

**ORIGINAL****PARK'S****Jacobs****COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES****Thursday June 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m. MT****Call to Order**

The scheduled meeting of the Park's Committee was called to order by Vice-Chairman Michael Miller at approximately 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2022, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Committee members present in person were Michael Miller, Mike Pratt, Efren Garza, Andrew Maeda, and David Goldthorpe. Eddie Melendrez, and Lynn Johnson were excused.

Others present in person were, Dan Cummings, Justin Zysk, and Casey Mordhorst.

Michael Miller led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted on August 12, 2022; copies of the agenda and minutes are available at the Public Works Headquarters and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda**RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION****MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WAS UNANIMOUS****Approval of Minutes****RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION****No Resolution, Action &/or Motion was made****NEW BUSINESS****Ontario Baseball & Softball Playing fields**

DC – Mr. Chair, I had that put on; I believe Andrew is going to help me out on this a little bit. Some of the council has been asking me is, what ball fields do we have that meet little league standards? I asked Andrew to kind of explain what fields we have and what they can play on them.

AM – The Ontario Youth Baseball, use to be Ontario little league, had a field at Beck-Kiwanis Park. One that is fenced in and one that is not. The Little League ceased to exist around 2004. The Little league was never associated with the Rec. Department, or the City of Ontario, it was a standalone. It still has to be that

way per the Little League. After leaving, the Ontario Youth Baseball was created, run by Don Luis, and after Don, the Rec Department has taken it over with the goal of bringing it back to Little League. With that name (Little League) brings with it the standards. It brings competition up through the region and can go all the up to Little League World Series. Not that competition is the primary focus for the Rec. District, but because it has a standard that really helps you establish your program and makes sure you are advocating for that program to grow well. It is one of our most popular programs here in Ontario, our Baseball, Softball, Whiffle ball and T-ball. Next is Soccer, it has about Seven Hundred people. Baseball is right behind that with about 450 people. In Ontario, we've had to partner with Payette Recreation District in order to have a Baseball program, because we do not have the facilities to host games. As of this year we did have facilities to host games, we have those fields at Beck-Kiwanis, we've got them up to a playable standard to some extent. We utilize T.V.C.C athletic Softball field for our Softball program. We've created an agreement with the Nazarene church for a field on the back side of their property as well, their intent was to use the entire field for athletic sports programs for the community. At Beck-Kiwanis we have one Sixty-foot base path field that we use for our rookies and our minors, so in a Little League you have your rookies, your minors, and your majors. Beyond that it comes out of Little League. The size of field that varies here is, High School sized field, which obviously would be the extent of what we would see needed in our community. It has a Ninety-foot base path. When we look at our smallest field, at Beck Kiwanis, we see a Sixty-foot base path there. We want to create a gradual growth in that field size, so we're no having kids go from our smallest field size all the way up to our High School field size. *(Continued Discussion)* Do you have any more questions about the Softball fields?

Committee Member – Has the District given you any kind of time limit on when they want to finish those fields? Because they have been kind of neglected.

AM – Yes, on the Recreation side we are learning that these fields are expensive, and they take a lot of time. Which is why we are dedicating every year to put money aside. Unfortunately, with our pool project we can only put so much money aside every year to these fields. *(Continued Discussion)*

Renewal of the IGA with the Recreation District on Facility Scheduling

DM – in the process of getting up to speed as the City Manager, I was going through the contracts with the Rec District. We have three in place right now. One is expired, and that's what we're going to discuss here tonight. The second one, has not been completed, we had a meeting with the Rec. District and School District. I'm working on getting the district, which is the one with the splash park and the pool, finalized up and done. The School District, we went over things that they're going to get. that deals with Alameda Park, the Soccer fields there. The third one, is the scheduling of the fields. To give you a little history, when this was put together, the Rec. District asked to be the main party for scheduling these fields. The Council agreed to that, there has been some controversy on scheduling over Little Leagues and things like that. This expired over a year ago, my concerns are, dragging it on any longer. They're right in the middle of their Rec. season, so basically if I were play a game, and here comes the Rec. district with a scheduled game, they couldn't run me off of it. So, my concerns are, and I've cleared this with the mayor and the council president that I'm going to recommend that, you know to renew this contract, to extend it I should say, that's in section two, says that the City Manager and the executive director of the Rec. District can extend this, The City Parks Committee can provide a recommendation in an advisory role prior to the extension. So, that's why it is in front of you. I'm asking you to recommend extending this to the January 31, 2026, date that we have in there. *(Continued Discussion)*

"State of the Parks"

CM – That was the recommendation Lynn wanted, or Andrew can speak to it.

AM – There are a ton of projects that we want to do in the parks and are always great for our community of course. There are needs that our parks have, such as, Beck-Kiwanis has restrooms now our fields, but they're a need. The service clubs that are now apart of these parks and have a separate goal as well. I would agree with Lynn in saying that instead of all three of us going our separate ways there, we need to understand at the foundation, what the needs and priorities are, and make sure they align so that we are working the same direction all the way up. As a Parks Committee, if we want one thing, but this park doesn't even have restrooms for people to go to, or this park really needs "this". The club that manages that park has created a different focus, than us as a Parks Committee need to understand that. What Lynn was alluding to was for us to meet with the club as a whole. We should also see masterplans from those parks, to understand what their goals are. And of course, understand what Casey's perspective is as far as our needs in our parks.

