

Parks Advisory Committee Minutes

January 13, 2014

Members Present: Pat Hoover, Wayne Lemler, Dale Stoneburg, Larry Dunlap, Damien Gilbert

Members Absent: Carlos Alvarez

Staff Present: Mike Russell, Fraser MacDonald, Dave Stockdale

Guests Present: Marsha Miller

Committee Chair Pat Hoover called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

- I. **Public Hearing** – FY 2014-2019 Parks System Development Charge Capital Improvement Program – Mr. Curt Yeiter, a seasonal moorage holder with Lane County Parks at Orchard Point marina, appeared before the advisory committee. He stated that he was speaking on behalf of approximately a dozen other O.P. moorage holders, some of who were in attendance at this meeting, and request that Orchard Point marina maintenance funding be added to the 5-year CIP. The group would like to see the marina replaced similar to the recent replacement upgrade to Richardson Park marina, also a Lane County marina on Fern Ridge reservoir. Mr. Yeiter listed additional pilings and the widening of the dock fingers as examples of safety issues, and stated that if reconfigured, a nearby transient dock could be eliminated. This transient dock was originally placed to assist boaters, but is attracting swimmers and creates safety issues when swimmers cross the channel and jump off the dock. Parks Manager, Mike Russell, agreed that not much funding had been aside for marina maintenance since the replacement of the Richardson Park docks. Again, Mr. Yeiter stated that he and the group are simply asking that funding be included in this 5-year projection so that some of these issues might be addressed.
- II. **Agenda Additions/Changes/Modifications** – None
- III. **Approval of Minutes – Motion:** Larry Dunlap moved to approve the November 2013 minutes as written. Wayne Lemler seconded. All present voted in favor, motion carried.
- IV. **2013 Achievements/2014 Goals** – Chair Hoover listed several committee accomplishments be added to the 2013 list of PAC Achievements. Ms. Hoover also asked for other suggestions from committee members. Those achievements were also noted. The committee then created a new list of goals for the 2014 year. Mr. Russell will create a new list of goals and a revised list of achievements be presented at the next PAC meeting for approval by the committee.
- V. **Information Items:**
 - 1) Parks Manager -
 - I. Status of Commissioner Stewart's Committee Appointee – Commissioner Stewart's appointee for the advisory committee remains vacant at this time. There has been talk of

- interested parties, however, there have not been any applications submitted thus far. Mr. Russell encouraged committee members to seek out interested persons and encourage them to apply. Applications will go directly to Commissioner Stewart for consideration.
- II. Report on Seavey Loop Neighbors meeting – Mr. Russell had a meeting with the Seavey Loop Neighbors in early December regarding the planned events at Emerald Meadows for 2014 which include The Dirty Dash and Faerieworlds. Mr. Russell is scheduled to report to the Board on January 29th with results of that meeting with the neighbors which included 1) turning off all amplified music by 10:00 p.m., 2) send an email to the neighbors immediately after each event requesting feedback about any repercussions from the event, 3) cancel all events scheduled for 2015 until a task force is created and works through the process. LCP and promoters agree with items 1 & 2, but item 3 is not supported by LCP. Mr. Russell states that these two promoters and the above referenced events have proven track records of complying with all LCP contract requirements at Emerald Meadows and that impacts to the neighborhood are minimized, and therefore these two events should not be cancelled at this time.
 - III. Status of Emerald Meadows Task Force – The BCC gave LCP 2 task items: 1) meet with neighbors to discuss 2014 events, and 2) come back with a more structured plan for the task force itself. Mr. Russell plans to have an update on these two items by the end of February and he would like to see it include all parks, not just Emerald Meadows. Chair Hoover reiterated her desire for a PAC member to be on this committee and Mr. Russell confirmed that Larry Dunlap will represent the advisory committee. Ms. Hoover stated that she would also like to be a part of the task force committee.
 - IV. Status of Whitely Landing 1-Year Report – Mr. Russell reports that the board packet has been written and will be submitted in February. The report states that the neighborhood as well as the Sheriff's office supports the alcohol ban at this location. The plan is to continue the ban for an additional year followed by another review at that time.
- 2) Natural Areas Coordinator –
- I. Status of Posse Challenge Course – Frasier MacDonald reports that work began with Lane County Youth Services and their Serbu Crew in coordination with Lane Workforce Partnership and Lane County Parks working with the Posse to begin clearing vegetation in preparation for creation of the challenge course. Construction of the course is scheduled to begin in May with completion planned in time for the Posse's annual summer event on Memorial Day weekend. Mike Russell continues to work with county legal staff regarding liability issues with having the course open to public use, and Mr. Russell stated that he will continue to work with Alan Murphy of the Sheriff's posse on a long-term maintenance agreement for the challenge course.
 - II. Status of HBRA Trail Alignments – Mr. MacDonald stated that LCP and Friends of Buford Parks (FBP) had previously applied for a grant to realign trails 3 & 4 and that the realignment work was completed in December. Decommission of trail 4 was also completed in December using the Lane County Youth Services Serbu work crew in cooperation with Lane Workforce Partnership. Crews worked to install erosion control

