

**Bend Metro Park & Recreation District
Board of Directors
Work Session, Executive Session & Regular Meeting
August 4, 2009**

BOARD PRESENT: Scott Wallace, Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn, and George Thayer.

STAFF PRESENT: Bruce Ronning, Wayne Smith, Lindsey Lombard, Andie Lindgren, Jan Taylor, Theresa Albert, Ed Moore, Dave Crowther, Audrey Robison, Steve Jorgensen, David Wagner, Vicki Wooster and Paula Lowery.

LEGAL COUNSEL: Neil Bryant.

MEDIA: Erin Golden

VISITORS: Michael Graham, Bob Wenger, Keith Scott and Sue Vordenberg.

WORK SESSION

SDC Fee Deferral

Bruce Ronning referred to a request from a developer for a SDC fee deferral included in the board report. He noted that during the SDC discussions conducted last year, two different types of deferrals were considered, one of which would be modeled after the city's program that allows deferral of the SDC fee until time of occupancy or nine months, whichever comes first. Bruce explained this request is brought to the board to provide direction to staff as to whether a resolution should be prepared that would allow for a nine month deferral or pending occupancy permit. Bruce explained the deferral criteria required by the city including affordable housing and a means of backfilling the SDC fund. He noted the district does not have a fund, other than the general fund, to draw from in order to create this type of program. He explained that should the board determine to implement an SDC fee deferral program, it would require a resolution. Lindsey shared information regarding the potential impact of a deferral program on SDC revenue. She also provided an update on current SDC revenue. Bruce noted a letter had been received from Andy High, Central Oregon Builders Association (COBA) urging the board to move ahead in the same manner as the city. Scott Asla expressed concern for being able to collect the fee if the builder were to fail to complete the project. Neil Bryant explained the traditional process for securing payment and recommended a promissory note and some form of security on the property. Ted Schoenborn stated that his recollection about the discussion regarding deferrals addressed deferrals for low cost housing to spread out the fees could be spread out over a long enough period of time in order to make cost of construction affordable. He expressed concern for setting a precedent that would result in a real disservice to the residents of the district because we don't have a way to backfill the SDC fund. Lindsey clarified the district will need to have a deferral process in place that each builder would need to follow to request a deferral, and the question before the board is separate from the low cost housing question. Scott Wallace stated that it was his recollection that the board had discussed how a SDC deferral could be applied to affordable housing as well as looking at reducing the burden for builders with respect to the economy. Ted stated that is why the board set the fee at 56% of the calculation to keep the fee equal for a year even though we knew it would be inadequate. He stated when we defer SDCs there is a harm to existing district residents. George

Thayer stated that during these economic times we need to think carefully about what we can do without harming ourselves as a district and ways we can facilitate the builder. Scott Asla expressed concern for the district's ability to collect a deferred fee and suggested an IGA could be obtained with the city to ensure the SDCs were paid. Bruce clarified that staff is seeking direction from the board regarding whether a deferral process should be developed for their consideration. Ted reiterated his concerns based on the board's previous decision to implement the fee at less than 100% and how that will impact future projects. Following discussion the board directed staff to develop a deferral process for board consideration.

Social Marketing

Andie Lindgren presented information covering different types of technology used in social marketing including Facebook, My Space, YouTube, blogs LinkedIn, etc. She explained how these sites could be used to inform and make district residents more aware about various programs and events, and obtain feedback from the public. She stated following research of the various technologies, staff is proposing creating two different blogs with one focused on recreation opportunities for kids and a second for active adults, including the senior center. Jan Taylor explained the purpose of social marketing for the district is to increase marketing and outreach. Scott Wallace asked about the amount of staff time involved to respond to the blogs. Andie introduced Vicki Wooster and explained she would be working 10 hours a week for the district managing the social marketing sites. She stated these sites are easier to manage and require less time than web sites. Jan stated staff would not be involved in lengthy, ongoing conversation; rather controlled responses would be used. Ted Schoenborn also expressed concern for the number of staff hours that will ultimately be required to manage these sites and keeping them up to date. Andie explained that this will be an experimental year for the district to determine what is most effective. She noted the costs for printing the program guide and initially the amount of staff time required is anticipated to be relatively low. She explained there are segments of the market the district is currently not reaching that could be covered through the use of social media. Ted stated it is an important step and suggested that as we get into this further we are going to need a full time communications person. Jan stated that staff would be presenting a social media policy and guidelines at the next work session for board consideration.

