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CITY OF COOS BAY
PARKS COMMISSION
WORKING LUNCH SESSION

MINUTES OF
DECEMBER 11, 2014

Commissioners Present: Chair, Christine Coles; Ariann Lyons; Bev Meyers; Carman Matthews; Jennifer Stephens; Patty Scott
Commissioners Absent: Commissioner
Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Operations Administrator, Pam Patton
Guests Present: Cricket Soules, Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery
Location: City Hall Conference Room
Coos Bay City Hall – 500 Central Avenue

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Christine Coles called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. The minutes for October 16th meeting were not completed to be reviewed and approved by the commission.

A request for citizen input. (Cricket came in after meeting was in progress.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Licensing Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery with the Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board –
“In order for the cemetery to be registered with the Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board as a Registered Cemetery, the cemetery cannot be operating (performing interments) and cannot have an interment before February 14, 1909.” We have been out of compliance with the State because we have received and buried the ashes of three people. Licensing would allow us to take care of family members for existing plots only. The fee is \$150 with \$50 at renewal. Randy asked Cricket if there was anything she would like to add. She asked if they had already discussed the deed. The Commission had done so at a previous time.

Motioned: Commissioner Lyons motioned to license the cemetery with Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board in order to receive those ashes to be buried in existing plots.

Seconded: Commissioner Coles

Vote: Aye, Unanimous. Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS –

Parks Representative to the Tree Board for a new term. Ariann Lyons was more than happy to continue to represent the Parks Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Scott motioned to approve Ariann as the representative to the Tree Board.

Seconded: Commissioner Stephens

Vote: Aye, Unanimous. Motion carried

Updates:

Empire Lakes Bridge(s) Replacement(s) / Grants – The City will partner with SWOCC for the replacement of both Empire Lakes and SWOCC’s bridge. SWOCC’s grant amount to be \$36,000 with the city’s grant to be \$100,000 but Randy would like to move the amount to \$200,000 that

49 cover the abutments and tie-ins and would cover any elevation changes. • Randy is looking at a
50 company, GatorBridge Company who specialize in prefabricated bridges. The footbridge is
51 approximately a 200 foot span. With the use of abutments, the span could be shortened to
52 around 180 feet. The all-aluminum footbridge cost for a 50 foot section would be around
53 \$30,000 delivered. Installation of three T-columns using engineered specs and possibly a GEO
54 Tec investigation of soils, the supports are bored and set at 10 feet in depth. • The commission
55 would like to see lighting to deter any theft or stripping of the aluminum, perhaps solar for back-
56 up lighting, clearing of area and the use of trail cams for security. Hopefully some form of alarm
57 that could possibly tie into the college's WiFi system. These ideas will be considered as budget
58 allows. • Empire Lakes isn't scheduled in the Parks Master Plan until 2018. There is a need to
59 go back to original schedule internally, as has already been adopted, and revise, based on work
60 load and grants. Mingus Park will be several years to get through the granting process and total
61 completion of the work. We can't piggy two grants from the same agency. • Randy asked the
62 commission what projects they wanted to focus on as priority in order to move forward on
63 existing as well as new projects:

- 64 1) Mingus Pool - To address the safety issue of the mechanical needs with the tanks and
65 chemical injection system plus the renovations, cost will be around \$375,000.
- 66 2) Mingus Playground & Restroom renovations and elevation issues
- 67 3) Bridges – safety
- 68 4) Hull Dog Park – But if opportunity for a grant/match and donations to do as a whole,
69 Randy will move forward. Perhaps another meeting is needed with a member
70 representing the dog park to discuss donations, opening an in-kind account. Original
71 budget estimated cost was \$275,000 funding to go for a grant plus match of 20 percent
72 and in kind monies. ****The commission agreed to move forward now in doing some
73 site preparation: trees, leveling and grubbing as weather permits in the spring of
74 2015.** Resale value of logged timber would offset some of the City's cost incurred.
- 75 5) Boardwalk

76
77 **Outdoor Fitness Equipment for Empire Lakes** - Don Hynes expressed to Randy an interest to
78 purchase and install a few pieces of fitness equipment for the Empire Lakes Park. Attached are
79 illustrations of the equipment: two-person sit-up bench, two-level horizontal bars and push-up
80 bar. These are the suggested pieces to be purchased. The equipment placement would be ½ mile
81 apart to form the circuit. If funds available, Randy will check the city budget to purchase the
82 other three pieces. Randy stated that staff will be looking at sites for placement and where to
83 stage interpretive signage.

