



Minutes

Coburg Parks | Tree Committee
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 91136 N. Willamette
August 18th, 2020

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Harmon, Public Works Director; Ty Wilson, Public Works Officer; Anne Heath, City Administrator. Mayor Smith also attended the meeting.

RECORDED BY: Jack Moran, LCOG.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mosier called the meeting of the Coburg Park | Tree Committee (CPTC) to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Harmon called roll. All committee members were present.

AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Mosier conducted the agenda review.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM JULY

None

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

None

DONATION LIST FOR PARK AMENITIES

The group discussed potential park amenities that could be added in the event donations are made. Ms. Meston said bench donations seem to be most meaningful to people. The group then discussed specific bench types. A handout that included numerous bench styles and other park amenities was made available.

Ms. Mosier shared some photos of freestanding porch type swings. She thought it would good on the North end of the park to sit for a quiet area.

Mr. Beatty suggested more rose planting in the parks, as well as milkweed vegetation to help migrating and native species. He also expressed support for the donation of a purple Martin birdhouse or something similar.

Ms. Smith spoke about potentially having a child-size picnic table and a bench installed at Johnny Diamond Park; and backed the idea of bench donations.

Ms. Coury said she likes the idea of a bike-repair station as something that could potentially be donated to the parks. She also supported suggestions made by Mr. Beatty, and mentioned horseshoe pits as another possible park amenity.

Mr. Morneau said there is a need for more picnic tables at Pavilion Park, where many people use the existing tables.

Mr. Harmon provided additional information on the topic, including about how people may choose to memorialize donated items. He added that there has been interest in upgrading the flagpole area in Norma Pfeiffer Park, and suggested it as a possible candidate for donations. He said more information on flagpole-area improvements would be made available to the group in October.

Additional discussion regarding bench and picnic table specifications followed. Group members supported a bench design that includes features of the metal-framed wood benches along the Booth Kelly Mill path. The group also favored a picnic table design with black framework.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Morneau, to agree the city would choose the design for items for Johnny Diamond Park and then have people donate to the cost of it, so purchases are not delayed. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Morneau moved, seconded by Ms. Marshall, to also include A-frame porch swing as part of the plan. The motion passed unanimously.

JACOB SPORES IMPROVEMENT IDEAS

Ms. Mosier thanked volunteers and city crews for their work on recent improvements. She said the group needed to provide direction to Public Works on what to do before moving the hydrangea at the park.

Mr. Beatty said the hydrangea could be moved to a seasonal "color spot." He added that discussions had been held regarding augmenting the maple tree in the park with at least two

similar trees. Mr. Beatty mentioned planting one additional tree, as well, and talked about the need for shade during park activities.

Mr. Harmon suggested committee members consider participating in the tree planting next spring during the city's Tree City USA/Arbor Day celebration. The group seemed supportive of the idea.

OPEN SPACE IN NEW PROPOSED SUBDIVISION IDEAS

Ms. Mosier suggested tabling discussion on the topic due to a lack of information on how to proceed. She mentioned the project was being appealed.

Ms. Smith asked if the group should submit a written statement informing the City Council that committee members still want 6 percent of the subdivision area to be set aside as usable, open space.

Following additional discussion regarding strategy and the subdivision project's status, the group agreed to draft a new statement recommending the required 6 percent of the project area remain usable, open space situated in one area of the subdivision.

TREE PLANTING AND CARE

The group did not have a standalone discussion on this agenda item.

MAYOR SMITH AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR - COMMUNICATION WITH COMMITTEE

Mayor Smith said he and the City Administrator have discussed the need for increased communication and a desire to further bring "the community into our city government." He said he considers local residents who serve as committee members to be subject-matter experts, and said others within the city organization are responsible for helping them gain the expertise needed to carry out their roles.

Mayor Smith said he and the City Administrator want to formally implement existing Committee Manual provisions with the goal being improved communication between the Council and its various committees.

City Administrator Heath mentioned the city's priority-based budgeting process, and briefly discussed processes relating to City Council goals and work plans. She said the city was interested in having its committees utilize those same processes and issue periodic reports to the council. The objective is to help the City Council better understand the priorities and work being done by committees.

Additional discussion followed. Committee members sought clarification and offered opinions on the process, and learned the development of work plans should help the group streamline meetings as well as improve communications.

Ms. Mosier commended committee members for their expertise, and said the group would appreciate developing plans that result in more-streamlined meetings. She said she believed the group could develop its goals by the end of 2020.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mosier adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm

APPROVED by the Park | Tree Committee on this 20th day of October, 2020.





Mary Mosier, Chair

Attest: 

Sammy L Egbert, City Recorder