

1 CITY OF COOS BAY
2 PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF
3 April 30, 2015
4

5 **Members Present:** Chair, Christine Coles; Ariann Lyons, Carmen Matthews
6 Bev Meyers and Ralph Mohr. Tom Leahy late arrival
7 **Members Absent:** Patty Scott, Bill Otton
8 **Staff Present:** Randy Dixon, Operations Administrator and Pam Patton
9 **Guests Present:** Devin Patel from The World
10 **Location:** Coos Bay Boardwalk

11 *(With the meeting being held at the Boardwalk, the quality of the audio is extremely poor.)*
12

13 **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

14 Chair Christine Coles called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and asked for a motion to approve
15 the minutes of October 16, 2014 and February 19, 2015.

16 **Motioned:** Ariann Lyons motion to accept as written
17 **Seconded:** Carmen Matthews
18 **Vote:** Aye, Unanimous. Minutes approved as written.
19

20 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

21 Randy updated the commission regarding Don Hynes and the fitness equipment. Originally,
22 Don proposed building fitness equipment for the John Topits Park. Because of all the
23 regulations and the required UL ratings, he would not be able to meet those requirements. He
24 went back to the drawing board and he would try to raise money and purchase one piece of
25 manufactured equipment with the City agreeing to add other pieces. To date, Mr. Hynes has
26 donated \$600 towards the purchase. Staff went directly to the manufacturer and they gave a
27 proposal based on their recommendation of meeting the general public's needs and various
28 fitness levels. The six pieces are also the ones that are most often used. Don was in favor of
29 accepting the new proposal. During the discussion, it appeared to have more versatility and how
30 it was engaging to the users. They liked that one piece had ADA accessibility. Randy brought
31 their attention to the funding being a combination of both donation and by grant(s) with the city
32 providing the labor and mulching for the individual stations. The chair asked for a motion.

33 **MOTION:** Ariann Lyons motioned to move forward with the revised fitness equipment
34 proposal.

35 **SECOND:** Christine Coles

36 **DISCUSSION:** No further discussion

37 **VOTE:** Ayes were unanimous. Motion carried
38

39 **Update on the Mingus Park Geese –**

40 The Memorandum of Record went to the Council requesting the removal of the geese. The
41 request was denied and the geese would remain in Mingus Park creating quite a stir within the
42 community. The Council recommended that we seek scientific information in dealing with the
43 geese and to involve ODF&W as well as contacting Salem. Randy related his personal
44 encounter at the park. He parked his vehicle across from a home where there were
45 approximately six geese sitting in the yard. As he prepared his phone to take a video and
46 stepping away from his truck, the geese arose with outstretched wings that were flapping as they
47 made their move towards him. He quickly put into practice the technique that was taught at the

48 council meeting of shaking a set of keys while moving your hands back and forth. With that not
49 deterring their intent, he quickly returned to the safety of his vehicle.

50 Randy mentioned that he had received a call from the owner of Puppy Love that offered to take a
51 few but with the total number of geese being around 10, they were willing to remove them from
52 Mingus Park to their farm. During discussion, it was asked about the use of cameras in the park
53 that could capture the individual encounters with the public. Randy will bring a follow up from
54 the next council meeting. There has been a flurry of Letter to the Editor being published. Randy
55 reminded them that the end result was that someone needs to take accountability.

56
57 **NEW BUSINESS –**

58 A request from Jill Hayner-Thompson to have a memorial in the way of a “game table” with
59 benches in honor of her late husband, James “Tim” Thompson was received by Randy. As they
60 discussed it further, rather than a bench, the placement of an in-ground concrete base and pad
61 with a mesh table top to withstand outdoor exposure was a better way to go. The placement of
62 the game table would be the John Topits Park as Tim always enjoyed playing around the lake in
63 his youth. The chair asked for a motion.

64 **MOTION:** Ariann Lyons motioned to allow the table with the 4” x 3” plaque be placed
65 according to the Parks Master Plan.

66 **SECOND:** Christine Coles

67 **DISCUSSION:** No further discussion

68 **VOTE:** Ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

69

70 The request for a Memorial Bench from the Furry Friends Therapy Dogs was dismissed as the
71 placement of the bench was the Coos Historical & Maritime Museum. It was suggested that we
72 recommend the placement of the bench to be at the proposed dog park on Hull St.

