

Public Works Director David Vorse opened the February 15, 2012 Park Board Meeting at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Park Board Commissioners: Linda Moody, Roy Henson and Henry Karnofski. Also present was Public Works Secretary Barbara Roller. Commissioner Lynda Frantsvog was excused due to illness.

Park Board Representatives

Public Works Director David Vorse welcomed the newest Park Board Commissioner Henry Karnofski. The Park Board remains one member short. Vorse requests names for the Mayor's consideration to fill this vacant position. Roller suggests frequent users of park facilities such as Jeff Skeie or Pete Meyers. Roller also specified that Tom Byrne had notified Councilmember Pingree that he would like to participate in assembling the quarter pipe ramp at the Skate Park. Commissioner Karnofski suggested consideration of Tom Byrne to fill the vacant position. Byrne is also an active bicyclist.

Vorse specified that City Council and the Chamber of Commerce both have a High School Representative. Commissioners agreed that they would welcome a High School Representative on the Park Board. Vorse will discuss this option with Mayor Helenberg.

2012 Projects

Skate Park

Vorse shared a photo of the assembled quarter pipe ramp that is being stored by past Councilmember Greg Marcil. Councilmember Marcil was instrumental in obtaining a bargain purchase price for this equipment. This ramp needs to be assembled and the existing ramps repaired. Christian Church Youth Pastor Joel Royce has volunteered to oversee this construction as a youth project. Roller added that Tom Byrne volunteered to assist with this project. A basketball hoop is needed at this park, however this item was cut during the budget process. Installing a basketball hoop at the Skate Park is a project to keep in mind when a group or individual is looking for a community project.

Al Helenberg Boat Launch Phase 2

Vorse reports that paving of the access road, parking lot and trail at the Boat Launch is complete. Construction of a four stall restroom has begun. A Request for Quotes for plumbing supplies has been sent to providers. In observance of the Buy Local campaign, local professionals and volunteers will perform this work. Les Church will submit a bid for the concrete portion, Jim Kurkenberg the brick work and Doug Vetter will complete the plumbing portion.

Bids on the remaining floats were received today. Shoreside Marinas submitted the low bid which was \$12,000 less than estimated. Shoreside Marinas is the same vendor that provided the floats for Phase 1. It is anticipated that City Council will accept this low bid during the February 27th Regular Council Meeting for float delivery in June. This phase

includes the transient floats, boarding floats and the end platform float. Mayor Helenberg has been considering placement of a fish cleaning station on the end float. This location could avoid fish debris issues as all remains would go directly back into the river which is preferred by the Department of Fish & Wildlife. However, the logistics of providing water to this end float must be considered. Commissioner Karnofski suggests that a hand pump for river water could be used to provide water for fish cleaning on the end platform.

Vorse reports that lights were ordered approximately one month ago. When ordered it was explain that the lights would take 16 weeks for delivery.

In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse clarified that the Annual Boat Launch Pass is \$60. Many vehicles display the Discover Pass and the Department of Fish & Wildlife Pass, confusion over which pass to use causes visitors to display multiple passes. There have been no incidents of vandalism since Steve Moline began living onsite as the Boat Launch Host.

Vorse estimated construction of the picnic shelter/maintenance shed at \$15,000. If the Castle Rock School District has funds available, resources could be pooled to enlarge this structure to a size that could accommodate an outdoor classroom. The large stormwater retention pond is sufficient for future construction. Commissioner Karnofski specified that 30' by 30' is the minimum size needed for a classroom. Vorse noted that a 30' by 50' engineer designed pole building would meet this need at an estimated cost of \$35,000. Commissioner Henson suggests an L design similar to the shelter at Sequest State Park.

Bike Skills Park

Vorse detailed that the Pump Track is 85% complete, the Skills Area is 60% complete and the Jump Lines are 20% complete. Commissioners Henson and Karnofski expressed amazement at the accomplishments of Growlers Gulch Racing. Vorse noted that a considerable amount of recycled material has been incorporated into the park. Concrete from the Cowlitz Street W Revitalization Project was ground and used in the parking area and an intact concrete plate used as a platform. Work parties gather at this park a couple of times each month.

