

Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2012

Attendance: Ed Overbay, Ron Williams, JP Moss, Grace Laman, Norma Hernandez, Tammy Loughran, Rae Goforth, Brett Estes, Kristina Koenig.

Staff: Phil Elkins, Pam Pearce

Absent: Howard Rub, Councilor Arline LaMear, Brad Johnston, Councilor Karen Mellin

1. The Parks Advisory Board met at Stephanie's Cabin.
2. At 6:44 am Board Chair Ed Overbay called the meeting to order.
3. At 6:45 am Board Chair Ed Overbay asked that the board approve the minutes. Norma Hernandez motioned to approve the minutes. All were in favor.
4. Rae Goforth, Maritime Memorial Park board member, made a presentation to the board about the Maritime Memorial Park. Rae spoke about the history of the park and what the park is intended to be, a memorial. Recently there has been children playing at the park and using the space for a playground. The board members discussed this situation and agreed to look at parks rules.
5. Kristina Koenig made a trails presentation to the board. She is an intern working for the Lewis and Clark Historical Park. As an intern she is working on a recreational trails update for the City of Astoria. The inventory of trails has been completed and the next step is to engage the public about the trails. Brett Estes thanked the board for letting her come and present her findings.
6. Let the Music Play marketing has now begun. All plans are completed, the information is on our website, and fliers are being circulated throughout town.
7. JP Moss spoke to the board about an increased marketing plan for Parks and Recreation. There are now radio ads and print ads to go out in the Daily Astorian's special edition for the non-subscribers to the newspaper.
8. JP Moss told the board about the new chemical control system that was recently installed at the aquatic center. During installation there was no impact to patrons using the facility. This new system will better monitor the chemicals used to sanitize the pools. The next big system to be replaced is the pool heating control system.
9. Grace Laman reports that the community gardens are going very well. She secured an individual to build a gate that will go up in about two weeks. All but two of the plots are filled this growing season. In a few of the plots she planted pumpkins for the children of Lil' Sprouts to use in October. She is also working on a possible fundraiser for next year that would include a local donation of plants starts before growing season to be sold.
10. Pam Pearce reported on the youth and teen programming for the summer. So far the numbers are strong with many different children enrolled this summer. Mach 1 was a very successful camp a few weeks ago for teens. Also a video game design course for teens seemed popular.

11. JP Moss said a few weeks ago he was notified by Parks and Recreation staff that a group of individuals were at Shively Park participating in zip line activities. This is not something that we had granted a permit for. As a result he suggested to the board that a sub-committee is formed to review the parks rules. Tammy Loughran, Norma Hernandez, Ed Overbay, and Rae Goforth will be working in this sub-committee.
12. JP Moss stated the City is still working with the friends of the Column in regards to the Column and it's daily operations. As of July 1 we now have a 40 hour per week maintenance person working at the Column.
13. Phil Elkins reported that some of our parks received mini makeovers. The Coast Guard and Tongue Point sent us volunteers to help at the aquatic center, smith point, La Plante, Alderbrook, Yacht Club, and Evergreen park. The Riverwalk east of Safeway was also improved during the month of July.
14. JP spoke about the Garden of Surging Waves first project in the construction process. This first project is to improve the side walks. Construction should start in about 30-60 days
15. JP Moss indicated that the leases for Port of Play, Lil' Sprouts, and the ARC are all up for renew. These leases will go to council at the next meeting.
16. JP Moss said that a church group is going to come from Portland to the Ocean View Cemetery on August 3 to volunteer several hours cleaning tombstones.
17. JP Moss said also in September another church group of about 40 women are coming to do a community service project for Parks and Recreation.
18. JP Moss indicates that the Parks inventory is in review with Paul Benoit. He hopes it will be presented to council before the next meeting.
19. JP Moss spoke about a donation to Port of Play from the M.O.M.S. club. This club has donated \$250 to the foundation be to given to Port of Play.
20. JP Moss updated the board on the Warren Field project.
21. JP Moss said we are waiting until September to transfer the Disc Golf Course to the City with council permission.
22. Pam Pearce updated the board on programs coming up. The July concerts in the park series will be over soon. In August we will switch to movies in the park. During Regatta weekend we will hold our annual softball tournament, skateboard tournament, and a Kids Day in the park. Then August 18 & 19th we will be at the Let the Music Play event at the Column.
23. New Business: Ed Overbay asked about Zumba and Yoga at the ARC and if we were any closer to a resolution. JP Moss said we are not there quite yet but will have an answer at the next meeting.
24. The next meeting will be held on September 24, 2012 at Stephanie's Cabin, 6:45am.
25. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07am