



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
March 26, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair, presided

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, Walter Eby, Steve Lorenz, Mark Nickerson and Melissa Smith

Excused: Juli Bradley and Scott Jonason

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson and Susan Newlove

Guest Speakers: Melissa Burchett from Dogpaw

Visitors: Briget Deemer and Andy Harwood

A motion was made by Eby, seconded by Lorenz, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of February 27, 2008, be approved as written.

DOG PARK PRESENTATION

Acheson introduced Melissa Burchett, the Site Development Chair from the Dogpaw board. Burchett distributed information on the history, goals and rules of the Dogpaw Organization.

Burchett explained that Dogpaw has formed a cooperative agreement with Vancouver and Washougal. The Cities provide the land and Dogpaw provides the general upkeep and maintenance of the park.

Acheson stated that at the last board meeting, one of the sites they were looking into for a potential dog park was at Goot Park underneath the Power lines. In response to Lorenz's question, Acheson stated that the site is about 4 to 5 acres. Burchett stated that she would be hesitant to go below five acres for a dog park site.

In response to Eby's question, Burchett explained that these are not membership-use only parks. She explained that Dogpaw encourages membership because it helps support the maintenance of the parks but it is not a requirement to use the parks.

In response to Erickson's question, Burchett stated that it would take a couple of months to get the land developed for a dog park.

Acheson stated that they need to start doing some public outreach. Erickson stated that he can definitely support a dog park since the demand for open areas for dogs has been increasing. He suggested informing the public about the park within a 2-mile radius and posting a letter in the Parks & Recreation newsletter published in June.

Erickson stated that Acheson and Burchett should move forward with plans for the dog park.

PROJECT UPDATES

Ash Creek Park/Klickitat: The developer has indicated he has the fill dirt needed at ~~Klickitat-Ash Creek~~ and a ~~D~~developers agreement is currently being designed.

Washougal River Trail: Consultants are being involved and individuals hired for the engineering and permitting which needs to take place.

Grants: A ~~\$500,000~~ grant for the *Field of Dreams* and a grant for open space acquisitions have been applied for.

Prune Hill Sports Park: Verizon did some testing and they are definitely interested in the spot for an antenna and have agreed to build a restroom to put the antenna structure on. Verizon will give a presentation to the Commission in April.

Conference Room: The Commission gave City staff permission to re-paint the Conference Room at the Camas Community Center and add tables and chairs for children.

OTHER ITEMS

Visitors: Smith introduced the visitors, Briget Deemer and Andy Harwood. They explained that they are students from Washington State University and are currently working on a 2-year Masters Project out at Lacamas Lake.

Camas Cemetery: Abrahamsen stated that she is interested in starting a Friends of the Camas Cemetery organization. Smith suggested that she speak with Linda Dietzman. Erickson suggested that she contact Virginia Warren and Verla Jonason, who are both members of the Friends of the Camas Community Center. Acheson suggested that she contact Eric Levison as he has suggested forming an organization to help raise funds for the Cemetery.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

