



Parks & Recreation Commission  
7:00 P.M.  
January 23, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair, presided

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, Juli Bradley, Walter Eby, Scott Jonason,  
Steve Lorenz, Mark Nickerson and Melissa Smith

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson and Susan Newlove

A motion was made by Jonason, seconded by Lorenz, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of December 12, 2007, be approved as written. Acheson introduced and welcomed Eunice Abrahamsen, the newest member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The board made a motion to elect Brent Erickson as President and Scott Jonason as Vice President of the Commission for the year of 2008.

**PRUNE HILL SPORTS PARK - VERIZON**

Acheson stated that he has been contacted by a representative from Verizon who is interested in doing a study out at Prune Hill Sports Park for an antennae, in which revenue resources could come of this and other potential. Acheson asked the board if they would be comfortable with going through this testing process of making it a possibility to place the cell phone antennae there permanently.

In response to Bradley's question, Acheson stated that currently there are antennas on our water towers and on Garfield. In response to Eby's questions, Acheson stated that this would be an entirely new structure and that there's a permitting process that they would need to go through.

Jonason stated that if we are going to use the technology then we have to somewhat support it. In response to Jonason's question, Acheson stated that he can research policies throughout the year and they can discuss the topic of sponsorship, naming rights and alternative funding resources.

In response to Erickson's question, Acheson stated that he can come back with computer images of the light post and tree structure and suggested having someone from Verizon come in and listen to the Commission members. Acheson suggested including the neighbors to see if there's a concern from their standpoint. Eby stated that when the towers went up on Garfield, notices were sent out to the neighbors so he's assuming that they are going to do the same thing. Acheson stated yes, and that there's much more planning and permits involved in the process if they decide to proceed further.

## **PLANNING CONFERENCE**

Acheson stated that they are having a planning conference in the upcoming weekend and wondered if there are any topics that the Commission would like to bring forward for discussion. He stated that he is going to discuss the Ash Creek Park redesign and starting the process on Ostenson Canyon Park.

Acheson stated that another item he is going to bring up is that every time they do a park, it's under a conditional use no matter what zone they are in. The conditional use process is a hearings examiner. When doing Ostenson Canyon Park, comments were related to design. The hearings examiner kept commenting that he couldn't make a decision regarding design elements which confused the citizens.

Acheson wants to suggest making all parks a permitted use throughout the city of Camas so that they don't have to go through a conditional use process. They would still have the design review and the Parks Commission review. The permitted use would still be subject to council approval and people would still be able to voice their concern. In response to Smith's question, Erickson stated that we don't have rights with the conditional use, not the way it's worded in the ordinance.

In response to Nickerson's question, Acheson stated that the Community Center is scheduled for a joint meeting between Camas and Washougal's Councils to be discussed sometime in February.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

**Ash Creek Park Design Committee:** Acheson requested a replacement to Mr. Gast on the Ash Creek Park Design Committee and Abrahamsen has agreed to replace him.

**Dog Park:** Acheson stated he has a meeting with a representative from Clark County Dog Paw on February 8 to investigate bringing an off-leash area to the city of Camas. They are proposing a 4 to 5 acre site and Acheson suggested the area in the Anderson parcel under the power lines or at the Heritage Boat launch where they just mowed since it already has parking and a restroom.

Jonason suggested that the area by the Community Center under the power lines would be a fantastic spot since there's nothing else that can be done under them. Acheson stated that funding sources for that Northern parcel might prohibit what that area can be used for.

Eby suggested looking into the annexation north of the lake area or the neighborhood spot off of Leadbetter. Acheson stated that the boat launch would be a good area since it already has public facilities in place. Bradley stated that the boat dock has a lot of public around and Acheson stated that the area would be fenced. Jonason stated that he thinks the fencing wouldn't go very well at the boat dock and Bradley stated that the parking is really tight.

**OTHER ITEMS**

Parks Maintenance: Eby stated that he would like to thank the Parks maintenance workers for doing a fantastic job cleaning up the parks this time of year.

Bridge: In response to Nickerson's question, Acheson stated that the bridge is still being built and is getting started now. They are still working on trail segments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.