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CITY OF COOS BAY
PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF
May 18, 2017

5 **Members Present:** Chair, Christine Coles, Bev Meyers, Ralph Mohr
6 and Shaun Gibbs
7 **Members Absent:** Ariann Lyons and Bill Otton
8 **Staff Present:** Operations Administrator, Randy Dixon and Pam Patton
9 **Guests Present:** Cricket Soules
10 **Location:** Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery
11 (audio recording was poor due to wind)
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14 **1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

15 Christine asked for a motion to approve the April 20th minutes.

16 **MOTION:** Patty Scott motion to accept the minutes as written

17 **DISCUSSION:**

18 **SECOND:** Bev

19 **VOTE:** Ayes. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.
20

21 **2. NEW BUSINESS**

22 • **Vandalism – Past, Present & Future**

23 Christine began the discussion asking how do we approach the ongoing problem of vandalism.
24 Our Choshi Gardens is being continuously hit with damage to the bamboo all the way down to
25 the stumps. Bev felt that it was unlikely to be kids as the strength it would require do the
26 damage that is being done. Rocks are being disturbed in the creek and in the landscaping. Bev
27 and other volunteers are becoming extremely disheartened and defeated. A camera was placed
28 earlier in the year but it did not supply us with anything incriminating.

29 Randy said that it takes tremendous effort to clean up the problems of vandalism. Enforcement
30 is key and showing our presence in the area. There is an increase in the transient population
31 that has stressed our resources to manage the aftermath. He did feel the destruction in Choshi
32 Gardens was in retaliation to the recent raid on transient camps in Empire and the cleaning out
33 of the garbage that was becoming too dangerous to the public and a health hazard. Randy did
34 say that he secured a camera that will be placed in the area within a few weeks.

35 Christine again stated that we were open to all suggestions. We are going to be creative in our
36 solutions. Everyone needs to take ownership of our beautiful assets.
37

38 **3. OLD BUSINESS**

39 1. Randy was asked to update the group with projects that are occurring and the status of
40 upcoming ones. Randy mentioned that the demolition and cleanup of **Old Wireless** was
41 completed. The City is waiting on the FEMA Escrow account to complete their paperwork and
42 to make final reimbursement. The Council as put a hold on the Rails to Trails program and
43 future development of the dike and recreational space. There will be further discussions.

44 2. Randy touched on the progress the **Key Club** is making on the **S 10th Street Park**. Stacy
45 Gulseth has secured a grant through, KABOOM “Let’s Play.” With the cost of playground
46 equipment in the ballpark of \$30,000, KABOOM grant has given them a great start. The City
47 will be coming in to pour a slab for the basketball court.

48 3. The bid that came in for the **Mingus Pool Mechanical** portion of the project came in at
49 \$614,650 by Anderson Pool Works. Even if you deduct the pool surface of \$106,650 that still
50 leaves \$508,000. The budgeted amount approximately \$275,000 and even with trying bring the
51 bid amount down with in-kind labor. Randy is remaining to negotiate with Anderson Pools in
52 hopes of making it work. Since Anderson Pools was the only bidder, they will be coming down
53 and doing a walkthrough. There will be no change in timelines, August 4th – October 15th.

54 4. **John Topits – Fitness Equipment**. The City has done most of the site preparation. Sleeves
55 will be place for the future addition of equipment pieces. Brock Construction will be doing the
56 curbing. Rubber matting has yet to be laid and playground equipment needs to be addressed.

57 5. Randy has found a funding source for **Empire Lakes Bridges**. The engineering/design will
58 go out to ZCS/SHN the end of July. Of course, that has made one commissioner very happy.

59 6. **Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery**. Cricket gave the Parks Commission an update. The
60 cemetery will be receiving the first cremains this year. It is a 101-year-old to be placed with
61 grandparent. The cemetery can only receive cremains and can only receive up to 10 a year.

62 Cricket also mentioned that the Coast Guard has finished with the bench and have also painted
63 the markers. Marshfield High School has designed the lettering and the students will fabricate
64 them using a CNC machine.

65 Cricket continues to do low key fundraising. They need \$3,000 to complete the fence project.
66 With the fence being down now around 3 years, they have had very little vandalism with the
67 exception of a beautiful headstone just recently. Cricket mentioned that the school had a camera
68 system but felt that should be dialog between facility to facility. The cemetery will no longer
69 have a student work group. They have had the SCBC inmate crew and they are very hard
70 working and fast. They also treated the blackberries so that was very pleasing. She appreciated
71 that they also were respectful of the burial sites.

72

73 5. COMMISSIONERS CLOSING COMMENTS –

74 Patty was excited about the news of the bridges! It’s been a long road. Patty also brought to
75 Randy’s attention that one of the maps located on the Lakeshore Drive side is gone. He will
76 get another one and placed.

77 Ralph commented on the Festival of Sails and the Tall Ships. He attended a meeting at the
78 Boat Building Center on Wednesday. They will stage all the ships (4 to 7) at the Mill Casino
79 for two weeks, Thursday thru Sunday. Randy asked if there will be any at the Boardwalk?
80 Ralph thought perhaps the Hawaiian Chieftain.

81 Bev commented how beautiful the cemetery was and the view was awesome.

82 Shaun inquired about the future of the Library and/or a new location. (it was unfortunate but
83 the wind prevented me from hearing the comments)

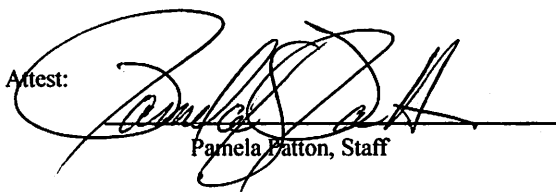
84 Christine asked the status of the Dog Park; Boardwalk Committee; Brownfield – Front St
85 development. She has been bombarded with questions by friends. She was very persistent
86 because she wants to see this move forward. There has been a lot of work done by very talented
87 people. Randy reminded them the ‘old’ council had put a hold on these due to budgetary
88 priorities, too many assets-no moneys. Christine inquired about the ‘new’ council. Randy
89 encouraged her to foster an email to Rodger and the new council. Suggested that Christine
90 approach council and ask why they continue to implement projects when there are no funds to
91 follow through.

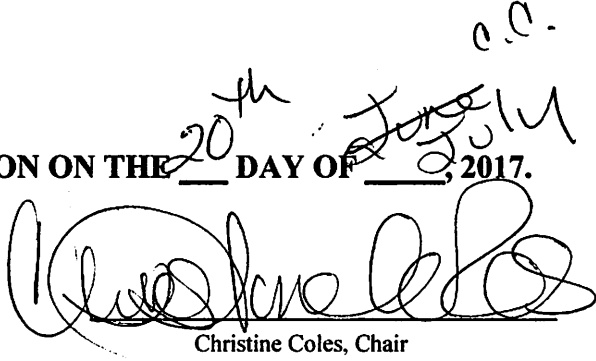
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93 **6. ADJOURNMENT**

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95 **There being no further business to come before the Parks Commission, by**
96 **consensus of the Parks Commission, Bill adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.**

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99 Respectfully Submitted,
100 Pamela Patton,
101 Public Works

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103 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 20th DAY OF July, 2017.**

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108 Attest: 
109 Pamela Patton, Staff
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Christine Coles, Chair