



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
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Minutes - Final

Parks and Recreation Board

Monday, August 21, 2017

5:00 PM

Recreation Office, 2920 Douglas
Street, Longview, WA

1. Roll Call

5:00 PM Meeting called to order by Dianne Quast

Board Members Present: Nick Seaver, Dianne Quast, Cameron Carson, Austi Baudro, Micah Shea

Staff Members Present: Jennifer Wills, Curt Nedved, Melissa Harbour

Board Members Absent: Natalie Richie

Community Members:

Russell Largent, Wes Eader, Shirley Bostwick, Frank Grace, Jackie Larson, John Freerks, Jeff Coleman, Jason McClung, Bill Kasch, Gerald Mickelsen, Kyle Torgerson, Dan Torgerson, Michele Waite, Richard Clark, Kevin Hunter

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on June 19th was made by Nick Seaver and seconded by Cameron Carson. The motion passed. A motion to approve the minutes of the July 17th meeting was made by Austi Baudro and seconded by Cameron Carson. The motion passed.

[MN 17-0382](#)

P&R Advisory Board Minutes 07.17.17

Attachments: [P&R Minutes 07.17.17.pdf](#)

3. Constituent Comments

N/A

4. Board Member Comments

Changes to the Agenda:

New Business was moved to the beginning of the agenda after the minutes and comments.

Member Comments:

Dianne Quast thanked board members for attending the recent council workshop on August 15th as well as sponsor appreciation night at the Concerts at the Lake.

5. Reports

5A Park Maintenance Manager Report July 2017

Curt Nedved, Park Division Manager provided an update on July 2017 ongoing and completed projects. A full report is embedded in agenda.

[17-5046](#)**Park Maintenance Division Report July 2017**

Attachments: [Park Maintenance Division Report July 2017.pdf](#)

5B Recreation Manager Report July 2017

Natalie Richie, Recreation Division Manager was absent. A full report is embedded in agenda. Director Wills updated the board on the recent resignation received from Natalie Richie who plans to return to her previous employer, Lower Columbia College. The process for recruitment has begun.

[17-5048](#)**Recreation Division Report July 2017**

Attachments: [Recreation Division Report July 2017.pdf](#)

5C Parks & Recreation Director Report July 2017

Follow-up on August 15th Council Workshop regarding RA Long Park enhancement phase and master plan, Youth Sports Field Maintenance regarding what is currently happening, history of youth sports operations and facility use agreements, and associated costs/time as well as Outside Use of Parks (3rd Party). Director Wills provided a visual aid for proposed R.A. Long Historic Park designs for the upcoming joint Council workshop and asked for feedback from the board on ideal community usage options. The board provided input and will be in attendance for the workshop.

6. Old Business

N/A

7. New Business

7A Vandercook Park Court Improvements

Tennis and Pickleball players present discussed concerns which include colored lines, court tape, and lack of court etiquette. Russell Largent, a community tennis player discussed the signage stating "Tennis Only" and asked that the rules be followed accordingly. Wesley Eader, community member asked the board to consider one court for tennis, the other for Pickleball. John Freerks presented visual aids for proposed multi-use options for the courts and provided a brief history of the development of the painted for Pickleball at Vandercook Park. Mr. Freerks also discussed potential solutions to enhance the play experience for all involved. The board asked that the current court users in both communities come together to develop an agreed upon proposal for the board to approve which should shows solutions for playability, sole purpose use vs. multi-purpose use and the co-existing of different sports in an effective manner. Kevin Hunter, a representative of the Longview Downtowners discussed the school courts and the issues with the public not being allowed to use the district courts. Mr. Hunter volunteered to request permission from the school district allowing public use of the courts. Jeff Coleman, president of Longview Youth Soccer discussed the lack of support for the parks department by council and encouraged the board to find a way to maintain the parks.

7B Future Sports Facilities

Dianne Quast opened the topic with the need for a written policy and/or procedure showing the current contracts, assigning responsibility, establishing acceptable user fees, equipment usage, etc. Currently a document showing the needs and activities by fields, the schedule/cycle of maintenance and who is responsible by association does not exist. Jeff Coleman, President of Longview Soccer Club discussed the maintenance of 7th Avenue fields including the challenges of employing staff to maintain fields. The current cost is \$2000 per month. Additional issues include mower issues due to heavy/wet grass, additional unforeseen repair costs, and the need for additional mowers. The Soccer Club is spending roughly \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year on maintenance. The Soccer club is suggesting a partnership in the form of reduced sale prices on used mowers, assistance with aeration from Parks staff, etc. rather than asking for the Parks department to maintain the fields exclusively. Vandalism has also increased and continues to create financial hardship. The process of agreeing upon safe and appropriate handling of each field by Parks and then discuss associated costs and agreements with each sports club. Jason McClung discussed the issues specifically related mowing wet grass the lack of proper equipment to maintain the fields during the wettest months.

A proposed method for gathering information and moving forward with process would include:

Phase 1: "Safe and Manageable" Create a maintenance checklist work with the sports clubs for to find out more about the current maintenance program and needs. This will be completed by the Parks Department with the help of the leagues.

Step 2: "Capital Needs" Create a needs assessment by reviewing current conditions (bathrooms, security, lights) at each facility by combining a team of Parks Department staff and current Sports Clubs contractually invested the process. A representative from each sports association and any interested board members will be asked to participate.

Step 3: "The Big Ask" Openly discuss the possibility of an enhanced sports facility, multiple facilities and potential upgrades which will include could also include the establishment of alternative funding (representative from each sports association should be included).

List includes; Babe Ruth, Longview Youth Baseball, 7th Avenue Soccer (7th Avenue), Cowlitz Cobras (Archie Anderson), Longview Soccer Club – Woman's (7th Avenue), Three Rivers Christian (John Null – Tennis)

**A suggestion was made by Jason McClung to contact the turf contractor and by Dianne Quast to review the NRPA Facilities Marketing Plan.*

**Volunteer board members for future discussions with sports organizations – Micah Shea, Kirk Roland*

7C [17-5045](#)**Request to Rename R.A. Long Park - B. Kasch**

Attachments: [RA Long Park Name Change Request - B. Kasch.pdf](#)

Bill Kasch presented a proposal to change the name of RA Long Park in order to allow for the historic park to be recognized by name and allow for the interpretive panel he is currently designing. "R.A. Long Historic Park" is the proposed name. Nick Seaver made a motion to recommend the enhancement of the current name from RA Long Park to RA Long Historic Park. Austri Baudro seconded the motion. Motion passed.

7D [17-5047](#)**Longview Soccer Grant Reallocation Request**

Attachments: [Longview Soccer Grant Reallocation Request.pdf](#)

Jeff Coleman presented a request to reallocate 2013 Neighborhood Park Grant funds and was provided with clarification on appropriate use of funds. The funds have been on hold since 2013. The Soccer Club has the current funds and after discussion revised the request to the purchase of a reel mower. Up to \$11,200. A motion was made approve the request to reallocate the approval of funds to purchase a landscaping aid (i.e. Reel Mower) by Micah Shea. The motion was seconded by Cameron Carson. The motion passed.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m. by Dianne Quast. Next meeting - Sept. 18 at City Hall, 5:00 p.m.