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CITY OF COOS BAY
PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF
July 16, 2015

Members Present: Chair, Christine Coles; Ariann Lyons, Thomas Leahy,
Carmen Matthews, Bev Meyers, Ralph Mohr, Bill Otton
and Patty Scott

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Randy Dixon, Operations Administrator, Pam Patton

Guests Present: Jolene Lanway, Paul E Scott, Seth Ayotte, Ginny Souza, Devan Patel

Location: City Hall Conference Room
Coos Bay City Hall – 500 Central Avenue

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Christine Coles called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and acknowledged the presence of quite a few guests. Christine asked if any of the guests were part of a group and their response was that they were individual. She reminded them that they had 3 minutes or 5 maximum in which to share concerns and input. She also needed to remind the commission that scheduled meetings are for 1 hour. If there is a need for more time, it generally would be scheduled as a work session.

Christine asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 16 and 23rd.

Motioned: Bill motioned to accept the minutes of June 16th as written

Seconded: Bev

Vote: Ayes were unanimous. Minutes approved as written.

Motioned: Patty motioned to accept the minutes of June 23rd as written

Seconded: Christine

Vote: Ayes were unanimous. Minutes approved as written.

CITIZEN INPUT / PUBLIC COMMENT –

Christine asked for the first guest to identify themselves before speaking.

First speaker was Paul Scott, who had several questions regarding Mingus Park. He asked why the fountain had been turned off; why is the water so dirty; where does the water come from; addition of fish to fight the algae; would like to see signage regarding the treatment of waterfowl and their nesting areas. Randy gave some background information on the Parks Master Plan and the alternate ways of applying the grant monies that will be awarded. One of the priorities that had been listed was the Mingus Pool and along with that would be the Mingus Pond with dredging, filtration system of upper pond, signage, irrigation, drainage issues and fishing pier with ADA access, as well as, a sports park. The fountain has a filter at the top which needs to be rehabbed that would cost anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Type of filter being used is not built to suck up the sludge. Waters are coming from underground springs, active streams from the Coos Bay North Bend Water Board. Quality would also be improved by stabilizing the road at the upper courts area and upper stream filtration. Randy shared how the pond would be dredged with the use of new technology system like a Snow Cap Vacuum with a snorkel.

Second to speak was Ginny Souza. She was concerned that the geese were just taken from the park. She commented on public behavior towards the geese. Randy shared that six of the seven domestic geese had been captured with the last one hopefully being caught the next day. Parks

49 member, Bev Meyers, gave an update on the geese that were adopted by Larry and Cindy from
50 Puppy Love. They welcomed the geese to their farm and they seemed to accept their new home.
51 They seemed to be relaxed in their new surroundings and were fitting into the family. Larry and
52 Cindy have invited the community to come out and engage with the animals. They've offered
53 educational sessions to schools and for the community.

54 Guest Seth Ayott was in attendance to fulfill a requirement towards earning a scout merit badge.

55

56 **NEW BUSINESS –**

57 **Signage in Mingus Park –**

58 Randy gave handouts regarding the sign (4 signs in the process of being made by Meyer Sign
59 Company.) Two signs would be placed in Mingus Park and two placed at Empire Lakes. In
60 addition to the signs is a flyer put out by the Audubon Society as a handout to the public on the
61 feeding of waterfowl. The sign design was suggested by FOMP that came from Eugene.
62 Christine asked for a motion.

63 **Motion:** Ralph motion to accept the flyer and the sign design.

64 **Second:** Bill

65 **Vote:** Ayes were unanimous - Motion carried.

66

67 **Streetscape Design –**

68 The Council has had a drive and vision to enhance all of Hwy 101, both north and south
69 Bayshore and Broadway. Randy presented a power point presentation on the Streetscape Design
70 to enhance the five areas chosen for Broadway and Bayshore. He reminded the board that this
71 would be a work in progress and he was working with Rex Miller of the Tree Board who is
72 helping us with recommendations of planting and renderings and assisting Randy with the
73 consultant. Recommendation from the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices, speed limits of
74 40-45mph will influence the size of signage and lettering to be used for motorists to take notice.

