

**Board of Directors**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 2011, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Willamalane Community Recreation Center**  
**250 S. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Springfield, Oregon**

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**Call to Order**

President Greg James called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Superintendent Bob Keefer called the roll. Present were President James, Directors Anne Ballew, Lee Beyer and Gary Ross. Ms. Ralston was absent (excused).

Staff present included Jason Genck, Pam Caples, Joel Miller, Greg Hyde, Mike Moskovitz, and Rita Grimes

Others present: Josh Alpert, Trust for Public Lands

**Flag Salute**

President James led the Board and audience in the flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

None

**Oral Requests and Communications from the Audience/Staff**

None

**Board Officer Elections****Nominate and Elect FY '12 Board President and Vice-President**

Director Beyer moved, seconded by Director Ballew, to elect Director Gary Ross FY '12 Board President. The motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

Director James moved, seconded by Director Beyer, to elect Director Anne Ballew as FY '12 Board Vice-President. The motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

Director Beyer moved, seconded by Director James, to adopt Resolution 11-12-01 appointing the Vice President as President Pro Tempore.

**Consent Calendar****Minutes**

Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2011

Special Board Meeting of June 22, 2011

## **Consent Calendar (cont'd)**

### **Claims**

06/03/11 through 07/07/11 Disbursements for Approval  
Checks #86758 through #87230

### **Financial Summary Report**

July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

### **Resolutions**

- a. Resolution 11-12-02 Appointment of Secretary
- b. Resolution 11-12-03 Appointment of Secretary Pro Tempore
- c. Resolution 11-12-04 Appointment of Budget Officer

### **Other**

Authorize the Board president, secretary, and legal counsel to sign the Local Agency Agreement for the Middle Fork Willamette River Path, South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to Clearwater Park, Unit 2.

Director Beyer moved, seconded by Director Ballew, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **1. Trust for Public Lands Conservation Finance Feasibility Study**

Regional Conservation Services Director Josh Alpert of Trust for Public Lands introduced himself and explained that his report is meant to inform the District's consideration of new funding for parks and recreation by identifying potential funding mechanism and determining the fiscal capacity and legal requirements of various approaches.

Funding options considered in the report included General Obligation Bonds for land acquisition; Limited Tax Bonds which are backed by existing tax revenue; Property Tax or Local Option Levy to fund operations, maintenance and capital projects; and System Development Charges for capital improvements. The predicted range of tax tolerance is \$20-25m. TPL recommends conducting a public opinion survey that tests ballot language, tax tolerance, and program priorities of voters in the District.

Ms. Ballew asked if General Obligation Bonds do better in a presidential election and Mr. Alpert replied that they did and that the District will want the voter numbers that come with that particular election.

Mr. James noted that the District has paid off several bonds and asked if TPL leveraged that information. Mr. Alpert said "absolutely" and that it will also be used in messaging.

Next steps should include narrowing funding options to those that match the needs identified by the District and testing voter attitudes toward a specific set of funding proposals. To that end, TPL will contract with Fairbank, Maslin, Metz & Pollan, a California firm, to write a public opinion survey. Surveys are usually a sample of 400 persons with a margin of error of 4.9%.

Mr. Beyer questioned how the younger, cell phone only demographic was reached. Mr. Alpert indicated that it is a rising question in the industry but that, currently, it doesn't seem to interfere with the cross-section of the targeted demographics.

Relative to the survey, Mr. Alpert indicated that they did not want to "draft it in vacuum," but that they wanted the District's input. TPL will work with the pollster and District staff to

develop a first draft for staff to review and discuss. They will test for favorables – that is how people view the district and other area organizations – and they will test ballot language to get a snapshot of the voters’ willingness to vote for a bond. The biggest deal is matching voters’ needs to the District wants.

Board members thanked Mr. Alpert for his report and indicated that they looked forward to hearing from him again.

## **2. Clearwater Park Master Plan Site Inventory & Analysis Review, Results from Public Workshop**

Landscape Architect/Park Planner Nicole Ankeney reviewed the purpose and objectives for the Clearwater Park Master Plan. She noted that, on the Project Timeline, this presentation was an opportunity for the Board to review the information gathered in the first public input session and to give feedback.

Mr. Beyer wondered who the interested parties were that participated in the public sessions. Ms. Ankeney said they were people who asked to be put on the list as well as those who gave address information on the Web survey. The majority of those who attended were Park neighbors.

Ms. Ankeney described the existing conditions and showed a context map noting Clearwater Park’s proximity to the G-P property, the alignment of the Middle Fork Path through it, and its proximity to Dorris Ranch, the Nature Conservancy property and the Howard Buford Recreation Area. She also showed a map highlighting the pending boat launch and boat launch parking as well as the pending park host site.

