of voting tallies by district from the last election as well as a discussion from this Committee. Also do some polling to see what people are thinking about parks and what would be favorably received – gather stats on who's using the parks and where are they coming from. Fay was concerned about the cost of doing polls. Rosselli felt that if we go through the process and spend the money, then we should do it right. Davis felt that in the current economic climate and the possibility that Fern Ridge will be drained next year, that going out for a GO Bond in 2004 is not a good idea. Fay said that by going out again for another bond, we keep the issues before the public even though it may take three or four times to get a measure passed. Medlin agreed as long as you do better each time. Bottge and Alexander felt that maybe going out for a smaller package, maybe projects at one or two parks, would be better received. Both Bottge and Schue stated that they would like to work on this project.

**V. Park Manager's Report**

●**Heceta Water District:** The Heceta Water District felt that we owed them the base meter fee charges even though our easement contract with them states that we aren't to pay any fees. This

issue went before the Board of County Commissioners and they unanimously agreed that the contract stands and we don't owe them any fees of any kind.

●**Ocean Woods:** We received a letter from Oregon State Parks and they agreed to lift the deed restriction on this property that required it be used for recreation purposes only. The City of Florence is now looking at another 160 acre piece of property to put in some test wells. This will allow us to sell the Ocean Woods property, if it is prudent to do so.

●**Run for the Mountain Update:** Per Loralyn Osborne's update, Rich stated that REI is the event sponsor, KVAL is the media sponsor and then there are various other sponsors who have donated money to support this event. Sixty prizes have been donated to raffle off at the end of the event. Registration pamphlets will go out in the mail this week to all past participants as well as the mailing list for the Arboretum. Loralyn thanked everyone for being a Friend of the Mountain.

●**Park Fees:** Rich distributed a copy of the Lane Manual changes for all of the fee increases and briefly went over them. Rich reminded everyone that the Golden Age Pass discount as well as the Earn a Pass program is on a trial basis for this season. Both of these programs will have to go back to the Board, if they are to be in effect in 2004. Fee increases will go into effect as of May 24, 2003. Rich added a budget update – we will be using SDC money to work on the Richardson Shelter rather than borrowing the money from Fleet.

●**Corps Fern Ridge Reservoir Update:** On April 1<sup>st</sup> the Corps had their annual meeting regarding reservoir water levels. Caroline Flaherty, Wade Stampe and Matt Ray also talked about the condition of the dam at Fern Ridge Reservoir. There are problems with the drainage system. They projected that they would need to get a \$6 million congressional appropriation to cover the cost of repairs and would require that the reservoir remain empty in 2004 while repairs are done. This would mean a large loss in revenues for Parks. Fay will write a letter to the Corps regarding loss of revenues and if we can recoup these losses from the Corps.

●**State Marine Board Grants:** We have four OSMB and ODFW grant applications ready to submit. 1) Renovation of the restroom and boat ramp at Hendricks Bridge, 2) Replacement of the boat landing and transient dock at Perkins Peninsula, 3) Put in a new transient dock near the new picnic shelter at Richardson, and 4) A new CXT toilet and information kiosk at Munsel Lake. These will be going before the Board for approval this week and then have to be to the OSMB office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday.

## **VI. Good of the Order**

The park tour was set for June 14, 2003. Everyone is to meet at Armitage Park at 8:30 a.m. We'll be visiting park sites in the south end of the county. Plan to either bring a lunch or purchase lunch at the concession stand at Baker Bay Park.

Rosselli asked for an update on Blue Mt. Fay stated that we will be going back to the Board on June 4<sup>th</sup>, to ask for permission to use herbicides at Blue Mt. It is more cost effective for us to use herbicides than any other method available.

Bottge asked whether we have ever had a booth at the Eugene Celebration. Fay said that we didn't. Discussion followed regarding the benefits of having Park information at this event. A lot of people attend this event. Bottge suggested that we might be able to provide some information pamphlets for a joint booth.

## **VII. Adjournment:**

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Christine Johnson, Secretary