



**Bend Park &  
Recreation**  
DISTRICT

## Board of Directors

Board Meeting Minutes – July 21, 2015

### **BOARD PRESENT**

Craig Chenoweth, Chair  
Ted Schoenborn, Vice Chair  
Nathan Hovekamp  
Brady Fuller  
Ellen Grover

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Don Horton, Executive Director  
Vanessa DeMoe, Assistant to the Executive Director  
Michelle Healy, Strategic Planning & Design Director  
Matt Mercer, Director of Recreation  
Pat Erwert, Park Services Director  
Theresa Albert, HR Manager  
Steve Jorgensen, Planning Manager  
Lindsey Lombard, Finance Director  
Jan Taylor, Community Relations Manager  
Mark Ellington, Facilities & Construction Manager  
Sasha Sulia, Natural Resources Manager  
Jeff Hagler, Park Stewardship Manager  
Mike Duarte, Landscape Manager  
Jason Monaghan, Facilities Maintenance/Construction Supervisor

**LEGAL COUNSEL** Neil Bryant



### **VISITORS**

Lyn Mattei– Ms. Mattei provided comment regarding her concerns about the Mirror Pond project. She said that there has been a lack of transparency and that all studies should be made available to the public.

Bruce Johnson – Mr. Johnson provided comment regarding off-leash dog areas and the need for additional areas.

## **WORK SESSION**

1. Overview of Planning Process and 2016-20 Capital Improvement Plan project process overview – *Michelle Healy and Steve Jorgensen*

Ms. Healy gave a presentation to the Board sharing a broad overview of planning within BPRD. She covered the key plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Plan and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She also shared what is happening next in the Planning and Design department.

2. Annual Strategic Action Plan – Year End Report – *Michelle Healy*

Ms. Healy briefly covered the year-end report. She briefly explained the report key, format, newly added items, and key projects that have been completed.

**\*Additional information and supporting documents on the work-sessions is provided in the meeting report dated 7-21-2015 located on-line at:**

**[http://bendparksandrec.org/about\\_us/board\\_meetings/](http://bendparksandrec.org/about_us/board_meetings/)**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **VISITORS**

Nancy Nasworthy – Ms. Nasworthy shared comment with the Board regarding Hillside Park. She stated that the area is an incredibly civilized, peaceful place to walk and she has never seen any violence involving dogs. She said that if there are rules that the parks need fencing, please consider that this is something unique and wonderful for the neighborhood; it is cooperative and a fence would interfere with walkers and bikers that currently coexist beautifully.

Dan Fishkin – Mr. Fishkin provided comment on the Hillside Park off-leash dog area. He said that the issue residents are having is that the dog area is actually a trail, not a park and it seems illogical to fence a trail. He asked that the Board consider this as a trail as opposed to a dog park and to give the comment due consideration when making the decision

Barb Campbell – Ms. Campbell provided comment on Mirror Pond. She referenced a recent article in the newspaper that stated city officials were prepared to make an offer on the purchase of the dam; she would like to know what city officials they were referring to. Ms. Campbell added that in her experiences at Hollinshead, the off-leash area works well and actually creates better responsibility of the dog owners. She reiterated that no public money should be used for the Mirror Pond dam.

Peter Hall – Mr. Hall provided comment on Hillside Park off-leash dog area. He shared that he is a frequent user and supporter of the park. He shared that it is a civil crowd with great relations. He said the park is set up as a “race track”; most people stay on the trail and it limits impact and keeps the area more natural.

Carrie Plunket – Ms. Plunket provided comment on the off-leash dog area at Hillside Park. She said that her entire family uses the park. She said that the preferred plan does a great job of several things, it addresses needs of those who live adjacent to the park, and needs of families with small children. The plan does not address how a majority use the park. She said it is a great community resource and the

current plan compromises that. She said it would be too concentrated with dogs and people and asked to make the area larger so that the neighborhood can continue to use it as a multi –use area.