Commissioner Moody specified that there is a lot of interest in this park, particularly from young people. Vorse explained that this is a unique, one of a kind facility. Work on the Jump Lines requires drier weather. An Eagle Scout plans to build a picnic shelter at this park as an Eagle Scout Service Project. A few years ago, used picnic tables from Sequest State Park were donated to the city. Three of these tables will be used at the Bike Park and the rest remain at the NCRA Sports Complex.

Grant Applications

Vorse detailed that Castle Rock Parks will be evaluated to determine system wide needs. A grant application will be submitted to meet the needs in the areas of deficiency. Partnerships and components can be combined into one application. The Library has been included in the Park Plan to increase grant opportunities. If funding can be obtained, the Fair Board may build a Community Center.

Riverfront Trail

Vorse specified that Greg Horsley is willing to give a 100', concrete deck bridge. However, the City would have to move the bridge. Preliminary assessment has determined that a minimum span of 120' to 130' is needed for Arkansas Creek.

Jail Park

Vorse reports that Nancy Chennault is working on developing a low cost design for the Jail Park. She hopes to encourage the young people that frequent this park to help. Commissioner Henson would like a vandal resistant picnic table here.

Lions Memorial Park (North Front- Magnuson)

The name of this park continues to causes confusion. Vorse specified that this park will need to be redesigned as part of the Front Avenue NW Improvements Project. The northbound intersection at Huntington Avenue N will be redirected through this park's parking area. The rest of the northbound lane will then become part of this park. The extension to cross Huntington Avenue N onto Mallory Street NE will also become part of this park. The Cherry Trees will be removed. The southbound lane of Front Avenue N will still separate this park from the North Trailhead.

Metropolitan Park District

Cowlitz County and the Cities of Longview and Castle Rock were attending workshop negotiations on the formation of a MPD. However Cowlitz County has now tabled these discussions. Commissioner Karnofski detailed that County Commissioners were concerned with the economic impact during these times. Vorse noted research by the Association of Washington Cities which indicates that voters are most likely to approve funding for parks and recreational activities. This is considered the best option to fund library services. An annual supermajority levy is a very unreliable method of funding Library services.

High Banks

Vorse explained that a mining permit for the 'High Banks' area will cost \$17,000. This expense would be advisable if a contractor entered into an agreement to move enough material. The Department of Natural Resources is moving forward with the land swap. A Public Hearing will be held in 3 to 6 months.

In response to a question from Commissioner Henson, Vorse specified that the dredge spoils site is nearly level and growing sod with the use of biosolids. A pilot composting program will be introduced this year. The City's vegetative debris will be incorporated into the biosolids to develop mulch. If this pilot program is successful, the long term goal is to accept vegetative materials from residents and develop a beneficial mulch that can be used throughout the city.

Tennis

Commissioner Karnofski reports that the Booster Club is funding a handball wall at the High School Tennis Court. This detachable wall will be made from 1" plywood and removed and stored during the wet season. The handball wall should be erected within a month. Handball is a sport that can be played alone. The tennis court at the Middle School will probably be made into a parking lot.

Safe Routes to School

Vorse reports that the Safe Routes to School project will begin this year. These sidewalk improvements will be along C Street SE, Roake Avenue SE and the path connecting Allen Avenue SE to the Elementary School.

Events

Vorse reviewed upcoming events:

- The Sand & Misery 5K Challenge will be held on March 10th. The North County Recreation Association is sponsoring a fundraising beer garden at the boat launch parking lot.
- Cleanup Day is April 21st. Nancy Chennault and Carolyn Kennington are developing projects for this event.
- I Topped The Rock will be held on June 2nd. Project coordinators hope to include bicycles in this walk/run.
- The Castle Rock Fair will be July 19th through the 21st.
- Mountain Mania will be held on July 28th even though Cowlitz County Fair is the same weekend.

Park Plan

Vorse distributed Park Plans and noted accomplishments. Capital Improvement Projects on page 55 were reviewed. Vorse specified that Lower Columbia Community Action Program has secured ten lots for low income family homes in the Lois Dye Subdivision. These families can determine the type of equipment to purchase for the park within that subdivision.

Community Economic Development Council

Commissioner Henson requests a Park Board Representative on the CEDC.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Henson made a motion, seconded by Karnofski to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2011 Park Board Meeting. By roll call vote, unanimous Aye.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vorse adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.