



Minutes

**Coburg Parks | Tree Committee
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 91136 N. Willamette
March 21, 2017**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Claire Smith, Chair; Lonna Meston, Vice Chair; Coleen Marshall, Mary Mosier, Karen Coury, Joe Morneau, Rhett Sunia.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Harmon, Public Works Director.

RECORDED BY: Hannah Parks, LCOG.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Meston called the meeting of the Coburg Park | Tree Committee to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mr. Harmon called role and announced a quorum.

CITY UPDATES:

City Administrator Monthly Report

Ms. Marshall asked about the high engineering costs for Coburg Loop 2.

Mr. Harmon replied that an engineering firm out of Portland gave a high estimate after inspections. He said he would review the Coburg Loop paths more thoroughly in the April meeting. He shared they mowed and over-seeded the North side of Pearl Street with Tall Fescue Grass that week. Mr. Harmon said he anticipated being done with the south side by the end of April. He said three big bags of mulch seed were used on the north side costing \$150. He shared that a 14-foot landscape trailer would be purchased to carry the lawn mower and would also have racks to carry the weed eaters, chain saws, and other accessories needed. He shared he discussed sensor lights in the park bathrooms with the electrical contractor and that lighting could be completed this year. He asked the committee's opinion on restroom lights.

There was a consensus that sensor lights in public restrooms was a good idea.

Ms. Morneau asked if there would be lighting on the outside too.

Mr. Harmon said there would be. He said a whole remodel of the frontage would be done. He shared that parallel parking would be designed along Harrison.

Ms. Mosier suggested a solar panel roof be considered if a new roof was to be purchased for the restrooms.

Mr. Morneau shared that the tetra tile roofing was no more expensive than regular roofing and had a lifetime warranty.

Ms. Meston asked if the bathrooms were structurally sound and if the floors needed repairing.

Mr. Harmon said there were some floor repairs needed including remounting stolen toilets. He said they needed to decide what kind of toilets they wanted.

Mr. Morneau recommended considering non-plugging toilets.

Mr. Harmon said he was considering stainless fixtures. He suggested the committee make a trip to visit the bathrooms that summer to assess the needs and brainstorm solutions.

Mr. Morneau commented that Sheldon High School required community service hours, and recommended utilizing those volunteers.

Mr. Harmon shared he had two park benches at the Sewer Plant that were not being used that he wanted to relocate to the Wetland Trail. He asked the committee what they would like to see at the trail.

Mr. Morneau said he would like to see a bike rack and an observation deck.

Coburg Loop Path Sign Update

Mr. Harmon shared that the majority liked the sign design and it was decided the design would be used for the Coburg Loop.

Chair Smith arrived at 7:20 pm.

Mr. Harmon asked the committee what plants they wanted planted for Arbor Day.

Mr. Morneau asked if there was a list of allowable plants for Arbor Day.

Mr. Harmon said he would get the list of approved shrubs and the committee could decide which shrubs they wanted, depending on availability, at the April 18 meeting. He shared he wanted a work party in April for planting flowers in the planter areas. He suggested they consider the water trough. He said there was some money set aside for landscaping.

Ms. Smith asked if there was a possibility for hanging baskets by the gazebo.

Mr. Harmon said hanging baskets in park was a possibility and a drip system could be set up.

Mr. Morneau shared that the Coburg Conversations meeting was on April 29, and encouraged committee members to attend.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

Annual Report for Council Review

Ms. Meston said she would compile a rough draft for the committee to review at the following meeting.

Ms. Marshall said she had reviewed the past minutes and had compiled a list of key things the committee had done and discussed. She read out her email.

Update on the Hayden Homes Subdivision

Update on Open Space

Ms. Smith said that some councilors were not pleased at the City Council meeting that Hayden Homes had not considered the Open Space request and had not responded with any compromises or new ideas. She recommended that the committee compile a design concept to present at the next public hearing that could include a barbeque bit and picnic tables.