75 Area #1 rendering is at the north entry "Welcome to City of Coos Bay" sign. Randy stated that
76 all five areas would be planted with native plants, and a drip system would be installed. Area #1
77 would have a wall/barrier that would be to the back of the sign and plantings as a retainer. Area
78 #2 is the Front Street Median along the railroad with the median used as a buffer. Area #3 is the
79 median (center island) north of the Super 8 Motel. An option for Area #3 was Public Art
80 Gateway Feature showing a set of 3 sails. Randy also stated that the city was working with
81 Central Docks. Area #4 is Fir Ave (in front of Coos Historical Maritime Museum.) There might
82 be a possibility of having the road vacated. Randy said that ODOT Rail is doing a study on the
83 impact of traffic. There was talk of having a crosswalk to facilitate the public staying in hotels.
84 At one time, the Rail had 25 legal crossings and is down to 14 active crossings. Ralph was
85 interested in the amount of traffic generated by the museum. He also shared that he would prefer
86 that there be no trees planted in the Fir and center median as he liked having the view of the bay.
87 Randy expressed that we need greenery and we were part of Tree City USA. There are many
88 species that is conducive to coastal range and winds etc. to select from. Lastly, Area #5 is
89 located southbound on Broadway to the side of Super 8 Motel at the hillside. Randy did mention
90 that Fred Meyer is willing to work with the city regarding the old Bay Area sign located on S
91 Bayshore in front of the store.

92 Randy stated that the Streetscape Design will go to Council and then would come back to the
93 commission for comment and/or recommendation.

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96 **Development of an Asset Master Plan -**

97 Update on grants. ODF&W has a grant available. Randy would like to incorporate all the
98 elements of the tennis courts; sports park, trails and skate park. We will need to look at usage,
99 foot traffic, activity, and perhaps relocating the tennis courts. The UPAR grant, he would like to
100 use for the Empire Lakes for the bridges.

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102 **OLD BUSINESS –**

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104 **COMMISSIONERS CLOSING COMMENTS –**

105 Carmen was very happy and pleased to hear the transition of the geese has gone well. He was
106 excited with the streetscapes.

107 Ralph brought up the water quality in Mingus Pond. There was someone local that could do the
108 testing for \$250. Randy mentioned one of the biggest reasons for the buildup of silt and solids is
109 there was not enough water volume and aeration to move it around to be filtered.

110 Bev was happy about the geese going to Larry and Cindy's farm. Everyone needs to go out to
111 this working farm. You'll love their menagerie.

112 Tom was impressed with all the hard work being done. He was already looking into the 2017
113 Tall Ship event and was hoping to see many of the enhancements that would be in place.

114 Bill appreciated the presentation of the streetscapes.

115 Ariann was also excited with the work that was happening.

116 Christine liked the streetscape design and glad to see Rex on board.

117 Christine also asked the commission on the meeting time of 4pm. Would everyone be in
118 agreement with meeting at noon as it worked the best for most? They took a motion by hands
119 and they all agreed with changing the meeting time to Noon to 1pm.

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121 **ADJOURNMENT**

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

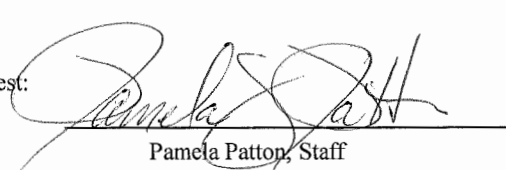
125
126 Respectfully Submitted,

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128 Pamela Patton,
129 Public Works and Development

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131 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 20 DAY OF August, 2015.**

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Christine Coles, Chair

Attest: 
Pamela Patton, Staff

