



Parks & Recreation Commission
7:00 P.M.
June 25, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Brent Erickson, Chair

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, Walter Eby, Scott Jonason and Mark Nickerson

Excused: Steve Lorenz

Absent: Juli Bradley and Melissa Smith

Staff Present: Jerry Acheson, Eric Levison and Susan Newlove

Public: Jonathan Bower, Eagle Scout

A motion was made by Jonason, seconded by Eby, and carried that minutes of the general meeting of May 28, 2008, be approved once a correction is made.

REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL

Levison stated that the Parks Maintenance staff would like permission to clear the Black Locust trees in the immediate area of Heritage Park Trail.

A motion was made by Eby, and carried that the Black Locust trees be removed along Heritage Park Trail.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON TREE REMOVAL/REPLACEMENT POLICY

In response to Erickson's question, Levison suggested that it be adopted as an interim policy and then Council can amend it by resolution to the Open Space Management Plan.

Levison stated that it would be best to make it a policy for the staff and Parks board, then advise the Council when it is instated to give them a chance for discussion. If the Commission would like to incorporate material into the Open Space Management Plan, it could be added at a later time.

In response to Erickson's question, Levison stated that it could be presented to Council and would be informational only and no action.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON DONATION/SERVICE POLICY

Levison stated that the donation policy provides some boundaries and guidelines for projects, but more work needs to be done on how much flexibility is needed.

In response to Jonason's question, Levison stated that he receives approximately 10 to 15 requests for projects a year. Nickerson stated that he would like to encourage projects by making this a simple process. Jonason suggested giving applicants options as to what projects are available to them. Nickerson stated that if the applicants would like to go beyond the options given them, then they can present it to the Commission. Erickson asked Levison to compile a list of the types of trees and benches that would be acceptable to place in the parks.

Levison stated that guiding individuals by having projects organized for them would be important and an excellent idea for fully utilizing volunteer services. Eby suggested a follow-up report to the Commission once the projects are completed.

Erickson stated that the donation policy and project policy are both different so they need to look at the standards for two separate policies.

PROJECT UPDATES

Soccer goals at Oak Park – Levison stated that the Parks Chief has approved the placement of goals at Oak Park. The Parks Chief stated that they can work around them, but has requested that the goals be moved around from time to time to reduce wear on the grass. Levison suggested a one-year trial to see if any damage is done.

Seasons of Service – Levison stated that a number of local churches are looking into doing a Volunteer Day on either August 8th or 9th. The churches had a discussion with the City of Camas and the Camas School District on projects that might need to be done. The School district suggested an island at Skyridge that needs brush removal. The City has suggested Ivy removal and a need for edging at the Cemetery.

OTHER ITEMS

Round Lake - Eby suggested a sandy spot for launching kayaks at Round Lake is needed. Levison stated that there are issues of long-term maintenance and obtaining permits.

Soccer field usage - Erickson suggested that the City look into a policy to begin charging the Soccer Clubs for field usage. Acheson stated that the City may run into insurance issues if a field usage fee is charged, but stated that he will look into a maintenance fee as opposed to a field usage fee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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