Mr. Ross commented on the constraints around the park entrance and asked if there was any opportunity to bring another exit or entrance by the pending boat launch parking lot or somewhere else. Mr. Keefer said that a wider access road and controlled entrance were preferred but that staff will be looking at the options.

Ms. Ankeney reviewed a historic vegetation map circa 1855, a current habitat area map and showed some of the natural resource highlights which includes many native plants, tree snags for habitat, and the natural diversity. She noted that the understory upstream of the boat ramp is in fair to good condition.

Opportunities in the park include riverfront access for boating, fishing, water play, and scenic views. It is a natural setting, close to city limits, with native plants and wildlife; 65 acres of mostly undeveloped land with riparian forest and meadows. It has the potential to connect to the regional trail system and perfect for environmental education and interpretation. Adjacent public lands and views include the former Georgia-Pacific property, Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah, and The Nature Conservancy land across the river:

Some constraints to the park are its location outside the city limits and Urban Growth Boundary and within a rural area. Clearwater Lane is a two-lane county road with limited capacity for traffic. There is only one entrance to the park and a narrow park access road. There is a large amount of invasive species mixed with the native plants.

At lightly attended public meetings, citizens cited disc golf, mountain biking, and an archery range as the most popular proposed amenities for the park. Those who participated in the surveys chose those same amenities plus more river access points and more trails.

The next step for the Management Plan project is to evaluate the proposed amenities. Many issues will be considered with the level of public support, site specific issues, compatibility, and costs. Some examples are:

- Whether it aligns with Willamalane's mission to "deliver exceptional parks and recreation to enrich the lives of everyone we serve."
- Whether the proposal has wide-spread community support
- Whether the proposal or use is compatible with adjacent land uses
- What the cost/benefit ratio is for Willamalane patrons
- Whether the proposal is compatible with Lane County code

Ms. Ankeny concluded by saying that the Project Team and Management Team will begin evaluating the proposed amenities and create a draft master plan by this fall. She asked the Board for questions or comments.

Mr. Beyer said he was reluctant to overdevelop the area and thought that simple things like picnic tables/shelter made some sense. He would like to see more access to river as it is a nice place for kids to swim and fish. He would also like to see more benches along the trail.

Mr. Keefer said that the District will try to balance competing demands. The park should be popular enough but not too popular.

Ms. Ballew said she thinks it is such a special setting and she sees it primarily as a nature park not a recreation park.

Mr. Ross commented that he sees two distinct different areas: pastures and open areas and then riparian walkways and paths. He also sees picnic shelters and tables scattered around. If the park is to be more developed, he would like to see an archery range in a pasture or open area. He also said it is great to improve access to river for alter-abled patrons.

Mr. Beyer responded that he thinks disk golf and archery lend themselves better to the West D Street Greenway.

Board members thanked Ms. Ankeney for her report and told her they looked forward to seeing her again in September or October for another update.

### **3. Willamalane Center Multi-Purpose Floor Replacement**

Deputy Superintendent Jason Genck explained that long time District tennis instructor Bob Reed wanted to donate replacement of the multi-use floors in Willamalane Center. The donation will provide four tennis courts allowing for year round tennis in the community. Mr. Genck showed examples of the current product installed and what Mr. Reed would like to provide. He noted that floor replacement will open up opportunities for other activities in Willamalane Center. Mr. Reed is also interested in donating equipment for the community tennis program which includes a tennis ball machine. Floor replacement was not envisioned in the remodel as it was beyond the District's financial capabilities. In return for the donation, Mr. Reed would like a ten year commitment to program 1200 hours of tennis each year with an option to extend the commitment to fifteen years.

There was a great deal of discussion around the issue of the long-term commitment to Mr. Reed. Board members directed Mr. Keefer, Mr. Genck and Board Counsel Dwight Purdy to meet with Mr. Reed and work out an equitable agreement on the committed hours and years. If an agreement can be reached, a Special Board Meeting will be called to approve it.

#### **4. Special Committee Appointments for FY 12**

Mr. Keefer explained that, annually, the Board president designates members of the Board to serve on various committees to represent the Board and District on specific issues that may impact the District and the services we provide. Mr. Ross reviewed the current assignments and suggested the following: TEAM Springfield – Gary Ross with Anne Ballew as Alternate; Springfield Public Schools – Danelle Ralston with Lee Beyer as Alternate; Friends of Willamalane Park and Recreation – Danelle Ralston with Greg James as Alternate; City of Springfield – Anne Ballew with Lee Beyer as Alternate; Lane Council of Governments – Greg James with Gary Ross as Alternate; Metropolitan Policy Committee – Gary Ross; Wildish Community Theater Board – Lee Beyer with Gary Ross as Alternate.

