



**MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

6 p.m.

REMOTE

Approved: 5-1-24

- CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m.
- Members present: Aaron Falotico, Bill Stoneroad, Sharon Konopa, Anna Roller, Nick Anderson, Jill Van Buren (6:06 p.m.)
- Members absent: None
- Staff present: Kim Lyddane, Director; Rick Barnett, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager; Rose Lacey, Recreation Programs Manager; Alysia Rodgers, Resource Development Coordinator; Jay Sharpe, Natural Resources Specialist; Debbie Little, Administrative Services Coordinator
- Guests present: Kurt Lango, Katherine Sheie of Lango Hansen Landscape Architects; Joyce Thompson Graham, (formal appointment to the commission is on the March 13 City Council agenda for ratification).
- Business from the Public  
None.
- New commissioners were introduced. 6:03 p.m.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES 6:03 p.m.  
February 7, 2024
- MOTION: Falotico moved to adopt the minutes with correction. Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.
- DISCUSSION ITEMS 6:08 p.m.
- a. Capital Projects  
Lyddane reviewed the project report included in the agenda packet.
- Meadow Ridge grand opening is scheduled for April 12, 2024.
  - Timber Linn Soccer Fields project is on hold after bids came in much higher than anticipated. Barnett is working with AYSO on alternative ways to finish the project.

## b. Deerfield Park

Kurt Lango and Katherine Sheie shared possible options for updating Deerfield Park. Funding for the project includes applying for a grant through the State of Oregon. Lyddane requested a letter of support from the commission for the grant application. Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Roller moved for a letter from the commission in support of the project. Van Buren seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

## c. Possible Amendment Albany Municipal Code 7.98.040

Jay Sharpe, City Forester, presented possible updates to the current tree code. Sharpe will review suggestions from the commission and revise recommended updates. Final recommendations will be reviewed by the commission before being presented to the City Council. Brief discussion followed.

## d. Tree Issues

Sharpe noted he is working with the utility company regarding necessary tree removals. The utility company is doing the removals and paying to replace the trees removed.

A contractor with background in fruit trees is scheduled to prune the historic apple trees at East Thornton Lake Natural Area. Sharpe is looking into making rounds out of some of the wood for educational purposes for summer camps/ Fun in the Park etc. Brief discussion followed.

Volunteers will be assisting with tree planting at Lexington Park on March 7, 2024.

## ACTION ITEMS

7:05 p.m.

## a. Chair/Vice-Chair Elections

**Nomination:** Member Van Buren nominated Member Konopa for the position of Chair. Konopa accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Konopa was elected to the position of Chair. Vote 6-0.

**Nomination:** Member Van Buren nominated Member Roller for the position of Vice-chair. Roller accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Roller was elected to the position of Vice-Chair. Vote 6-0.

## b. Meeting schedule frequency

Lyddane reviewed the current meeting schedule. No action was taken.

## REPORTS AND UPDATES

7:12 p.m.

## a. Hiring Update

Lyddane introduced Alysia Rodgers, the new Resource Development Coordinator. Rodgers provided some background information to the commission.

The Recreation Assistant position is in the process of being filled.

b. Staff reports

Lacey provided an update on recreation programs.

- Spring Activate has been mailed.
- Spring registration started March 4, 2024.
- Spring break camp has spots available.
- Scholarships are available for camps and other programs.
- Currently administering a small grant to provide activities specifically geared to the senior population.
- Summer planning for programs and concert performers is currently underway.
- Staff attended the Oregon Festival and Events conference. The department received an award for the River Rhythms concert series, which had to be relocated last year due to the Waterfront construction project.
- Abany Community Pool was closed for a couple days due to a mechanical issue but will reopen tomorrow March 7.

Barnett provided an update on Park Maintenance.

- Park Maintenance staff are busy with spring maintenance as all things are growing.
- The state grant funds the department is applying for could provide around \$450,000 towards the Deerfield Park update.
- Working with AYSO on alternative ways to finish the Timber Linn soccer field project.
- Continuing to work on homeless encampment clean up.

Lyddane noted the Waverly Lake fountain is in the process of being installed and should be completed by the end of the week.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

7:09 p.m.

Konopa noted the Waverly Duck needs some minor repairs and paint. She has reached out to a local business to see if they would be interested in assisting in getting the duck repaired and painted.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 3, 2024. This meeting will be virtual.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by,  
*Signature on file*

Reviewed by,  
*Signature on file*

Debbie Little  
Administrative Services Coordinator

Kim Lyddane  
Parks & Recreation Director