

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 8, 2014

Members present: Larry Dennis, Charles Maynard, Tiffany Quilter, Char Rios, Connor Lange, Bette Lang and David Enquist
 Members absent: None
 Staff present: Spencer Grigg, Lori Moholt-Phillips and Kerri Smoot
 Guests present: Mayor Dick Deane

2014 MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD

| Name | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Dennis, L | X | C | X | C | X | C | C | X | C | X | | |
| Quilter, T | X | C | X | C | X | C | C | X | C | X | | |
| Lang, B | X | C | X | C | E | C | C | X | C | X | | |
| Maynard, C | X | C | X | C | X | C | C | X | C | X | | |
| Rios, C | E | C | X | C | X | C | C | X | C | X | | |
| Enquist, D | X | C | E | C | O | C | C | E | C | X | | |
| Lange, C | X | C | E | C | X | C | C | X | C | X | | |

C=Meeting Cancelled X=Present O=Absent E=Excused R=Resigned

Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Larry Dennis at 7:04p.m.

Introduction of Guests/Visitors

Mayor Deane and two High School students present.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Mr. Maynard moved the draft minutes of August 13, 2014, be approved as submitted, seconded by Ms. Lang. Unanimously approved and passed.

Communication/Correspondence

None.

Plat Reviews/Dedication, or Fee in Lieu of Land - Monthly Update

None.

Director's Report

Yonezawa Park Exercise Stations –

The new exercise equipment for Yonezawa Park is currently being installed. The equipment will be set up around the children's play area so parents can exercise and still be able to keep an eye on their children playing. The equipment should be completely installed by late next week.

Lower Peninsula Park Progress –

The grass at Lower Peninsula Park is starting to green and looks great. We hope to install a picnic shelter in the park in the spring.

Heron Bluff Trail Update –

The project already went out to bid and the contractor should be starting on the trail project in a week and a half. The project is supposed to be completed by the end of October, but the contractor is getting started a little late so there is a possibility it may not be completed on time.

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Budget – New Challenge –

Mr. Grigg gave highlights of the last City Council meeting and passed out a copy of the City Manager's letter regarding possible budget cuts. On the same day as the City Council meeting, the City Manager received word that the Court ruled in favor of Grant County in the REC/Grant County tax issue. Grant County assured the City Manager that the City should receive the money right away even if REC once again challenges the Court's findings, so it appeared that the City's budget issues were over. However, a week later the County informed the City Manager that they gave him incorrect information and it could be years before the City receives the money. So we are back to having to make drastic cuts in the City's budget. The City Manager said it is too late in the year to start making any changes for the remainder of 2014, but there will have to be adjustments made for 2015. Discussion held regarding the City's budget situation and also the Moses Lake School District's budget situation. They are affected by the Grant County/REC issues too, as are a number of other entities.

Ice Rink Fees/Larson Recreation Center –

We have been directed to set an admission fee to the ice rink starting this year. Proposed fees were discussed, including daily session fees, punch cards and season passes. The rates for the hockey associations to rent the rink will also be adjusted. We will need to create one entrance to the rink with an admission/skate rental area people will have to pass through prior to entering the rink. There are some risk management issues involved with charging admission, so that is something we are discussing prior to implementing any changes.

Ms. Moholt-Phillips' Report

The Artist Trust at Large presentation is going on tonight at the Museum and tomorrow is Jack Nisbet's Scouring the Basin presentation. The Museum's Holiday Show will be November 21st. It is being produced in-house this year at only a ¼ of the budget spent in previous years, so some things will be scaled back a bit. It will still be a great show though. The Halloween Carnival is coming up on October 25th and the Ice Rink will open on November 7th. The new Fall/Winter Brochure just came out a few weeks ago. Ms. Moholt-Phillips went over some of the new programs and activities we are offering this year.

Commission Questions/Comments

Mr. Maynard expressed his gratitude that the Parks and Recreation Department responded so quickly to his previous request to secure the trash can at the park on Marina Drive. Discussions also held regarding the School District's mailing regarding the Bond issue, the failing paint at the Surf 'n Slide pool, REC, and the Crossroads Park project.

Mayor Deane's Comments

Mayor Deane expressed his support and appreciation for the Parks and Recreation Commission and his gratitude to the City Manager, Mr. Grigg and others for their efforts working on the City's budget. He encouraged Commission members to keep up the good work and assured them that even though the City may have to make some difficult budget cuts, the City Council is supportive of the Parks and Recreation Commission and all they do for the community.

Adjournment

Ms. Rios moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Enquist. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.