Director Beyer moved, seconded by Director Ballew, to accept the Special Committee appointments as presented. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

Mr. Keefer showed Board members the bike helmets that were purchased with a donation of \$5,000 from State Farm Insurance. The helmets will be distributed at the Playground in the Parks Program and any extras will be given out at the information booth during SummerFest.

#### **Executive Session**

Director James moved, seconded by Director Ballew, to move into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660; Section (1), Subsection (I): For The Purpose Of Considering a Matter of Personnel Evaluation.

#### **Reconvene Regular Board Meeting**

#### **Unfinished Business (continued)**

#### **5. Superintendent's FY 11 Evaluation**

Director Ballew moved, seconded by Director Beyer, to award an overall evaluation of Superior to Superintendent Bob Keefer for his FY '11 work. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

Director Ballew moved, seconded by Director Beyer, to award the Superintendent a 1.25% Cost of Living Adjustment as was awarded to other full-time non bargaining unit employees. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

Director Ballew moved, seconded by Director James, to establish a \$5,000 performance bonus fund within the Superintendent's budget to award bonuses at his discretion and to fund the annual Superintendent's Innovation Award. The motion passed unanimously 4:0.

#### **Business from Legal Counsel**

None

#### **Standing and Special Committee Reports**

Mr. Beyer announced that Wildish Theater Manager Emily Hamill will be leaving her position in September and that a Board member had resigned.

## **Superintendent's Business**

### **1. Superintendent's Reports #125 dated June 30, 2011**

Mr. Ross commented that he was amazed and stunned at everything the District is doing.

### **2. Staff Updates**

None

### **3. Board Attendance at NRPA Conference, November 1-3, 2011, Atlanta**

President Ross and Vice President Ballew agreed to attend this year's NRPA Congress.

### **4. Springfield Chamber 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Tailgate Auction**

The District has, once again, been asked to sponsor a table at the Chamber's Tailgate Auction. Board members agreed to sponsor a table.

### **5. Board Recess for the Month of August 2012**

The Board agreed to a Board Recess during the month of August. It was noted that the Board may need to convene to finalize the Willamalane Center multi-purpose floor replacement agreements.

## **Upcoming Meetings/Work Sessions/Events**

- July 15-17 SummerFair, Island Park, see Program Guide for specific activities and times
- July 20 Park Social, Pride Park, 5-6:30 p.m.
- July 22 Movies in the Park "The Goonies," Meadow Park, 8:30 p.m.
- July 22-23 Fiesta Latina, Island Park
- July 24 National Night Out Kick-off Party, Island Park, 4-7 p.m.
- July 25 TEAM Springfield Mid-year Social, Great Bear Hall, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- July 29 Movies in the Park "Megamind," Island Park, 8:30 p.m.
- August 2 National Night Out in Your Neighborhood: Guy Lee, Meadow, Page and Willamalane Parks, 5-7 p.m.
- August 2 National Night Out in Your Neighborhood: Tyson, Bluebelle and Thurston Parks, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- August 3 Park Social, Gamebird Park, 5-6:30 p.m.
- August 5 Movies in the Park "Yogi Bear," Douglas Gardens, 8:30 p.m.
- August 12 Mini Golf Movie Night "Over the Hedge," Camp Putt, movie at 8:30 p.m.
- August 17 Park Social, Menlo Park, 5-6:30 p.m.
- August 17 Volunteer Recognition, Lively Park, 6 p.m.
- August 19 BBQ and Bluegrass, Dorris Ranch, 6:30-9 p.m.
- August 19 Movies in the Park "Happy Feet," Lively Park, 8:30 p.m.
- August 20-21 Roving Park Players "Wizard of Oz," Island Park, 6 p.m.
- August 26 Movies in the Park "Despicable Me," Ruff Park, 8:30 p.m.
- August 31 Park Social, Tyson Park, 5-6:30 p.m.

## **Written Communications**

None

### **Remarks from the Directors**

Mr. Beyer requested moving the monthly work session (usually scheduled the fourth Wednesday of each month) to another day or time as it conflicted with another meeting he attended. After some discussion, it was proposed, and agreed, to keep the meeting on the fourth Wednesday but move the meeting time to 7 p.m.

Mr. James announced that the Springfield Planning Commission has appointed a pedestrian/bicycle committee on which he will serve. He also announced that the Springfield Education Foundation is sponsoring a golf tournament and he was trying to put a team together. Interested Board members will check their calendars and let him know of their availability.

### **Messages and Papers from the President**

None

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

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Robert W. Keefer, Secretary

Rita F. Grimes, Recording Secretary