devices and transplant ferns to help obscure the old trail and to encourage use of the newly aligned trail. Mr. MacDonald reports that there are some funds left from the grant, and that FBP is requesting a review for additional work on trail #4. Chair Hoover asked if trail 30 had been approved and Mr. Russell stated that the re-route of trail 30 did not need Board approval and that the re-route had been approved internally. Mr. MacDonald reported that decommission and re-route of trail 7 was complete, and work crews had seeded the area and installed erosion control devices. Mr. MacDonald plans to bring a proposal to the advisory committee next month for discussion regarding an upgrade in trail signage and to add trail 30 to maps of the trail system.

- III. Status of Blue Mountain Forest Management Plan – Mr. MacDonald informed the committee of an ongoing contract with Woodland Management for endowment of Blue Mountain Park since 1989. LCP asked for a new draft of the timber management plan since the last activity in the area was 2009. The draft was received mid-summer and adopted in July 2013. LCP is ready to move forward with the work and held a public meeting in December. As a result of that meeting, LCP has decided to revisit the plan to review it as a park management plan rather than just the timber management portion. Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Russell plan to meet with the contractor to review the plan and will reach out to neighbors and present a revised proposal in the near future.

- VI. **2014 Meeting Schedule and Tour** – A park tour is scheduled for Saturday, April 19th. There is still discussion whether to have the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 14th. Committee members will decide at the next meeting whether or not to cancel that meeting in lieu of the tour. Committee members decided to cancel the June 9th meeting due to lack of available members on that date. There will be no scheduled meetings for the months of June, July or August 2014. Meetings will resume September 8th. The November meeting will be moved one week earlier to November 3rd to adjust for the Veteran’s Day holiday and availability of committee members and staff. All 2014 meeting dates will continue to be listed on the monthly agendas to remind committee members of their committed dates to attend the advisory committee meetings.

- VII. **Good of the Order** – There was discussion regarding the condition of Blue Mountain Park. Larry Dunlap voiced concern of the vegetation overgrowth and poor condition of the existing shelter and picnic tables. Mr. Russell acknowledged that as of until 2 years ago there was no caretaker at this location and that it had been heavily vandalized and park management had decided to close the gate for public access. Currently there is a caretaker installed at this location which has greatly reduced vandalism. The timber management efforts discussed earlier in the meeting by Mr. MacDonald are partially in place to help control the overgrowth and vegetation issues. Mr. Dunlap suggested that logging revenue go back into this park for maintenance and upgrades to encourage more use as a location for picnics, weddings, and family reunions. Both Mr. Russell and Mr. MacDonald agreed that the management plan was intended for that use and they will work better at explaining that to the public at the next public meeting for future plans of Blue Mountain Park.

- VIII.** R.V. Fees Distribution – Mr. Russell reported that the next legislative session will be next week and the approval of the compromise with Oregon State Parks to redistribute RV registration fees will change from the current 35% County/ 65% State split in fees for 2013-2014 to a 40/60 split as of June 2014, and a revised split of 45/55 as of June 2015. Bill LC156 will implement this revision of funds and will result in an increase of \$98,000 in annual funding to Lane County Parks. Mr. Russell drafted a letter of support for committee members to sign, which he will plan to present at the legislative meeting. Members showed their support by signing the letter.
- IX.** Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m. The next meeting will be February 10th, 2014.