

METRO REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 6, 2003

Meeting Notes Summary

Chair Chris Noble called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Other committee members in attendance included Rebecca Banyas, David Manhart and Sylvia Milne. Also in attendance were the following Metro Parks staff: Dan Kromer, Heather Kent, Ron Klein and Pat Sullivan.

Introductory comments and announcements

Under a point of old business Ron Klein reminded the committee of the occasion when the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI) Parks sub-committee expressed an interest in bringing before this committee its concern that adequate public involvement be included in any master planning on Metro property being carried out by local park providers. This referred to IGAs covering the partnership between Metro and the local park providers for that purpose. RPGAC's response was to caution against including clauses referring to public involvement in such IGAs which may be construed as unfunded mandates to jurisdictions without such financial resources. Klein brought these comments back to the MCCI Parks sub-committee which requested these two committees work together when issues of common concern are addressed. It was suggested that minutes or meeting notes of each committee be exchanged.

In a recent discussion between Noble and former RPGAC member Bob Akers, he asked that the committee be informed of the 40-Mile Loop Trail group's current involvement in significant Lewis & Clark Trail projects, although hoped for federal funding has not come through.

Reallocation of Multnomah County local share funds

Heather Kent introduced proposed Resolution No. 03-3313 which would reallocate the remaining Multnomah County Local Share portion of the Metro Open Space bond funds to new projects, specifically the Blue Lake lakefront restroom project with any left over funds to be transferred to the ongoing Smith & Bybee Lakes local share project. The funds were originally designated for the Blue Lake eastside wetland project, which was subsequently determined to be infeasible. As required, Multnomah County has been notified of this proposed change in fund allocation. There has been no response yet from the county; Kent will follow-up to make certain it has no concerns. *A motion was made and passed unanimously, including Aleta Woodruff's as an absentee voter.*

Fee Increases for park services

Dan Kromer presented proposed Ordinance No. 03-1008 which would increase park fees by amending Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Code Title X. He distributed results of surveys taken annually to compare the fees of other park jurisdictions with Metro's in the areas of picnic reservations, overnight camping, annual passes, entry fees at parks and marine facilities, alcohol permits and rental of the "Lake House". Information was also provided as to how long it had been since these fees were increased. Recommended increased amounts and percentages were discussed. The committee consensus was that recommended increases are reasonable and in line with the consistent theme during budget deliberations of needed additional revenue. A suggestion was also made that the fee for alcohol permits at Blue Lake in the larger capacity picnic areas might be raised even higher – to \$225. *A motion was made and passed unanimously to recommend approval of the fee increases as presented with the suggestion that the fee for alcohol permits in larger capacity picnic areas be raised even higher to the extent staff feels appropriate.*