



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
April 22, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, Juli Bradley, Walt Eby, Steve Lorenz,
Mark Nickerson and Melissa Smith

Absent: Scott Jonason

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson and Susan Newlove

Guest Speakers: Elizabeth Sato and Chad Stewart

Public: Myron Crumpacker

A motion was made by Eby, seconded by Bradley, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of March 25, 2009, be approved as written after a correction is made.

COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTATION UPDATE

Elizabeth Sato stated that she is a Camas resident who works with the Friends of the Camas Community Center and the Community Center Development Committee. She stated that she was at the meeting to provide a brief update on the Committees and the next phase of planning and development.

Sato noted that the Friends of the Camas Community Center is a non-profit group that was established in 1985 to enhance the work of staff and programs. A group of concerned citizens studied the structure of the building and at the pool approximately six years ago and a committee was formed to find a site for a new community center which would enhance both Camas and Washougal. The friends decided to form the CCDC to look into a site, design and fundraising.

Chad Stewart introduced himself as a volunteer board member on the CCDC. He shared information on what has been done on the site selection, design and construction committee over the last twelve months. He requested a concurrent recommendation based on site recommendations to take to a City Council workshop in May.

The Lacamas Lake properties, JDZ and Goot Park are the three sites evaluated and scored. All three sites were scored based on the following; system standard evaluation criteria, size and configuration of the parcels themselves, expansion capacity, existing conditions, neighborhoods, transportation corridors, parking issues, cost of construction, operating costs, cost of development and sense of destination. The Lacamas Lake site

and JDZ scores were fairly even matched, with Goot Park scoring the lowest. The assumption is that there will be sufficient existing buildings to utilize at the JDZ site making the financial component more feasible than starting from scratch at the Lacamas Lake site. The sketches and analysis done by OPSIS determined that the JDZ site will not work primarily because of size. They also determined that the JDZ site did not provide enough parking. Also, to remodel the gym would be more expensive than building a new one.

In response to Nickerson's question, Stewart stated that they have not looked into the Community Center at Battleground yet. He added that it is important to look at the Community Centers to see what works functionally and problematically. In response to Erickson's question regarding single or multiple buildings, Stewart stated that for construction and operation costs it would be best if everything is under one roof, adding that empty space is not cost effective. Stewart mentioned the importance of planning for enough parking as a result of looking into the Firstenburg Center.

Stewart stated that the next step is to focus efforts on the Lake properties. He added that both in-house labor and existing knowledge will be used to try and evaluate the property. Smith stated that she believes they have a good foundation and they are approaching this on the correct path. Bradley stated that she thought the Buhman property would be a great place for the Community Center.

Erickson stated that they have the support from the Parks Board to continue looking at the Buhman property and to develop a plan. Lorenz thanked them for all of their work.

OTHER ITEMS

Crown Park Donation: Jerry Acheson introduced Myron Crumpacker. Crumpacker thanked the Board for allowing his family to donate a tire swing to Crown Park in memory of their daughter, Rachel Crumpacker. He stated that this means a lot to his family and he added that Rachel touched many people's lives. The Commission thanked Crumpacker and his family for their generous donation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.