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**COOS BAY
PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES
October 17, 2019**

5 Chair Lyons opened the meeting on the above date in the City of Coos Bay Conference Room
6 located at 500 Central Ave., at 4:00 p.m.

7 Members Present: Ariann Lyons, Carmen Matthews, Bev Meyers, Sam Crowley, and Bill
8 Otton.

9 Members Absent: Shaun Gibbs and Patty Scott.

10 Staff Present: Operations Administrator, Randy Dixon, and Kelli Burnette

11 Guests Present: None.
12

13 **APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

14 Chair Lyons called for a motion to approve the minutes.

15 *Commissioner Matthews moved and Commissioner Meyers seconded the motion to approve the*
16 *September 19, 2019, minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

17 **CITIZEN INPUT**

18 There was none.

19 **NEW BUSINESS**

20 There was none.

21 **OLD BUSINESS**

22 4.1 **Empire Lakes Bridges** – Randy Dixon reported that he received the soils report form SHN
23 which he has provided to CZS. Randy advised the Commission that CZS will be on site on
24 October 23rd to inspect the site and validate the soil areas. Randy stated once the validation
25 is complete, the City can move forward with the abutments, which the City is paying for,
26 and proceed with procuring the grants. Randy explained that the abutment portion the City
27 is paying for is the grant “match”. Randy further explained that there will be several stages
28 where the Commission will approve location, construction and design, which the Council
29 will review, and Council will adopt the fee(s) and schedule. Randy stated he recommends
30 GatorBridge as the supplier, and stated he will have to spec out the bridge(s) and will bring
31 that information back to the Commission. Randy stated he expects the abutments to cost
32 approximately \$65,000-\$70,000.

33 4.2 **Pirate Park Outdoor Fitness Equipment.** Randy reported that Stacy Gulseth ordered the
34 fitness equipment and table. Randy provided a brief overview of their placement and
35 discussed lack of parking, which problem he is not sure how to remedy, and the fact that
36 “no parking” signs have been posted on the West side of the street. The Commission
37 reiterated the fact the park is a neighborhood park, which is intended for neighborhood use
38 and patrons that would walk to the park.

39 A discussion commenced regarding deficiencies in the Master Plan and how they can be remedied.
40 Discussions ensued regarding lack of financial efforts for open spaces and potential revenue
41 streams. The Commission and Staff discussed holding work sessions to generate ideas for moving
42 forward and making a proposal to Council. It was noted that maybe once citizens and Council see
43 the benefits of the grant and improvements to the Mingus Park pond and restrooms that they would
44 be more likely to support funding for Parks and Recreation. Randy noted potential funding options
45 have been addressed in the Master Plan on the 2nd to last page and stated that jurisdictions can only

46 compete for the same grants and win so many times, though there are many grant funding sources.
47 Commissioner Matthews commented on a program from DEQ where they will reduce the amount
48 of interest a jurisdiction is paying on a loan if they use the difference in the interest toward
49 environmental development.

50 Discussions continued regarding potential revenue sources such as Land-Water Conservation
51 Funds, potential funds from trash disposal funds if those fees were to be increased, and transient
52 room tax funds, etc.

53 A discussion commenced regarding the fact that there are several prime locations in Coos Bay for
54 greenspace and recreation areas, that the Mingus Park Ballfield could be better utilized, the fact
55 that the Blossom Gulch School area will soon be available for development, the fact people do not
56 feel safe in our parks, and how Empire could benefit from a library.

57 A discussion commenced regarding the success of the 3-A basketball tournament and the fact that
58 Council is ready to listen and support ideas to keep our kids healthy and busy.

59 4.3 **Capital Road Improvement Projects.** Randy reported that Knife River has wrapped up
60 on the street paving, ODOT has completed the stripping and work has commenced on the
61 ADA ramps. Randy explained that using ODOT for the stripping saved the City
62 approximately \$40,000.00 and that he hopes to get stripping done on a more regular
63 schedule. Randy stated Brown Contracting is the contractor working on the ADA ramps,
64 that they are moving along at an amazing pace, and that he is really impressed with their
65 capabilities.

66 The Commission asked about the bump outs in Empire. Randy explained they are being
67 removed and brought into compliance. A discussion commenced regarding bioswales,
68 catch basins, switching to LED lights and curb bollards.

69 Commissioner Matthews commented that Council is looking at converting all City lights
70 to LED, is working with company who will finance the project, and the money the City
71 saves from using LED lights will basically cover the cost of the conversion.

72 **COMMISSIONER CLOSING COMMENTS**

73 There were none.

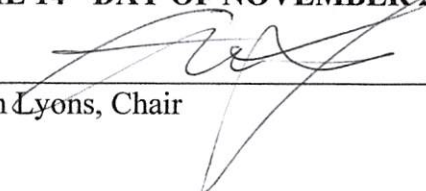
74 **STAFF CLOSING COMMENTS**

75 Randy suggested a work session to discuss funding ideas. The Commission and Staff set a work
76 session for November 14, 2019 from 3-5 p.m. The Commission requested a large map of City
77 parks, all City owned property and school property be provided at the work session. Randy will
78 gather information on funding sources from the Master Plan and provide the map as requested.


79 **ADJOURNMENT**

80 There being no further business to come before the Parks Commission, by consensus of the Parks
81 Commission, Commissioner Lyons adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

82
83 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2019.**

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86 
Ariann Lyons, Chair

87 Attest:

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89 Kelli Burnette, Staff
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