(Continued Discussion)

Committee Member – As a representative, I see the clubs as money generators more than anything. For Casey or Jay, you guys are out there and see the needs, and for them to be the info. Input back to here, and then the clubs will know their own way in facilitating those particular needs. It used to be, before the city was involved the clubs were on their own. There were no approvals, but we're not out there where the city is. I think with Lynn and Dans' focus is great to keep these clubs from going different directions, that process is the way to go.

DC – If I might add, that was one of the reasons when I put this committee together, I wanted a representative from each club for that exact reason. That representative is supposed to be hearing what the needs are, reporting that back to their clubs, plus those clubs are needing to do their master plan and bring those needs to this committee, which also gets to the city. So, what he is asking for is, really, the reason I built it the way I did. If this committee now says, we want to set up at each one of those clubs to go and talk to them, or have that whole club come here or something, I guess that's fine too, but that's the reason someone from each one of those clubs are on this committee. Not to try to figure out how the city should be running their maintenance and all that. This committee has kind of got off focus of what we really put it together for or micromanage Jacobs on how their maintaining the parks. *(Continued Discussion)* Right now the Public Works is to water and mow the parks, what's the proper term?

CM – "Green and Growing, Mowed and Trimmed".

DC – That's all the budgeting the city is giving to Jacobs, so the rest of the needs and wants that you want, you're going to have to go in front of the Council.

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

No Resolution, Action &/or Motion was made

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Signage update for Parks

CM – Lynn sent all of the discussion items and wanted them on the agenda. Most of these are things we've talked about in the past. I think the committee talked about coming up with the signage for each park rules. I know it's been talked about multiple times with the city. Homeless in the parks has been talked about and coming up with a set of rules to be posted at each park. I think it should be a committee decision on what the rules need to be, similar to the splash park. If we can define the rules, I can have any sign you want made.

AM – I think we were worried about the legality for those rules, and what they were allowed and not allowed to do. Has the Attorney looked at that yet?

DC – Yes, I'll answer that the best I can. One of the executive sessions, the attorney gave us a client privilege on the state requirements and that is one thing that we do need to address. There are only a certain amount of things you can do at your parks, you can remove them (transients), but you need to have all of the proper signage. Right now, the way the law is you don't necessarily have to provide camps, to move them on to. You can move them (transients) along with the proper signage. We will be coming back to the committee with the signage recommendation.

DG – The ordinance and the State Law have to match.

DC – Right and the rules for the parks will cover everything, not just the homeless.

(Continued Discussion)

Volleyball Court

EG – The court will be grass and not sand. We have the instructions on putting in the poles, but my understanding is that you would like us to have an engineer look at the instructions. Or do we need someone else out there? I know Jay has already indicated to me where it needs to go, so that there is little obstruction to maintenance.

DC – All we need to see as a city, is the design plan, and what the manufacturer is recommending. And go through Public Works to see if they agree with those recommendations.

Beck Park Bathroom Updates

CM – Work began on Monday; they will be working on it until it is complete. We will have new ADA sidewalk all the way around and a new roof. They are proposing different ideas for the roof, currently there are louvers on both sides, kind of open to keep it vented, where there is no exhaust system. Their first idea was metal with holes in it, we shot that down, it would keep the bathrooms too hot. The roof will be white with red trim. Going forward, there will be two shelters that have cedar shakes on them as well, those are going to be in the CIP next year, to replace both of them.

Sidewalk at Lions

CM – The sidewalks at Lions, we have 60 thousand as of July 1st to do all of that, we have some curb-work to do. We are going to hire a contractor to help fill in all of the sidewalk from where it left off at the *Buddy Bench*, out towards the dog park.

MM – When do they expect that to start?

CM – I have no idea, getting a contractor is the issue.

Turf Management Plan

No Resolution, Action &/or Motion was made

Staffing

CM - 3 full time employees that are tagged Parks and Cemetery. I really didn't think about it until Lynn asked me for data. Of those three guys, I have one full time parks, I have one full time cemetery person and I have one supervisor that spends 50% to 70% of his time fixing Facilities, taking care of the cemetery, scheduling, and the parks when he gets a chance. Currently we have 3 seasonal filled, I have one open still,

and hopefully I have an interview next week to fill it. I just wanted to clarify that and the work these guys are doing is not only in the parks. We have all the downtown watering that takes just shy of 5 hours, 3 days a week. Dumping trash, picking up trash, making sure our benches and trash cans are still there the next day. (*Continued Discussion*)

Parks Data update: Mowing Hours, Watering, Trimming, and Edging

CM - I printed out the data that essentially shows the schedule throughout the week for each park, it lists out the mowing, irrigation, fertilizing, edging, trimming, trash, and tree trimming. All of the tree trimming will be done in the winter.

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

No Resolution, Action &/or Motion was made

Comments from Committee Members

DG - For Rotary, we have bike repair station ready to go, it just needs to be installed. It needs a small footprint pad, to have the bolts in the ground. I have it stored in my garage right now, I don't know who I need to give the instructions to, so they know what to do, and who needs the materials to install it.

DC - yeah, can you help out with that?

CM - Yes, you want me to get ahold of Stu?

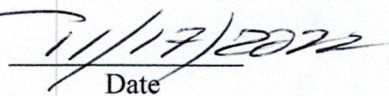
DG - Stu or me.

Next meeting scheduled for July 21, 2022, at 6:00PM.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Miller

Approved: 

Signature


Date

(Lynn Johnson, Chairman /Michael Miller, Vice-Chairman)