The work session was concluded at 6:30 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Scott Wallace convened and executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (e) for the purpose of discussing real property transactions.

REGULAR MEETING

BUSINESS SESSION

VISITORS

Keith Scott addressed the board regarding the recent drowning near Riverbend Park. He urged the board to consider posting signs identifying the hazards of the river.

Bob Wenger addressed the board regarding the off leash dog parks. He asked how the board felt about how that program is going, and if there is anything more DogPac can do to help the process along. Jan Taylor reported on meetings with DogPac and received some good feedback. She stated they feel things

are going quite well, and noted there are some changes that need to be addressed. She also recognized the work that Bob has done and the hours he has volunteered at the Pine Nursery.

Consider approval of amendment to District Values

Ted Schoenborn moved to approve the addition of safety in the District Values statement, and edits as indicated. George Thayer seconded the motion. Ted Schoenborn, George Thayer, Scott Asla and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed. George shared concerns regarding the lack of sidewalks on Hawthorne and Fifth Street to access Juniper Park. He stated there is federal money for sidewalks and perhaps the city could secure a grant.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes – July 7 & 21, 2009

Codify board approved personnel policies

Approve Harvest Park landscape contract

Approve mower purchase

Scott Asla moved to approve the consent agenda. George Thayer seconded the motion. Scott Asla, George Thayer, Ted Schoenborn and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Juniper Ridge Update

Bruce Ronning reminded the board that staff had submitted a letter expressing an opinion about how they might develop trails and our ongoing concern regarding creating park space to serve the adjacent neighborhood to the west as well as the employees of the businesses. He stated that unfortunately both he and Don were not able to attend the latest meeting of the Juniper Ridge management board and he has not been able to contact with city staff to receive an update on the outcome of the meeting. He stated that an update would be provided for the board at a future meeting.

Colorado Street Dam Project

Bruce Ronning referred to emails to the board regarding the Colorado Street Dam Project and explained they have come from whitewater boaters who are concerned that the district might be backing away from its commitment regarding the provision of whitewater play space as part of that project. He explained that he and Robin Laughlin have asked Gary Lacy, the consultant on the project to provide another option or alternative in his report to address the whitewater feature. He noted the report will be presented to the board in the fall. Ted Schoenborn asked about the report in The Source that our proposal would destroy some of the fish habitat and if any of the proposals find a way to address that. Bruce explained that he has had discussions with Ryan Houston and he believes that Ryan understands that with the potential impact comes opportunity to enhance fish habitat and fish passage with the dam. Bruce noted that the district has paid for an environmental report outside of the REP contract, and additional environmental evaluation and approval from a number of agencies will be required once a preferred option or project is selected. Ted stressed the importance of accommodating both the needs of the Paddle Trail Alliance and the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council as well as the support of all of the impacted participants.

Drowning at Riverbend Park

Bruce Ronning referred to a recent article regarding the drowning in the vicinity of Riverbend Park and explained how the story came about. He noted that there had been recommendations regarding the district providing lifeguards on the river. He stated that he had advised the reporter that the board had not met since the incident and no discussion had occurred regarding the use of lifeguards. George Thayer stated he thought Keith Scott's suggestion about additional signage is a good idea.

JayCee/Railroad Park Encroachment

Bruce Ronning referred to a letter emailed to the board from the family residing in a house adjacent to JayCee/Railroad Park who has begun to erect a fence within the park boundary. He explained that he and Dave Crowther have had numerous conversations with the owner and advised that the fence posts need to be removed. He stated as a public agency we cannot allow someone to use public property if we are aware of the fact they are doing so.

Brooks Park Memorial

Bruce Ronning reported the Brooks Park Memorial has been approved by the city planning commission. He stated that Robin Laughlin and Jeff Newman have met with the veterans who are conducting a fundraising effort. He noted they are close to reaching their goal.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Prepared by,

Paula Lowery
Executive Assistant

Scott Wallace, Vice-Chair

George Thayer, Vice-Chair

Ted Schoenborn

Ruth Williamson

Scott Asla