

City of West Linn
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Summary Notes
November 12, 2015

Members Present: Don Kingsborough, Steve Millage, Roger Shepherd, John Linman, Sarah Silvernail and Vicki Handy (late arrival)

Staff Present: Ken Warner & Ken Worcester

Council Liaison:

Guests: Steve Miesen, Clay Poppert, Val Sabo, David Baker, Bobbie Demett, Deborah Jones, Karen Sims Bundy, Ann Brown and Samantha Hazel

Meeting called to order by Don at 7:02 pm

1. Approval of tonight's agenda – Approved by the Board.

2. Community Comments

David Baker –

a. Informed the Board that both Willamette & Robinwood Neighborhood Associations have passed resolutions in opposition to the off leash petition/proposal for Mary S Young Park.

b. Presented the idea of creating a monument in West Linn for Veterans or 1st responders by utilizing grants that are available. David will reach out to other groups for support. Grant Documents submitted.

Ken Worcester mentioned that there is an interest in a flag pole at Bernert landing where there is already one memorial onsite.

Steve Miesen -

Presented to the Board to purchase the property at 6325 Geer Street. Letter submitted.

Clay Poppert – Willamette Construction Inc. Owner of 6325 Geer Street. Purchased property 2 years ago. There is strong neighborhood opposition to him building a house and vandalism has occurred. 2013 there was development application approved for up to 5 homes but there is really only 1 buildable lot. He can build or donate to the City for \$50,000. Park could be increased with this parcel and the vacation of unimproved streets in the area.

The neighborhood could participate in funding as they benefit from vacation of land. Steve Miesen said the Bolton NA has up to \$5,000 or 6,000 to contribute.

Ken Worcester mentioned that other projects in the City have issues of this nature and should the City spend taxpayer money to stop development in this area, it could set a precedent to do so for the other neighborhoods. There is a lot to consider.

Val Sabo

Made a presentation in regards to the protection of the flora and fauna at Mary S Young Park. Dog waste = raw sewage. Her comments are attached.

Paula Jean Sellers – Agrees 100% as she volunteers and picks up dog waste throughout the park on a daily basis but all dog owners stay with dogs on trails.

Karen Sims Bundy

Expressed her strong disappointment with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) because she was told that the supporters of the off leash petition could come to another meeting, she has facts to dispute all claims, the October meeting was cancelled and re-scheduled and she missed meeting, the Public Safety Board made a

decision without her input, there were no police reports of incidents and that she thinks the PRAB made a decision without the letter from the State of Oregon.

Ann Brown expressed her opinion to the Board that the process utilized to come to a decision was flawed. Ann felt that there is an area for compromise in this decision and that was not considered. Ann expressed that there are many rules broken in the park and that the dog owners can not be punished unless all park users breaking rules are punished.

The Board and supporters discussed the proposal in regards to where facts and anecdotal evidence are presented and conclusions made. For a brief time there was an emotionally charged discussion as the participants disagreed.

Ann proposed that the Board meet with them as a small group to discuss this topic. The Board was not willing to discuss further as they has already made a decision. Don said that he would be willing to discuss as a citizen but the board had made a decision.

Samantha Hazel spoke about her disappointment with the Board and felt that they were poor representation of the City. The use of profanity is not appropriate in a public meeting.

It was explained that the profanity was a direct quote from a person in the park.

3. Approval of Summary Notes

Notes of the October 15, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Sarah made a motion to accept the Notes and it was seconded by Steve. The motion passed unanimously.

4. West Bridge Park Master Planning Meeting

November 21, 1 – 3 pm at the McLean House.

180 post cards sent November 12th to neighbors in the area

Notified President of Bolton Neighborhood Association, McLean House Board and West Linn Tidings

Format: Start with 2007 plan, talk about pros and cons, take people on a walk of the area, utilize flip chart for park amenities suggested, create a list of people to work on the plan.

5. Goal Setting

The Board reviewed their 2015 goals, listed accomplishments and challenges and created 2016 goals.

A draft of the document will be sent to Board for review and approval for November 30th submission.

6. Other Project Updates

Nothing was covered as the meeting ran late.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 pm