Mr. Harmon commented that 20% of the total acreage had to be open spaces which included bio-swales, streets and sidewalks. He said the open space was approximately the size of Jacob Spores Park.

Ms. Mosier asked if the bio-swale would be on the same corner as the park.

Mr. Harmon said in the new set of plans there was no retention pond.

Ms. Smith reminded them that Hayden Homes said they would not be able to guarantee if flowing water would be running through the Open Space.

Ms. Coury suggested they consider the identity of Coburg and work to reflect the identity in their parks and open spaces.

Ms. Mosier emphasized that Coburg was originally an agricultural community with a rich historic district. She emphasized she did not want Coburg's identity to be a bedroom community of Eugene.

Ms. Coury emphasized the importance of open spaces being for community building purposes.

Mr. Morneau recommended reviewing the surveys to see what the community's thoughts were on Coburg's identity.

Ms. Mosier volunteered to create a schematic drawing for the open space.

Ms. Meston recommended considering a mound and planters in the open space. She offered to assist Ms. Mosier.

Mr. Morneau moved, seconded by Ms. Meston, to compile a concept to present at the public hearing for the open space. The motion passed unanimously.

Tree Document

Ms. Smith said she would email the committee the link that Ms. Coury had found.

Mr. Harmon observed that it was clear they did not bring in enough money to maintain the trees. He suggested considering segregating Parks and Trees into separate committees or allowing property owners to care for trees themselves and no longer charge the public for trees.

Mr. Morneau agreed with Mr. Harmon noting that in the past there had been a separate Tree Committee. He said he was leaning on taking the city out of the tree business since the \$2/month tax was not enough to cover tree maintenance. He noted that the committee would be more productive with parks if they did not have to deal with trees.

Ms. Smith said she was not opposed. She emphasized the need to continue having a Tree Committee if the tax was in place. She suggested researching which trees were owned by the city that would require upkeep by the city. She commented that it was noted at the Visioning Meeting that maintaining the

beauty of the trees and the canopy was a priority.

Ms. Coury emphasized the need to continue to invest in an urban forest to keep pollution down.

Mr. Harmon noted that the topic required thoughtful consideration and could be addressed in future months. He suggested they decide at the next meeting if another committee body was needed. He said a subcommittee did not have to be a voting body and could meet every other month before the committee meeting.

Ms. Smith replied that if it was decided that another committee body was not needed, trees could be placed at the bottom of the committee's priority list.

Mr. Harmon said he would discuss the topic with staff with the committee's input.

There was a unanimous consensus that the creation of a Tree Subcommittee was needed.

Wetlands Information

Ms. Meston shared Ordinance A237, a state-wide planning goal signed in 2016 for the protection of natural resources which included wetlands and open spaces. She said it required an inventory and a map. She said there was a reference for no hard structures. She suggested utilizing the various resources they had including the University of Oregon, LCOG, and the EPA. She asked the committee to consider what should be done with the wetlands park and encouraged detailed research be done.

Approval of February 21, 2017 Minutes

Ms. Coury moved, seconded by Ms. Meston, to approve the February 21, 2017 minutes. The motion carried unanimously with a single abstention from Mr. Morneau.

Ms. Smith shared that as they began replacing street lights, they consider the night sky recommendation. She shared that historic buildings in the downtown core had to be historically representative.

ADJOURNMENT

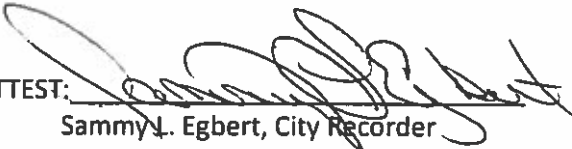
Mr. Morneau moved, seconded by Ms. Coury, to adjourn the Coburg Park | Tree Committee meeting. The motion moved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED by the Park | Tree Committee on this 18 day of April, 2017.



Claire Smith, Chair

ATTEST: 
Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder