

**Parks Advisory Committee
November 14, 2005**

Members Present: Janet Alexander, Johnny Medlin, Emily Schue, Catherine Koehn, and Merle Bottge

Members Absent: Damien Gilbert and Steve Davis

Staff Present: Todd Winter and Christine Johnson

Guests Present: Howard Schussler, Assist. Director, Public Works; Faye Stewart, Lane County Commissioner; and Darrell Bowes

Janet Alexander, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

I. Announcements/Agenda Modifications

There were no announcements or agenda modifications. Introductions were made before proceeding.

II. Approval of Minutes – October 17, 2005 Parks Advisory Committee Meetings

Bottge wanted to add clarification of the October minutes where Koehn asked if Parks was doing a national outreach. Bottge felt she meant was Parks doing any nationwide public relations campaign. Koehn asked if our website used key words that would get more people to our website. Winter stated that it was being looked into with the County's Webmaster.

Alexander asked that the minutes from the October 17, 2005 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)

Darrell Bowes, who closes the gate at Whitely Landing every night, and who has volunteered to do this for quite some time, has some concerns regarding an ongoing activity at Whitely, especially during the summer season. The site has become more of a place for people to congregate and drink rather than a place for families to recreate. More and more families in the area are reluctant to use the site or allow their children to use the site. Even though the drinkers are usually cooperative and have created no major problems yet, Mr. Bowes asked if there wasn't some way to restrict alcohol from the park and make it so families will want to use it again.

Winter discussed some of the things he initiated to try to alleviate the problem, including additional signing, Ranger patrols and a short-term closure of the park. He would like time to do a little research into other options and come back to this Committee. Medlin warned about the possible ramifications of making restrictions to certain parks without first having a clear plan and/or goals. Medlin goes by police records on illegal activities at or near the site to determine if restrictions will be made on certain parks in the City of Eugene. One suggestion was to possibly schedule positive activities in the park at the times when the negative activities are taking place.

IV. Request Recommendation for Option on Fee Collection and Enforcement Process

A copy of the Agenda Cover Memo was mailed to all Committee members in advance. Winter began by saying that this Board item was prompted by the two questions the Board put to him – 1) why did we go to automated fee collection vs. manual fee collection, and 2) why is the citation fine so high. He briefly went over the history of self-pay, manual (fee collectors), and mechanical fee collection systems and some of the problems with each system. And why with the closure of Fern Ridge, due to the dam repair, timing was right to go to mechanical fee collection. Winter also discussed how the fines were set by the legislature based on the class of the violation, and how the legislature raised all the minimum fine amounts in 2003. In this case, the minimum fine for Class C violations went from \$109 to \$141.

Winter stated that Finance and Audit recommended that he take two different options to the Board. These included 1) Maintain the current fine schedule and leave Non-Payment of Fees a Class C violation with a minimum fine amount of \$141, or 2) Amend the Lane Code to change Non-Payment of Fees to a Class D violation with a minimum fine amount of \$94. Discussion followed including the need for consistency in fine amounts similar to other applications in the Lane Code, where the fine amounts are posted in the parks to inform park users, etc.

Motion: Bottge moved that this Committee recommend option #2, Non-Payment of Fees in the County parks be changed to a Class D violation. Schue seconded the motion. Medlin asked if the current fine amount is written on the signage near all the fee machines. Winter stated that yes, there is very clearly written signage in all the fee parks, stating the minimum fine amount for non-payment of fees. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

V. **Division Manager's Report – Todd Winter, Division Manager**

- **Glenada Property Appraisal – Update:** Winter said the appraisal from Gillespie & Assoc. came in at \$817,000. The part of the property that was zoned NR (natural resource) had a value of \$374,000 put on it and the acres zoned RR2 (rural residential 2-acre minimum) was given a value of \$443,000. The next step is to conduct an in-house review appraisal – the numbers won't change but opinions will be given on the 82 comparables included in the appraisal. While that is being completed, Winter will be contacting all the people who had expressed an interest in the property to see if their interest is still there. And then Winter will go back to the Board with the review appraisal and a list of selling options, which could include a private sale or public auction. People can review a copy of the appraisal at the front desk at Public Works, or at both the library and City Hall in Florence.
- **End of Season Statistics:** Winter stated that copies of the end of season statistics were mailed out to everyone in advance. Winter briefly answered questions, including possible reasons for statistical fluctuations from year to year – including the year of the drought, the year fee increases were implemented, this year's dam repair, etc.
- **Initial Review of 2005 Accomplishments & 2006 Goals:** Winter went down the list of 2005 Goals put together last year, to see where we were at as far as accomplishing these goals. Item #3 – even though the Oceanwoods property will be removed from the list, it should still be considered an ongoing project. It was suggested to move item #8, regarding the new Parks Master Plan, to the top of the list of 2006 Goals. Items #6 & #13 should also be carried forward to next year's list of goals. Bottge asked when the Committee could expect a completed draft of the Master Plan. Winter stated that another section of the plan, including a complete park inventory, would be available at the next PAC meeting.
- **Covered Bridge Coin Information:** Winter distributed a picture of the Goodpasture Bridge coin – the first one of the 17 total that will be minted. He also distributed an information flyer describing where and when the auction will be held to sell the 25 numbered coins. The auction will occur at the Waltherville Community Center on Saturday, December 3rd at 3:00 p.m.

VI. **Good of the Order/Concerns of the Committee**

There was nothing presented for the Good of the Order.

VII. Adjournment:

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Christine Johnson, Secretary