

**Bend Metro Park & Recreation District
Board of Directors
Work Session & Regular Meeting
July 6, 2010**

- BOARD PRESENT:** Scott Wallace, George Thayer, Ted Schoenborn, and Ruth Williamson.
- STAFF PRESENT:** Lindsey Lombard, Bruce Ronning, Wayne Smith, Ed Moore, Robin Laughlin, Sue Jorgenson, Andie Lindgren, Dave Crowther, Theresa Albert and Paula Lowery.
- LEGAL COUNSEL:** None.
- MEDIA:** None.
- VISITORS:** Mike Lovely, Michael Graham, Allan Bruckner, Roger Fisher and Bob Wenger.

WORK SESSION

Chair Scott Wallace convened a work session at 5:32 pm.

Prescription for Play

Wayne Smith explained that district recreation staff has been involved in various community groups working on community issues. He stated that a recent workshop was conducted by Terry Bergerson with the Oregon Park and Recreation Department describing a pilot program currently being administered in Portland identified as Rx for Play (Prescription Leverage for Active Youth). He noted that the workshop was attended by local pediatricians, Deschutes County Health Department, La Pine Park and Recreation District, Sisters Park and Recreation District, and St. Charles staff. He explained the goal of the program is to evaluate the effectiveness of a childhood obesity prevention/treatment model that combines brief physician-based physical activity counseling and prescription with referral to local park and recreation physical activity programs. Sue Jorgenson described how the program would be conducted beginning with a physician prescribing physical activity to those patients they have identified as children who fall into the obese category. She stated that staff is enthused by the interest shown by those who attended the workshop as well as the dynamics of combining the medical community and recreation field. She added that locally it is felt that it is important to include a nutritional component and that is being explored. Sue stated that there are a high percentage of low income families who have children who are in the obese category, and it is recognized that alternative funds will need to be secured to help support what the district is already doing. Wayne noted this presentation is to inform the board of the district's role in the program as it is being developed. He also cited the benefit of collecting data through this program and how the use of that data will help support the concept. The board expressed support for continuing with the development of the program.

Scholarship Program

Wayne Smith explained that the scholarship program is reviewed annually with a goal of providing the best service to our customers and at the same time giving consideration to the financial impact of the program to the district. He reviewed scholarship expenditures for 2009-10 and through May 2010. He noted that the majority of scholarship use occurs at Juniper Swim & Fitness Center. Wayne also reviewed funding sources for the program noting that alternative funding currently supports approximately \$100,000 of the

annual expenditures with the balance supported through General Fund subsidy. Wayne reviewed the scholarship eligibility guidelines and stated it is the same scale used by the school district lunch program which is revised annually on September 1. He stated that recreation staff has reviewed the current program policy and agrees that the program should continue to fund all eligible participants and eligibility guidelines are adequate. Wayne requested input from the board with regard to whether the program should focus on youth only, if limits should be imposed, and if district customers should be provided with an opt out option to help fund the program. The board expressed satisfaction with the current program and directed staff not to make any changes to the existing guidelines. The board also discussed how to get the most out of available funds and how to generate donations to the scholarship fund. Scott Asla suggested asking program contractors to contribute to the fund, perhaps in the form of a set number of scholarships to their own program. He also suggested providing a higher amount for kids. Scott Wallace stated that he would rather maximize the number of recipients that can benefit from the program, and the district should look into where we could tap into more resources. The board also discussed implementing an opt out component of the online registration and determined not to pursue that option. The board also expressed continued support of the existing scholarship program through the general fund and urged staff to continue to seek alternative funding to help support the increased demand for scholarships.

Hollinshead Master Plan

Robin Laughlin presented the proposed Hollinshead Master Plan. She reviewed the public process that resulted in the proposed components of the plan. She noted that more visible history of the site and interpretive trails were the most strongly supported features. She identified the off-leash dogs and large events at the barn as the most frequently mentioned issues of concern. Robin explained the final draft of the plan focuses on retaining much of the existing historic character while providing upgrades to allow for modern uses. She cited key elements of the plan as a permanent public restroom, picnic facilities, interpretive trail and signs, and off-site connections to surrounding trails and parks. Robin concluded the presentation noting that funding for implementing the plan has not been identified. Bruce Ronning explained the master plan is identified in the second five-year schedule of the Capital Improvement Plan. He explained the process for adopting the plan by resolution and stated the master plan is a recipe for components and gives some direction for parameters of improvements. The board complimented the plan and thanked Robin for her efforts with the project.

REGULAR MEETING

VISITORS

Allan Bruckner addressed the board regarding the proposed lease of the Pacific Park building. He referred to an email he had sent to the board and noted he had provided copies at this time. He stated his objection to leasing a riverfront park. He stated the whole park is more than a walking path and compared the size of the park to that of Pioneer Park. He stated the building could be torn down and the black top torn up and grass could be planted for probably \$100,000. He cited the Columbia Park project and stated the district would be putting in more than twice that much money at Columbia than a renovation of Pacific Park. He also referred to the district's plan to purchase the Miller Landing property for \$4 million which is ten times as much per acre just to buy it as it would be to develop Pacific Park. He stated that some people think the park board is totally neglecting the old town and downtown just to do stuff out in the new fancy area here. He stated to tie it up for ten years for the city to do something doesn't make sense. He stated there are probably PCBs in the building because it was a PP&L storage shed and he doesn't think the district should be leasing PCB property to any organization, especially one with kids. He stated the property probably has a deed restriction that restricts it to park use because PP&L gave that to the city years back and the city in turn gave it to the parks. He stated it appears to be in conflict with Bend Development Code 2.7.600 because he believes the land is in the Waterway Overlay Zone and if so, it has a riparian corridor boundary

of 30 feet and requires building setbacks of 100 feet. He stated it is probably governed by Areas of Special Interest in the city and very possibly in a flood plain. He stated he wants those things considered along with the memo he presented to become part of the official record. He stated he thinks there needs to be general discussion about these particular points.

Mike Lovely addressed the board regarding the proposed lease of the Pacific Park building. He stated that he agrees with Allan Bruckner. He stated we are the Bend Park and Recreation District, not the Bend Park and office leasing business. He stated it is an ideal piece of property and after the administrative offices moved, he wondered what would happen to it. He stated he thought that would be another neat park, and with the code changes, anything new that happens there probably won't be allowed to happen. He stated this would be a good opportunity for another park and as small as it would be, it would still be accessible. He stated more people move here for the amenities that we have and there is enough other office space available that people can use. He stated it would be a real travesty and the building is not a historical building. He stated he would like to see it stay as a park and it would cost a lot less money and it would benefit a whole lot more people.

Roger Fisher addressed the board regarding the proposed lease of the Pacific Park building. He stated he agrees with Allan Bruckner, although he is in favor of the Miller Landing purchase. He stated he has been involved with the Cascade Community School of Music as a student and supporter and he thinks it is a lousy location for them. He stated access in and out of there is horrible; turning left off of Portland Avenue is a mess. He stated it is a wonderful piece of property for a park; it is part of the park district now and he thinks it should be done that way. He stated that this is not the best time to be selling real estate, and if you want to sell it to capitalize something else, there may be ways that you could do that, although the zoning restrictions may confuse that issue. He stated he does not think he would give anybody a ten-year lease at this point in time with the way property values are, and lock yourselves up into a situation where you can't develop this for a park or sell it or liquidate it. He stated it is not advantageous to tie something up for 10 years when you are at the bottom of a cycle and coming out.

Ruth Williamson asked if staff could clarify some of the information that might be shaping their opinion of the project. Dave Crowther explained that the district had embarked on the leasing option approximately one year ago. He stated the property was listed with Commercial Compass Realtors for the purpose of leasing the building only. He stated the park will remain as it is and open and available to the public. He stated that Cascade School of Music was the only group that showed a serious interest in the building and made an offer. He explained they are a nonprofit organization that is trying to relocate to improve their program. He stated they felt this facility would work for them as it is larger than what they have now. He stated the school has applied with the city for a conditional use permit, however, if they are not successful the lease won't move forward. Bruce Ronning clarified the Pacific Park property is listed as 2.1 acres in the park atlas and he believes there is some error in the county's record which will be looked into following Steve Jorgensen's return from vacation. He stated the conditional use permit is regarding the building alone, not the entire park. He stated the realtor's flyer could lead one to believe that the entire park is involved and it does characterize the size of the property as 3.5 acres. Bruce stated this action is not subject to Waterway Overlay Zone review. He explained the only thing that would trigger that review would be a proposal for a new structure or building; internal remodeling to existing structures do not come under the Planning Commission's review and the Waterway Overlay Zone. He stated it is not a river ASI and has no ASI restriction. Bruce stated the Miller Landing purchase is \$1.8 million.

Ruth Williamson stated that as the board was presented with the opportunity to negotiate this lease felt to her to be a prudent and appropriate use of the property as there has been no funding designated, nor do we see any in the next five-year window at minimum for the enhancement or redevelopment of Pacific

Park. She stated there has been no discussion before the board as to what the long-term use for that property will be. She stated a lot of it hinges on what might happen with the Pacific Power station and the dam. She stated we have a nonprofit that is the only organization that has expressed any interest in leasing the property that has been available since the district undertook this particular project. She stated we negotiated a lease that felt fair, prudent and responsible. She stated it is not a long-term lease and she thinks it is good use of the space for the foreseeable future, and when the lease is up we will consider the timing and see if we go forward or not. She stated it is very difficult for the district to fund built structures as we cannot apply SDC fees; we have to use general funding for that kind of purpose. She stated we are holding that building in the event we may see some need for programming space to support some of our other programs.

George Thayer stated we all want to preserve riverfront for the public which is in everyone's interest. He stated no money has been designated for tearing the building down or doing anything with it and the idea of having a nonprofit in there is to maintain the structure so it doesn't deteriorate which would cause bigger problems. He stated if they invest \$50,000 to rehab the building they will want some guarantee that they will be able to use it for more than three or five years. He stated the idea is that this a nonprofit that is going to maintain the building so there is no cost to the district for maintenance and in the meantime we can figure out what we are going to do in the longer term.

Scott Wallace stated he doesn't think the district is becoming a landlord and he believes a lot of the discussion hinged on the long-term master planning of that whole section of the river and the uncertainty with regard to what PP&L was going to do with the power station. He stated the board considered the question of generating some revenue from what is otherwise a vacant building that would be subject to transients, vandalism, etc. He stated he does not know if the issue of hazardous materials in the building is an issue as we had our staff working in there for decades. He asked for clarification regarding the terms of the lease. Dave Crowther explained the lease is for five years with five one-year options to renew and the district has the ability to back out on the one-year options. He stated the district may have to pay back a percentage of the school's investment in the building if the option to back out is exercised. He added that the district is a partner in some respects with Cascade School of Music in that we are offering programs in conjunction with the school.

Scott Asla stated that the board has not identified any plans within the five-year CIP for Pacific Park, and if it is determined to do something within the next five years, the option to back out of the lease is provided. He stated it is not anyone's intention to back away from the park.

Ted Schoenborn stated that based on the fact that we don't know what PP&L is going to do, we want to master plan the whole area including the dam and substation. He stated that at the time that decision is made is the time the district would want to be doing master planning of the whole area and deciding, for instance, how the river trail can connect through there. He stated that until that happens, it doesn't make a lot of sense to not take advantage of keeping the building occupied to reduce the chance of vandalism and at the same time provide space for the Cascade School of Music.

Allan Bruckner asked if the board would be acting on the lease that is posted on the web site tonight. Scott Wallace clarified the item is under consideration on the consent agenda. Lindsey Lombard clarified the lease would be approved based upon final legal review as the lease posted on the web site is a draft.

Proclamation Proclaiming July 2010

Ruth Williamson moved to proclaim July 2010 Park and Recreation Month. Scott Asla seconded the motion. Ruth Williamson, Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn, George Thayer and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes June 1 & 15, 2010

Ratify emergency change order – Pioneer Park Trail, Phase II

Approve lease agreement – Pacific Park building

Award contract: Pilot Butte Neighborhood Park construction

Ruth Williamson moved to remove item number six, the consideration of the lease from the consent agenda and consider approval July 20. George Thayer seconded the motion. Ruth Williamson, George Thayer, Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

Scott Asla moved to approve items four, five and seven of the consent agenda. Ruth Williamson seconded the motion. Scott Asla, Ruth Williamson, George Thayer, Ted Schoenborn and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

VISITORS

Bob Wenger addressed the board regarding the Hollinshead Master Plan. He stated he thinks the district did a very thorough review and came out with the best plan. He stated that as a frequent user of Hollinshead Park and board member of DogPak, they are very enthusiastic and encouraged that the district has decided to make that more of a permanent off-leash area. He also commended the district for the work done to maintain the turf area. He added that a lot of people will be enthused about the permanent restroom. He reported that he has entered a "Dream Dog Park" contest sponsored by Beneful and Wagworld where he described how he would use the \$500,000 prize to create his dream dog park at Pine Nursery. He stated if it does get selected as one of the ten finalists they will be posted on their web site and voting will be allowed until August 11 and would like the board's support for use of the district's social media and contact lists to encourage people to vote.

BUSINESS SESSION

Elect Board of Directors Officers & Set Meeting Dates & Times – 2010-11

Ted Schoenborn nominated George Thayer to serve as chair for 2010-11. Scott Asla seconded the nomination. Ted Schoenborn, Scott Asla, Ruth Williamson, George Thayer and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

Ruth Williamson nominated Scott Asla to serve as vice-chair for 2010-11. Ted Schoenborn seconded the nomination. Ruth Williamson, Ted Schoenborn, George Thayer, Scott Wallace and Scott Asla all voted aye. Motion passed.

Ruth Williamson moved to appoint Don Horton to the position of executive secretary of the board for 2010-11. Ted Schoenborn seconded the motion. Ruth Williamson, Ted Schoenborn, George Thayer, Scott Wallace and Scott Asla all voted aye. Motion passed.

Scott Asla moved to continue the meeting schedule of the first and third Tuesdays of the month for 2010-11. Ted Schoenborn seconded the motion. Scott Asla, Ted Schoenborn, Scott Wallace, George Thayer and Ruth Williamson all voted aye. Motion passed.

Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 327 – Hollinshead Master Plan

Ted Schoenborn moved to adopt Resolution No. 327, adopting the 2010 Hollinshead Master Plan. Ruth Williamson seconded the motion. Ted Schoenborn, Ruth Williamson, Scott Asla, George Thayer and Scott Wallace all voted aye. Motion passed.

Department Reports

Scott Wallace requested an update on the goose management program. Ed Moore provided a timeline of the goose management issues beginning in the 1980s. He explained the recent process employed by USDA and ODFW resulting in the removal of 109 resident geese that were euthanized, processed at a cost of \$15 per bird and donated to Neighbor Impact and the Bend Community Center. Ed reported district staff will continue to haze the geese with various methods in an attempt to encourage the geese to leave the area. He stated that staff will also continue to evaluate the program for its effectiveness. He explained it is anticipated to be at least a two or three year program. Ruth Williamson stated she respects the way Ed and his staff have approached this issue by being very thorough and methodical. She stated she hears that everything else has been tried and this was a measure that was undertaken as a last resort.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andie Lindgren provided an update on the annual Pet Parade and 4th of July celebration. She reported that the Kiwanis Club members were very helpful and noted that 1,800 popsicles were given out to the kids who participated in the parade. She stated participation in Wayne's old fashioned kids' games was very enthusiastic. She stated there was a very nice variety of vendors in the park and it was a very successful day.

Bruce Ronning reported on the status of the Columbia Park application. He reviewed the concerns identified by the Bend Planning Commission with regard to the fence along the riverfront. He explained an alternate proposal that would be presented to the commission for their consideration. He noted the proposal would replace the chain link fence with a steel fence similar to the design used in Pioneer Park. He explained the reasoning for placing the fence along the river is to restore a riparian area. He explained the fence would also provide a barrier that would discourage people from climbing out of the river at that site and subsequently destroying the riparian area.

Bruce Ronning reported that the district is applying for an Oregon Urban Trails Grant in the amount of \$500,000 to support the pedestrian bridge project at First Street Rapids Park. He noted that the amount requested may end up being less depending upon the total amount of the fund that was created by the 2009 legislature.

Bruce Ronning reported that Water, Parks and Wildlife campaign appears to have acquired the number of signatures to get the measure on the ballot to reinstate the lottery funding of Oregon state parks.

Lindsey Lombard presented year-end revenue information. She reported that earned recreation revenues are currently at \$4.2 million. She also provided comparisons for the old accounting method that will no longer be used. She estimated that online registration has been running around 80-85%. She also noted that staff is now using the new reservation software for facility reservations.

Lindsey Lombard reminded the board of the Miller's Landing fundraising event to be held at the High Desert Museum on July 15, hosted by Trust for Public Lands.

Lindsey Lombard noted that as there are no agenda items for August 17, consideration may be given to cancelling the meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Scott Wallace stated it has been a pleasure serving as board chair for this year and he looks forward to continuing our healthy dialogue and discussion. He thanked the staff for providing well put together agendas and outlines for programs.

George Thayer stated he looks forward to meeting Scott's standards of excellence and working with the greatest group around.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Prepared by,

Paula Lowery
Executive Assistant

Scott Wallace, Chair

George Thayer, Vice-Chair

Ted Schoenborn

Ruth Williamson

Scott Asla