

**Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 6:30 p.m.
Willamalane Community Recreation Center
250 S. 32nd Street, Springfield, Oregon**

Call to Order

President Greg James called the Regular Meeting of the Willamalane Park and Recreation District Board of Directors to order.

Roll Call

Superintendent Keefer called the roll. Present were President James, Directors Lee Beyer, Gary Ross, and Helen Wagner. Director Danelle Ralston was absent.

Staff members present were Superintendent Bob Keefer, Jason Genck, Pam Caples, Joel Miller, Greg Hyde, Mike Moskovitz, Rita Grimes, and Rebecca Gershow

Flag Salute

President James led the Board and audience in the flag salute.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Oral Requests and Communications from the Audience/Staff

None

Consent Calendar

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting of February 10, 2010

Claims

01/29/10 through 03/04/10 Disbursements for Approval
Checks #80667 through 881093

Other

None

Director Beyer moved, second by Director Ross, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed unanimously 4:0

Unfinished Business

1. Comprehensive Plan Update

Planner Rebecca Gershow reviewed the scope of work to be done on the 2011 Park and Recreation Comprehensive Plan Update as was outlined in her memo to the Board. She noted

that the Comp Plan was last updated in 2004 and took two years to complete. This time, the process will be managed in-house by staff with outside expertise hired when necessary, saving about \$100,000. The process will be streamlined but thorough, taking about 14 months to complete. As in 2004, staff proposes having the plan adopted by the City of Springfield and Lane County so that it becomes part of the metropolitan planning system.

Instead of using a traditional Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, staff proposes holding focus groups with community members and agency staff to get their input. Additional public input opportunities proposed are two public workshops, early and late in the process, and a District-wide community survey.

Mr. Beyer asked about how many focus groups would be used and whether they would be real focus groups or just group discussion. He also asked if Willamalane has staff trained in leading focus groups. Ms. Gershow replied that no groups have been specifically detailed yet but that there would be patron groups split into different planning areas as well as agency and staff focus groups. Both Planning and Development and Public Affairs have staff trained to work with focus groups.

There was some discussion about getting patron input using Class software in an e-mail blast as well as getting it during SummerFest. The Directors thought it is important for the community to have opportunities to give input.

Mr. James suggested that the school district's group of students representing all four high schools would be a good focus group.

2. Clearwater Park Management Plan Update

Mr. Keefer introduced this topic by stating that major changes have been made at Clearwater Park with more coming. The committee tasked with writing a management plan for Clearwater Park used the Dorris Ranch Management Plan as a starting point. Mr. Keefer reviewed and highlighted the Management Statement and Operating Assumptions, asking the Board for input on what might have been missed or what needed to be added.

In response to Ms. Wagner's comment that there are many projects needed at Clearwater Park that will take a lot of money, Mr. Keefer noted that the District has already started to set aside money to maintain the Park and the Middle Fork Path and will prioritize those projects.

Mr. Genck pointed out that after the internal issues are prioritized, the Management Plan will go to the public for their input.

Mr. Keefer moved on to the list of issues that were brainstormed by the committee. He noted that if the District is not working in partnership with the City to manage the Mill Race, the two agencies will be working against each other. In addition, he was very clear that the District needs to be cognizant of the Park's neighbors. The area is overwhelmed on hot summer days and the District will have to address that by bringing on extra staffing and security.

Mr. Keefer pointed out that the committee bifurcated the management plans for Clearwater Park and the Middle Fork Path but are working on both simultaneously. The committee's goal is to get the Management Plan finished and back to the Board by the June meeting but that it would more likely be finished in September. He asked the Board for feedback and invited discussion.

Mr. Beyer asked if there will be lighting on Middle Fork Path, how it will be closed, and what the liability might be if someone goes in after hours. There will be no lighting on the Middle Fork Path and a gate is already there that will continue to be opened and closed at the appropriate times. Mr. Purdy stated that if someone were to go in after hours and was hurt, the District has recreational immunity. If they were to damage the SUB wells, the District may have some exposure.

In response to Mr. Beyer's questions about medical access and enough space for emergency vehicles on the Path, Ms. Gershow stated that the Middle Fork Path will have bollards that can be lowered to allow access by emergency vehicles.

Mr. Ross stated that he thought it wise to consider that the Mill Race will be an attraction for people and asked if the District had enough property in reserve to add more parking lots without creating an environmental issue. He wondered if there was space where the construction equipment was stored. Mr. Miller stated that where the construction equipment is currently stored will be parking for the Middle Fork Path trailhead.

In answer to Mr. James' question about the Mill Race being navigable, Mr. Keefer replied that he thought there will be times when it will be floatable on an inner tube or floatable raft, but during the summer the water will be too low to do much but wade.

Ms. Wagner asked if people will be able to fish at the Mill Race. Mr. Keefer replied that eco-restoration should bring fish back but it may take 10 years.

Executive Session

Director Beyer moved, seconded by Director Ross, to move into Executive Session under ORS 192.660: SECTION (2), SUBSECTION (e): To conduct deliberations with persons authorized by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. The motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

Return to Regular Session

Business from Legal Counsel

None

Standing and Special Committee Reports

Mr. James reported that he believed the United Front delegation to Washington D.C. was very well received by legislators. He thought that they had made a good showing and presented themselves well. Rep. DeFazio was excited about the Middle Fork Path and Dorris Ranch

projects. They had about 40 minutes of face time with Sen. Wyden who indicated that his major issue is the secure rural schools funding. The delegation will debrief in several weeks.

Superintendent's Business

1. Superintendent's Reports #111, dated February 26, 2010

Mr. Ross asked if there had been any follow up on the near drowning at Splash! Mr. Genck replied that there had been none.

2. Staff Updates

None

3. Upcoming Meetings/Work Sessions/Events

- March 10 Regular Board Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6:30 p.m.
- March 15 Chef Series: Mookie's Northwest Grill, 6:30 p.m.
- April 3 MEGGA Hunt, Lively Park, 9:30 a.m.-noon
- April 7 Artist Reception – Portraits in Watercolor, the work of Ed Tryk, WAAC, 4-7 p.m.
- April 10 Stone Age Day, Dorris Ranch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- April 10 The Essentials Concert, Wildish Community Theater, 6:30 p.m.
- April 14 Regular Board Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6:30 p.m.
- April 22 Annual Employee Recognition Luncheon, LCC Center for Meeting & Learning, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- May 1 Vineyard and Violins, WAAC, 5-8 p.m.
- May 5 Regular Board Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6:30 p.m.
- May 12 Budget Committee Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6 p.m. (Light supper provided)
- May 19 Budget Committee Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6 p.m. (if needed)
- May 20 Lively Park Celebration, Lively Park Shelters, 5:30 p.m.
- May 26 Budget Committee Meeting, CRC Heron Room, 6 p.m. (if needed)
- June 12 Willamalane Surf & Turf Duathlon, Willamalane Park Swim Center, 8:30 a.m.

Written Communications

None

Remarks from the Directors

None

Messages and Papers from the President

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Robert W. Keefer
Superintendent/Board Secretary

Rita F. Grimes
Recording Secretary