73 Randy updated the commission on the Mingus Pool grant. The grant was submitted last week.
74 In June, Randy will do a presentation to the Oregon Parks and Recreation. He has spoken to
75 Mark who confirmed the grant had been received and his teams have reviewed and we were
76 given the thumbs up with meeting all requirements. The resolution has already been approved at
77 last council meeting so we are all set. By the 1st of July we should receive word on our standing.
78 Last year, we were in the 10th position with funding exhausted after the 9th. This fiscal year, we
79 should be at a good place to receive the grant.

80 **Update on Empire Lakes and the replacement of the two bridges.**

81 All federal monies have been frozen. There are a few options available. Going with RTP (Rails
82 to Trails); going directly with ODF&W or OPAR dollars.

83 Before leaving the pavilion, it was announced that the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery was now
84 temporarily licensed by the Oregon Mortuary & Cemetery Board. We should be licensed the end
85 of June when they have their board meeting.

86 **BOARDWALK:** **As the group moved along the boardwalk, the audio was out of range.

87 Hwy 101 / Bayshore Sidewalk Project was in full swing with the sidewalks being completed and
88 it being readied for the rail fencing to go up. There is only one pedestrian access over the
89 railroad tracks and two vehicle access sites being Front and the Sun Building.

90 Randy drew their attention to the cobble stones. They are settling and becoming uneven due to
91 the drainage issues. There is a concrete retaining wall below that is eroding and needs to be
92 corrected along with putting in a French drain. There will be a decorative retaining wall along
93 the bank that would allow for landscaping.

94

95 The wood planks are curling causing the nails to pull up from the constant weather exposure. It is
96 becoming more and more of a maintenance and safety issue. The plan is to replace with a raised,
97 stamped concrete the looks like wood.

98 All the flag poles are being replaced and being enhanced by a LED lighting system.

99 Randy explained that there were several issues with the existing dike that needs to be addressed.
100 The Port has ownership underneath while the city has ownership on the surface. There is talk
101 about partnering with the Port.

102 As part of the Parks Master Plan, the docks will be tackled. The existing width is too narrow and
103 not up to code. They hoped to double the width. He would like to see a floating dock that would
104 have a restroom and shower. When the docks were constructed, they were never intended as
105 livable space. Civil West did an initial design/consult many years prior and he might re-visit that
106 and hopefully be able to move forward through an ODF&W and/or by enhancement donations or
107 even OPAR dollars. The fishing pier would be located on the south end of dock.

108 It was asked about enclosing the pavilions because of the wind and no protection from the
109 elements for those who choose to sit and eat at the tables. Randy stated that you can't take away
110 from public use for a private entity, the Seafood Fish Market.

111 Randy couldn't stress hard enough that the maintenance of the boardwalk and docks are a full
112 time position.

113 Everyone enjoyed being at the boardwalk discussing all the changes and updates that are
114 happening. The sidewalks were completed in time to allow the public safe access to the
115 boardwalk to greet the tall ships that were docked.

116

117 **COMMISSIONERS CLOSING COMMENTS** – none at this time

118

119 **ADJOURNMENT**

120

121 **There being no further business to come before the Parks Commission, by**
122 **consensus of the Parks Commission, Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.**

123

124 Respectfully Submitted,

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126 Pamela Patton,
127 Public Works and Development

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129 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 16th DAY OF June, 2015.**

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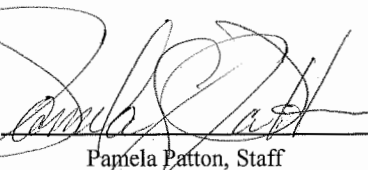
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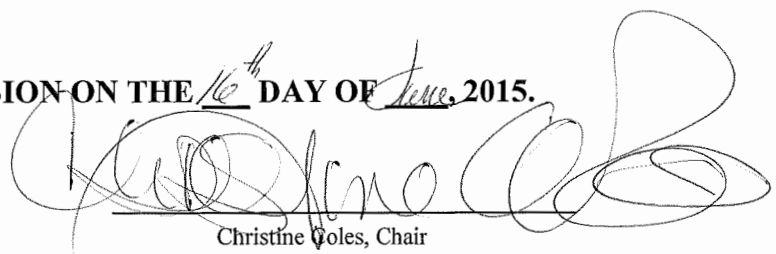
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Attest:


Pamela Patton, Staff


Christine Coles, Chair

