Keizer Little League Park Long Range Planning Task Force
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 6:00 pm
Keizer Civic Center ~ Claggett Room A

1. Call to Order
2. Appearance of Interested Citizens
3. Approval of Minutes – January 2, 2019
4. Report and Discussion – Subcommittee ‘Parent Organization’ Plan
5. Field Projects and Priorities – KLL & MYB short term (12-18 month list)
6. Project Planning – Future uses and opportunities (i.e. tournaments), facility requirements
7. Adjourn
CALL TO ORDER ~ Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Attendance was taken as follows:

Present:
- Mayor Cathy Clark, Chair
- Matt Lawyer, Vice Chair
- Marlene Parsons, Councilor
- Dan Kohler, Councilor
- Brad Arnsmeier, KLL
- Bo Lane, MYB
- Lisa Buik, KLL
- James Hutches, Citizen

Absent:
- Ryan Walsh MYB

Also Present:
- David Dempster
- Clint Holland
- Jon Clark, KLL
- Ryan Siegel

Council Liaison/Staff:
- Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
- Chris Eppley, City Manager
- Tracy Davis, City Recorder

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS: David Dempster, Keizer, voiced concern regarding the lack of a bike/pedestrian path and the overall state of disrepair of Ridge Drive. He noted that there is no parking allowed on Ridge Drive but it is not enforced. Bill Lawyer noted that any repairs needed on the roadway are the responsibility of the Street Fund and the City should make the repairs. Mr. Arnsmeier noted that the Little League has a good relationship with the church and they allow use of their lot on days other than Sundays and Wednesdays if they are notified ahead of time. On very busy days the parking lots will all be filled and cars park on the street.

Discussion followed regarding access to nearby parking lots. Public Works Director Bill Lawyer noted that there is pedestrian access on the west side of the T-ball fields, one through the apartments (both locked) and one on Ridge Drive. If there was a desire to have those gates open at the apartments and on the west side to benefit the operation of the facility, the City could strongly encourage that they be opened.

Mayor Clark noted that effective access to fields for vehicle, bike and pedestrian traffic should be addressed in the long range plan which will be recommended to Council.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Marlene Parsons moved for approval of the November 2018 Minutes. Matt Lawyer seconded. Motion passed as follows: Clark, Parsons, Lawyer, Walsh, Lane, Buik, Kohler and Hutches in favor with Arnsmeier absent.

GOVERNANCE – LONG RANGE PLANNING: Discussion took place regarding the possibility of selling the property. City Manager Chris Eppley explained that once the property was transferred it would no longer be public ground. The City could have a seat on the governance structure to represent the citizens. A citizen vote would not be necessary, but the Council would need to vote on it. The advantage of the park being owned by Keizer Little League is that KLL would have full control without the City being involved. An agreement could be entered into (similar to that with the School District) wherein the City provides water for irrigating the fields.

Further discussion took place regarding improvements needed in order to host tournaments and, if tournaments were scheduled, would they be the priority or would the priority be to let Keizer kids play. Members also discussed revenue, scheduling, slot fees, the difference in the two entities’ ideas of improvements (dirt vs. grass) and philosophies, operation of the park prior to the split into two organizations, wear and tear caused by other organizations, charging outside organizations for use, controlling access to the park, converting the park to a baseball complex, and establishing a different field use fee for non-Keizer organizations.

Matt Lawyer suggested the formation of an independent parent organization. He acknowledged that the philosophies of the two organizations are different but noted that there is room for give and take. The idea is that the ‘facility’ hosts the two organizations for their games and issue is the maintenance and operation of said ‘facility’. The ‘parent organization’ would have a seat at the table to facilitate both philosophies. It would be a governing body that would focus ONLY on the maintenance and operation of the ‘facility’.

Both organizations agreed that they were willing to participate in a joint effort to consistently maintain and operate the fields. Mr. Eppley suggested that both organizations get together to figure out how to manage the facility without City involvement and then share with the City how it is going to work. He also suggested that another option would be for the City to enter into a lease agreement with the organizations for the facility.

Mayor Clark provided details of the lease agreement that the City has with the Keizer Heritage Center.

Bill Lawyer explained that in the past there was one organization and it controlled everything to do with the property. This could be accomplished again with an overall organization overseeing the complex for maintenance, operation and scheduling.

Matt Lawyer, Marlene Parsons and representatives from Keizer Little League and McNary Youth Baseball agreed to meet to discuss and develop a plan for implementation of a parent organization.

Mayor Clark urged the subgroup to develop a plan that would allow both organizations to thrive. Mr. Eppley added that they should give themselves a deadline so they stay focused. Mayor Clark added that she hoped it would go into effect for the 2020 season. Bill Lawyer noted that the current agreement with the City is in its one-year extension. He
suggested that a good goal would be to complete the plans to coincide with the end of the agreement that is currently in place.

Mayor Clark suggested that the Task Force help determine responsibilities of the parent organization and how the two organizations under it would thrive. When the framework is in place, they would focus on the long range plans for the facility, addressing safety, fencing, parking, lighting, access, etc.

FIELD PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES: To be addressed at next meeting.
PROJECT PLANNING: To be addressed at next meeting
ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 27, 2019

Minutes approved: ___________________