



Natural Areas
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BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 13, 2019

Avery Day Room
360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Phillip Hays, Suzanne Lazaro, Janine Salwasser, Jackie Hastings, Dan Rosenberg, Ellen Tappon, and Travis Obermire.

Committee Members Absent: David Smith, and Jay Sexton.

County Staff Present: Adam Stebbins, Natural Resource Coordinator; and Leanna Buck, Recorder.

I. BUSINESS

A. Approval of February Meeting Minutes

Adam advised in Section B, the phrase - *"The board discussed developing 'friends groups' and 'ad-hoc committees' for specific priority park locations, that would lead important volunteer work coordinated by staff. The board agreed to discuss this item during the April meeting."*

Ellen moved to approve the minutes as amended and Jackie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Integrated Pest Management Program Update - Adam

Adam shared that the Parks employees have their Applicators Licenses and that they have to maintain 40 hours of continued education to renew their license. It covers a broad range of applications. At a recent OSU training, staff learned that it has been discovered that there are a higher resistance to the sprays that they are using. He asked the Park Board if they had any ideas or if they had heard of other ideas on different procedures for spraying and if they had comments on how posting occurs

during the upcoming spray season. Phil suggested that Adam talk to Oregon State University Forest staff on their procedures.

C. Partnership Opportunity with The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Adam talked about the extensive work with the Ft. Hoskins Committee and the AFRANA group that has gone into restoring the grounds. He shared that he was at a Habitat Managers meeting where he met a couple new staff people with the tribe and took them out to Ft. Hoskins to walk through the north east side of the property which is away from the parade grounds. The tribal staff is very interested in partnering with us and utilizing the property for different opportunities. Adam would like to develop a partnership that results in a fall controlled burn, and then building on this success for future work.

D. Adair Park Planning update

Adam discussed developing an Adair Master Plan. He talked about the fact that the park is very reminiscent of North Albany Park where it was a rural park and now there is a great deal of development that is slated to happen. He shared that the department is considering completing a local government grant to upgrade the road and parking lots, build a new restroom, as well as looking at upgrading the pedestrian trails. County staff (including Public Works, Development, and Health) are meeting with the City of Adair officials next week to discuss opportunities to secure match and to find out what the developers are planning. It is possible that the grant will be delayed, and instead, a North Albany Park grant, similar to what was prepared last year, will be submitted if grant match could be secured from City of Albany.

E. 2019-2021 Budget

Adam read the update from Laurie. Budget Meeting for Parks will be Wednesday, May 8th at 3:30 in the Sunset Building.

- 2017-2019 General Fund Request is \$2,134,948.
- 2019-2021 General Fund Request is \$2,806,399.
- Increase of \$671,451.

The additional asks are:

- 1 additional position (Supervisor) in 2020-2021 (\$117,741)
- Increase in contract services from \$78,000 to \$341,700 (of this \$142,100 is for the landscaping services for County Buildings that will be paid through the uniform rental rate)
- Increase in internal services from \$10,000 to \$56,500 (work that is completed by Public Works Road, Engineering, Survey; Community Development)
- Increase in materials & supplies from \$94,500 to \$115,000.

Additional larger increases included:

- Employee costs & benefits
- Change in the Fleet Services
- Cost Allocation
- Facilities Space Rental

F. Miscellaneous & Park Project Updates

Adam asked if anyone had any feedback from the Park Use Estimation survey. Phil shared that he was quite surprised at the use at Adair Park and the Disc Golf activity. He also shared his thoughts on the vehicle usage going into Fitton Green. Adam requested that any comments be emailed to him, including suggestions for park survey locations during the upcoming peak season. Adam plans to finalize the survey and post the results to the public after receiving park board comments.

Adam met with the Fish and Wildlife service and the wetlands consultant regarding Jackson-Frazier. He showed everyone a map that gave a good visual of the project so that everyone could see what is happening out there. He talked about the extensive regrowth of the reed canary grass that is happening in different areas. The decision has been made to delay the scraper work and instead, complete additional mowing and then discing to break up the sod layer in the denser patches of reed canary grass. In the fall, additional spray work will be completed to further reduce the reed canary grass. Earthwork will start burn the summer of 2020 after reduction in the invasive and woody species has occurred.

II. MEETING ADJOURNMENT ~ 8:37pm.

Please visit us at: <http://www.co.benton.or.us/parks/>