Jeff Lebowitz– Mr. Lebowitz shared that he was opposed to aspects of the master for Hillside Park. He said that he was in objection to dividing and fencing the dog areas. He said that the park is a community resource. Mr. Lebowitz said that trespass is a major complaint; the park abuts three properties but touches no house. He said a cost effective solution is needed to buffer the adjacent properties.

Josh Gatling – Mr. Gatling provided comment regarding Mirror Pond and said that he hoped the dam was taken out. He said dam removal would provide more opportunities for outdoor recreation and increase the outdoor economy. He said fixing the river and pond would actually help the city.

John Mundy – Mr. Mundy provided comment regarding Mirror Pond and purchase of the dam. He asked that the Board not approve purchase of the dam before we know what the costs are and people really understand what we are buying.

Carry Compton – Ms. Compton provided comment on the off-leash dog area at Hillside Park. She said she has been using the park for over 20 years and would like to see it remain multi use

Allison Lynch-Miller – Ms. Miller gave comment on Hillside Park. She said she has lived there for 16 years and the off-leash area is a great community resource for dog owners. She said that the current multi-use of the area is important. She said her experience in this process is that it has been very difficult to understand what the process is and there has been no response to requests

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Meeting Minutes
  - a. 7/7/2015

Director Hovekamp stated that a correction needed to be made to the 7/7/2015 minutes regarding the motion to elect Director Chenoweth as Chair. He said that he had made the motion, not Director Schoenborn as stated in the minutes.

**Director Schoenborn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the edit to the 7/7/2015 minutes. Director Grover seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

## **BUSINESS SESSION**

1. Mirror Pond Update – *Don Horton*

Executive Director Horton provided an update on Mirror Pond to bring the new Board up to speed on the project. **Visit the Mirror Pond website at [www.mirrorpondbend.com](http://www.mirrorpondbend.com) to read about the project and view images.**

2. Appoint Board member to Mirror Pond Ad Hoc Committee

Executive Director Horton explained the make-up of the ad hoc committee and the current open seats. He shared that Mel Oburst was moving off of the committee and that Eric King would be coming on to fill that seat. The seat being considered for the Board was opened

by Scott Wallace's departure; however Scott would like to continue to fill a public seat on the committee.

Director Fuller, Director Grover and Director Chenoweth all expressed interest in the seat and shared their individual background and experience that would benefit the committee.

**Director Hovekamp made a motion nominating Director Grover for the Bend Park and Recreation Board seat on the Mirror Pond Ad Hoc Committee. Director Fuller seconded the nomination. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Hillside Park – off-leash trail issue:

- Will share OPRD Study
- Staff are researching what other communities are doing for off-leash areas
  - Results of that research will be brought to a future meeting
- We can schedule a Board field trip to Hillside Park to see the off-leash area

Executive Director Horton shared some general comments as follow up to the public comment on Hillside Park. He said that he appreciated the passion that was shared. He explained that the size of the off-leash area currently being planned is the size of 5-7 football fields; it would be the second largest off-leash area in our system. He said that fencing does not prevent people from exercising, and parks with trails can be fenced. He shared that most off-leash areas don't allow children without a parent and added that we really need to think about the mix of bikes and dogs as well. In response to comments about dog behavior, Director Horton said that there have been many incidents where dogs have not behaved and we need to step back and think about the consequences of dog attacks and other potential risks. He reiterated that he understood the passion surrounding Hillside Park, and that there have not been any changes to communicate at this time; the comments will be considered as the District considers what our responsibility is to keep everyone safe.

### **BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW**

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The Board discussed August meeting attendance. There will not be a quorum for the August 4 meeting. Staff will follow up with the Board to confirm attendance and schedule for the August meetings.

**ADJOURN** 9:00 pm

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - The Board of Directors met in an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) for the purpose of discussing real property transactions. This session was closed to all members of the public except for representatives of the news media.

Prepared by:

Vanessa DeMoe

Executive Assistant

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Craig Chenoweth, Chair



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Ted Schoenborn, Vice-Chair



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Nathan Hovekamp



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Ellen Grover



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Brady Fuller