84 Motioned: Commissioner Matthews recommended that it be taken to Council to move
85 forward with this plan.

86 Seconded: Commissioner Coles

87 Vote: Aye, Unanimous. Motion carried.

88
89 **Empire Recreational Boat Launch Facility Grant** for damages incurred during storm of
90 October 25th. Damages totaled \$19,600 of which ODF&W will grant \$5,000 towards the
91 crab/fish pier and OSMB will grant \$2,200 for the repair of the debris boom. The City will be
92 responsible for the remaining \$12,400. And the additional cost of in-water permit. Insurance
93 doesn't kick in until \$100,000.

94 Also, to update the commission on another incidence that occurred at the Empire Boat Ramp,
95 Mr. Buchanan removed a large boat, which currently had been moored in Charleston, by using
96 the Empire Boat Ramp. Both the City and Oregon State Marine Board denied the usage because
97 it was not equipped to handle the weight and length of the boat. The ramp is for recreational use
98 only. Mr. Buchanan had an engineering assessment done stating that the ramp could withstand

99 the weight of the boat but the report was never received by the City. There is an investigation
100 in progress to the ramp for any damages.

101 **COMMISSIONERS CLOSING COMMENTS –**

102 It was asked if anything has been determined about the wildlife and the removal of the geese
103 from Mingus Park. Randy is preparing a staff report to take to council. In the Parks Master
104 Plan, in the design of the signage, there would be wording

105 A request to install flashing light at the pedestrian crossing at the upper end of Mingus Park
106 entrance to the pool. Randy had the lights but is currently looking for the ankers for the poles.

107 Riding bikes in the Skate Park. No riding of bikes/scooters etc. was a condition when the skate
108 park was built. The commission thought it would be a great idea to utilize the Marshfield school
109 paper and radio station to inform the students of policies since they are the primary users.
110 Placing something in The World newspaper and having an announcement done by KCBY was
111 also suggested in reaching the general public.

112 There was a discussion among the members regarding the council's approval to change the flags
113 that are flown at the City Boardwalk and Central Avenue. They would like to see 4 American
114 flags, 2 International and a couple of Coos Bay/North Bend flag. Central Avenue will be flying
115 12 American flags. Randy stated there are currently a total of 22 flagpoles located at the
116 Boardwalk, with only 9 poles that are safe and working, as they are constructed in fiberglass and
117 not holding up as well as the metal poles. There is a safety issue using fiberglass poles because
118 the UV rays breakdown the integrity of the fiberglass causing it to crack and breakaway. With
119 the size of the flags and the winds, the flexibility of the poles could create a serious problem. The
120 poles on Central Avenue weren't a safety issue, the flags could be done. The commission was
121 concerned with the City Boardwalk. It is a part of the Parks Master Plan and is scheduled to be
122 renovated in FYE15/16. Since there is no current funding at this time, respectively the
123 commission would like the council to reconsider their direction in a more comprehensive
124 approach to the Boardwalk and to recognize the higher priority inefficiencies of the parks system
125 infrastructures. Randy agreed to do a staff report.

126 Since the decision to ban smoking from Mingus Park, it was noted that there are several people
127 that have chosen to smoke in the Community Garden even though located on private property.

128 Will the footbridge be powder coated to endure the weather for longevity? The grade of
129 aluminum used is far above the aluminum commonly used. The bridge would also have a non-
130 slip coating applied.

131

132 **ADJOURNMENT**

133

134 **There being no further business to come before the Parks Commission, by**
135 **consensus of the Parks Commission, Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:20 pm.**

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137 Respectfully Submitted,

138

139 Pamela Patton,
140 Public Works

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142 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 19 DAY OF Feb, 2015.**

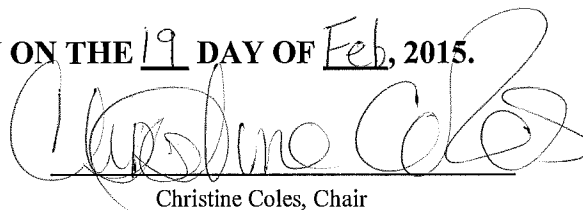
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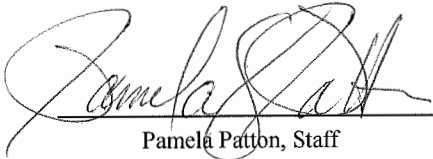
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Christine Coles, Chair

Attest:

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Pamela Patton, Staff

Approved