

MINUTES
Warrenton Parks Advisory Board
August 8th, 2022
Warrenton City Hall – Commission Chambers
225 S. Main
Warrenton, OR 97146

Parks Board Members Present: Chairperson Bert Little, Brooke Terry, Ron Dyer, and Anya Schauermann.

Park Board Members Absent: Carol Snell, Michelle Murray.

Staff Present: Twyla Vittetoe; Public Works Executive Secretary, Kyle Sharpsteen; Public Works Operations Manager.

CONSENT CALNDAR

A. Minutes of June 14th Meeting

Board member Brooke Terry made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 14th meeting. Board member Ron Dyer seconded the motion, and all board members were in favor.

REPORTS

Warrenton Kids Inc. – Debbie Little reported to the board that the baseball season and softball season is over. WKI met with City Manager Linda Engbretson regarding the field use agreement. WKI plans to bring a lease, rather than a field use agreement to the Parks board then proceed to commission before February 2023. Debbie stated she wanted to make the board aware that they will be including maintenance on the dugouts as well, due to issues with trespassers and vandalism in the area. Board member Ron Dyer stated that he wants to attend Warrenton Kids Inc's next meeting regarding the lease. In the meantime, WKI is preparing for the upcoming Football, Volleyball, and Cheerleading season then Basketball starting is starting in October.

Public Works Operations – Kyle, Operations manager reported Public Works is struggling to find support staff. Their seasonal position has been vacant all summer and Public Works mower has been down nearly all summer. As a result, the city isn't getting maintained as much as they would like to. We have been able to complete a few projects, such as the columns on the picnic shelter area at Carruthers, completed asphalt patching at seafarer's park, and got a new grass sweep to kept keep the roads clean while mowing. We have had vandalism issues in the park restrooms with the toilet paper. We worked with our janitorial service and upgraded our dispensers to the two large 9" rolls. We hope this helps eliminate some of the damages in the future. Board member Ron Dyer was very appreciative of all the hard work Public Works has been doing with the staffing issues

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they have been experiencing. Chairperson Bert Little stated he was very proud of all the projects Public Works has accomplished in the past year. He noted the parking lot at the dog park, the little dog pin and the big dog pin, the gazebo, the viewing dock on third street, the rope at the river park to deter people from driving through. Kyle added that We have been having a bit of a transient issue by the River Park that is keeping people from returning.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Erik Luysterborghs attended the meeting to present a packet to the board regarding bringing a BMX Park to Warrenton. He stated that there are 9 tracks spread throughout Oregon. There is a void on the coast, the closest track is 2.5 hours away in Newberg, OR. The sport grew a lot during covid, since it was a safe distancing outdoor sport. Anyone can do it, very flexible sport, as much or as little as you want. This track will be fully open to the public, when it is not in tournament use. If we can find the right land, we can get this done for a low cost. Erik stated, he wanted to build the track next to the soccer fields, on the landfill. He spoke to the planning department a year ago and was referred to the DEQ. Chez Spencer from DEQ gave him great information on how to build on this type of land. He was very encouraging for that type of use for his type of land. Board member Ron Dyer asked how the insurance will be handled? Erik explained that anytime there is a tournament, or a league activity it is fully insured by USA BMX. At the times the league is not present, it will be a use at your own risk, like a skate park. Board member Ron dyer asked about the weather hazards. He stated that maybe the reason we don't have these tracks on the coast is because of the climate and weather hazards. Erik responded by stating every city experience difference weather issues. Klamath falls, bend, Redmond deal with heavy snow fall, flooding, etc. The track operator at the Eugene track is a Structural Engineer and has created a track design that is impervious to water. That way the track can run year around by using a crushed assault powder and use a combination of blue and baseball soil over the top of a dirt mount, but it is a hard surface that the water runs off. To start, I want to build the track as cheap and efficiently as possible, raise money then continue to build the track and the program. The property itself is a City of Warrenton property, not a park property. Board member Brooke Terry stated she thinks it's a great use of the land. Chairperson Bert Little asked the board for thoughts on letting him present this to the City Commission. All members were in favor. Erik asked the board for suggestions on his next steps should be for bringing it to the commission. Board member Brooke Terry stated bringing a professional proposal to commission, then taking their feedback and potentially needing to bring it back to the Parks Board. Kyle Sharpsteen,

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Public Works Operations manager suggested having a track layout and a draft agreement or lease before bringing it to the commission.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chairperson, Bert Little wanted to address the Corn Hole tournament for 2023. He stated he would like to get things started now. Brooke Terry suggested creating a solid plan before reaching out to sponsors. Chairperson Little, stated they will assign a committee of three or four people next meeting. Debbie Little suggested to the board to include outside individuals for the committee, otherwise you may just spend all your time discussing it at your board meetings. Brooke Terry stated she would start investigating the best date for the tournament and getting information from local establishments that hold tournaments to avoid any scheduling conflicts.

Bert Little wanted to discuss the trail signage. Ron Dyer stated that we need new trail signs on all our trails, and we may be able to get funding for these signs from the Quincy Robinson fund since they are upgrades. Bert Little offered a suggestion of asking the school to design the graphics. The board was in agreeance, and Chairperson Little will be reaching out to the school.

Kyle Sharpsteen mentioned that Public Work crews have been out for the past week working on the Pacific Rim Park. We were able to make a nice flat spot out there and have grass seed down. In the meantime, we are working on getting the sidewalks put in and the fence put up. Everything is coming together well.

Chairperson stated Warrenton Kids are working on coming up with a park usage language statement. This language will answer questions on who can use the park, what can be used, when can it be used? Rules of conduct or something along the lines of that. Board member Ron Dyer stated he does not want to see the statement become too strict, as we do want kids to come to the park and play at the courts.

Board member Ron Dyer and Chairperson Little stated how great the Seafarers Park is looking. Little said they absolutely are trying to avoid this park from turning into a camping area. The board asked operations manager Kyle Sharpsteen if there was still conversation regarding the marina taking over the park maintenance. Kyle stated he isn't sure of the total vision out there yet. Ron Dyer suggested if Public Works ever has any extra dirt, maybe they can bring it out to the park and begin to flatten the area out.

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Chairperson Little added that Kyle already covered the discussion about the 2021/2022 projects, so we will move onto item G that he would like to add in. Bert Little stated he has heard lots of feedback regarding citizens wanting more dog pots at the trails. Public works operation manager stated he is interested in seeing on a map the locations they want to add, but to keep in mind that we do not have the staff capacity to drive around three days a week to pick up additional dog pots. Keeping in mind our limited parks funds. Kyle was hopeful that the new City manager may have some ideas on generating revenue. Brooke Terry and Bert agreed that we need to find a way to generate revenue and discussed the potential of applying to add a tax on gasoline that went just to the parks.

There being no further business, Chairperson Bert Little adjourned the meeting at 5:40 P.M.

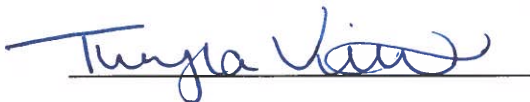
Next regular meeting is scheduled for October 10th, at 4:00 p.m.

Approved



Bert Little, Chair

Attest



Twyla Vittetoe, Public Works Executive Secretary