



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
May 27, 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

Public: Nellie Gruenfeld

A motion was made by Eby, seconded by Lorenz, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of April 22, 2009, be approved as written.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PRESENTATION

Acheson introduced Eagle Scout, Brenton Krieger, who would like to build equipment sheds on the side of both score booths and cubbies for the dugouts at Forest Home Park. He stated that the sheds would keep everything secure and onsite, while allowing for easy access. Krieger met with both Jim Gant and Brian Kashas who approved the project. A motion was made by Lorenz, seconded by Nickerson, and carried to accept the Eagle Scout project presented by Brenton Krieger.

SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT – “ART IN THE PARK” – CROWN PARK

Erickson stated that Liz Pike was unable to attend tonight’s meeting. He commented that his initial concern about this event was whether there would be sufficient restroom facilities to accommodate the attendees. Pike told Erickson that she would provide two additional facilities. Abrahamsen and Smith questioned why the event venue was changed from the Camas/Washougal Port. In response to Lorenz’s question regarding this event setting a precedence, Acheson stated that he does not recollect an event such as this in any of the City parks.

In response to Eby’s concern regarding notifying the neighborhood, Acheson stated that a letter was suppose to be sent out informing the neighborhood about the event. Smith suggested incorporating the event with First Friday. Abrahamsen commented that it is difficult to make a decision without Pike present to answer questions.

Erickson explained that he anticipates similar requests in the future and having parameters in place is important. Bradley stated that she believes “Art in the Park” is a great idea, but she is concerned with the music level. Erickson suggested that music be

on the grass area and proposed that the vendors be placed near 15th Street to leave the shelter area open to the public. Lorenz stated that he agrees with not placing vendors in the areas of the park with the highest activity. Eby noted that he supports the suggestion of limiting the art area in the park.

Eby stressed the importance of addressing a policy designating certain parks for specific events. Erickson stated that per CMC - 12.32 “So long as the proposed activity is legal, is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, and does not unduly interfere with the rights of others to use park facilities, the application will be granted and the requested area or an alternative area will be assigned by the Parks and Recreation Manager”.

A motion was made by Lorenz, seconded by Bradley, and carried to allow Art in the Park with adjusted recommendations by the Parks Board and a review after the July event to allow for further consideration of like events.

PROJECT UPDATES

Prune Hill Sports Park – The baseball field is completed.

Benton Park – The park has been completed with a few remaining maintenance issues to be completed. A park dedication will be in the near future.

Washougal River Greenway Trail – One more permit is needed.

Grass Valley Park – Parking expansion design is starting.

CDBG Grants – Grants have been approved for the Goot Park restroom and a handicap access ramp at the Community Center. Plans are being designed.

Lacamas Canoe and Kayak – A pre-application meeting was last Thursday. It is going through the design review process now and is scheduled to open in July.

OTHER ITEMS

Camtown Youth Festival – Krista Bashaw requested volunteers from the Parks Commission to staff the recreation booth at the Camtown Youth Festival.

Cemetery – Erickson stated that the Cemetery looked great over the Memorial Day weekend and he thanked the staff for doing a wonderful job. He noted that Abrahamsen volunteered help all three days.

Donation Plaques – Abrahamsen stated that she believes the board should support anyone who wants to put a plaque up. Acheson stated that the plaques should be affixed to the items. Erickson stated that the board needs to put a policy in place regarding donation plaques and recommended adding it to the September agenda.

Benton Park – Nellie Gruenfeld suggested that canopies be placed over the picnic tables at Benton Park and requested that Acheson investigate who manufactured the tables. Acheson suggested having one of the Summer meetings at Benton Park.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.