

Metro Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee
June 2, 1998 Summary Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Metro Regional Center

Present: Seth Tane, John Griffiths, Brian Scott, Faun Hosey, Mike Reid, Jim Battan, Rick Charriere, Jay Hamlin, Sylvia Milne, Julie Weatherby, Ron Klein, Charles Ciecko, Jennifer Budhabhatti, Dan Kromer, Lia Waiwairole, Michael Henton, Lin Harmon-Walker

Mike Reid called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Sylvia Milne was introduced as the new member of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee representing District #2.

Charles Ciecko announced that the FY 98-99 budget has moved through the Budget Committee including new positions for a Volunteer Coordinator and Land Banking Park Ranger. The Oregon Parks Foundation recently heard a proposal to provide major funding for the construction of an Oxbow Park Nature Center. The foundation board will consider the proposal and respond to Metro at a later date.

Metro, SamTrack and Union Pacific have reached an agreement that will result in the railroad along the OMSI to Springwater Corridor to be moved to accommodate a trail. The agreement is pending Metro Council approval.

Dan Kromer (Manager, Operations & Maintenance) highlighted capital projects for FY97-99 and plans for FY98-99. Projects completed include Curry Building renovation at Blue Lake Park and a new water well installation at Blue Lake Park. The well project includes a 10-inch steel casing with a 8-inch stainless steel sleeve, drilled down to 140 feet. Works in progress include Sauvie Island Boat ramp upgrade (pending Multnomah County permit issues to be resolved), M. James Gleason Boat Ramp design and engineering phase, computer networking to field offices, Oxbow fire road repairs and Bybee house repair and painting. Plans for FY 98-99 include river bank erosion control and Blue Lake Regional Park electrical upgrades.

Glisan Street Recreation, Inc (GSR) currently operates and maintains Glendoveer Golf Course. GSR has proposed a 10-year extension to their contract that will expire in 2002. A review committee was formed to assess the proposal and report their findings to the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee. Charles Ciecko and Michael Henton (CPA) presented the findings and recommendations of the review committee. Henton indicated that GSR is financially sound and able to carry out the terms of the agreement.

In a report by the review committee, the following recommendations were made: 1) extend the GSR contract 10 years to 2012 in exchange for \$1 million in capital improvements to the golf course payable in four installments of \$250,000 in the next four years; 2) an additional \$115,000 will be paid to Metro for capital improvement parks projects; 3) Charles Ciecko will work with Joe Hickey (GSR) to determine how the capital improvement funds for Glendoveer will be allocated with Ciecko having the final authority; 4) the Metro excise tax will be identified in the revenues coming to Metro under the terms of the contract.

Ciecko indicated that Metro has been pleased with the performance of GSR over the years. The Glendoveer master plan will be reviewed to identify capital projects. GSR would like to upgrade the irrigation system. Seth Tane recommended that the projects be competitively bid to get the most out of the investments. John Griffiths moved to accept the Glendoveer Review Committee report. Rick Charriere 2nd. Approved 9-0.

Jennifer Budhabhatti discussed Metro staffs' approach to implementing the Regional Framework Plan (Chapter 3) by developing a regional master plan to establish a system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people. What is expected to take about three years to complete, the planning process will include extensive public involvement, inventory of natural areas and parks, identification of the regional system, identification of funding sources, and identification of roles and responsibilities among local park providers.

The plan also includes the need for a local parks inventory and the determination of Level of Service (LOS) for parks facilities and recreation services at the local level. The boundary for the inventory has been tentatively set. The urban forest canopy will also be identified through satellite imagery.

Reid- many of the elements of the plan seem to be grantable. For example, partnering with the City of Portland or State of Oregon to network the inventory database could perhaps be funded with grant(s). Providing flexibility in plan and system standards will help local jurisdictions support the regional plan. It is difficult to do everything in every jurisdiction.

Milne- recommend getting the word out in the community regarding Metro's efforts in parks planning as soon as possible. Metro will build better support for the parks plan if information is provided early. At least be prepared to share information when requested and then doing an effective public involvement process when the inventory results are collected.

Charriere- if Metro is not willing to share information early in the process, citizens will take it upon themselves draw their own conclusions about the project which may be inaccurate and deleterious to the project.

Scott- once a good database is established, there should be periodic reviews to keep the information more current. Ten years is too long between inventories.

Tane- should go to the public when there is a product (e.g. inventory results). Going too early to the public may cause some confusion because of the complexity of the effort to identify a regional system. Data should be in a format that is usable as technology changes.

The next meeting of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, July 7, 1998, Metro Regional Center, 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

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NO JULY MEETING
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