



**KEIZER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
6:00 p.m. Keizer Civic Center**

CALL TO ORDER – Chair David Loudon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
ATTENDANCE

Present

David Loudon, Chair
Tanya Hamilton, Vice Chair
Dylan Juran
Matt Lawyer
Mathew Poteet
Clay Rushton
Wayne Frey

Absent:

Dustin Karstetter
Michael Pantalone

Staff Present

Robert Johnson, Parks Division Manager
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

Council Liaison Present

Councilor Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Matt Lawyer moved for approval of the February 2021 Minutes. Tanya Hamilton seconded. Motion passed as follows: Loudon, Lawyer, Hamilton, Juran, Poteet and Rushton in favor with Frey abstaining and Pantalone and Karstetter absent.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS: *Carol Doerfler, Carolyn Homan, Rhonda Rich, Kathy Lincoln and Gary Blake*, Keizer, urged the Parks Board to develop Palma Ceia Park as a natural ‘pocket park’ with pathways, benches and viewing platforms, preserving it as a birding site, and replanting the area with native plants. Mr. Blake noted that some neighbors, in response to the apparent neglect of the park, have suggested that the park signage be removed. Kathy Lincoln suggested that the City look into the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board grants for restoration of river property. Lengthy discussion followed regarding removing the old orchard trees to create more green space, the possibility of increased parking in the neighborhood, park boundaries, improvement priorities and the difficulty of removing debris from the lower level which accumulates every year. Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson pointed out that the requested improvements are all included in the 2008 Parks Master Plan and will be completed eventually. He explained that recent park improvements have been priority driven due to the need to replace aging equipment but that Palma Ceia improvements are planned.

Jeff Davis, Keizer, approached the Board with a Matching Grant request sharing information on his application and providing details of funding he had received. He explained that he had just received the matching funds that day.

Tanya Hamilton moved to suspend the rules in order to consider the grant request. Dylan Juran seconded. Motion passed as follows: Louden, Lawyer, Hamilton, Juran, Poteet, Frey and Rushton in favor with Pantalone and Karstetter absent.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Johnson then fielded questions regarding the value of the equipment, labor and fall protection material, the three sites, maintenance, ease of repair, warranty, the timeline and what would happen to the funds in the program if they were not used by the end of the fiscal year.

Matt Lawyer moved to approve the grant as presented for \$14,000. Dylan Juran seconded. Motion passed as follows: Louden, Lawyer, Hamilton, Juran, Poteet, Frey and Rushton in favor with Pantalone and Karstetter absent.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Board Member Volunteer/Grade KLL Park Management Proposals: Dylan Juran volunteered. Board expressed support.

Park Reports:

- **Tanya Hamilton: Bob Newton** is looking good but had extensive damage from the ice storm. | **Ryan J. Hill** – nothing new to report.
- **Dylan Juran: Mike Whittam** – Sustained ice storm damage which has not yet been cleaned up by Parks staff. | **Claggett Creek** – Closed due to ice storm damage.
- **David Louden: Northridge** has nothing going on. | **Chalmers Jones** is looking good now that storm damage has been cleaned up.
- **Dustin Karstetter:** (Written report submitted.) **Meadows** looks good but there are downed branches which have led to certain portions of the park being cordoned off. | **Ben Miller** – in very good shape. There is a large pile of branches needing to be picked up.
- **Wayne Frey:** (Report from staff) **Clear Lake:** The grove of fir trees withstood the ice storm well. | **Country Glen:** The maple trees sustained substantial damage and will have to be removed. The trees on the creek side fared better.

STAFF REPORT: Robert Johnson reported that the overall storm damage is the worst he has seen in his career. Staff has been working non-stop and round-the-clock to clean up everything. He thanked Salem Electric for loaning them their wood chipper and truck which allowed staff to remove the debris quickly. Wood chips will be used in area parks for trails. He thanked volunteers who helped with the parks cleanup and announced that all parks are open except Claggett Creek. A contractor has been hired to clean up that park and staff hopes to have it open next week. Grass will need to be reseeded and trees replanted. Old trees were the ones damaged. Younger ones survived well.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Councilor Smith thanked everyone for their hard work and reported that Council is working on getting some FEMA money to replace expenditures necessary with the cleanup effort.

NEXT MEETING: Matt Lawyer moved that the Parks Advisory Board hold meetings in person until otherwise ordered by a higher authority. Clay Rushton seconded. Motion passed as follows: Loudon, Lawyer, Hamilton, Juran, Poteet, Frey and Rushton in favor with Pantalone and Karstetter absent.

Board agreed by consensus to cancel the April 13 meeting since the Parks Tour is scheduled for April 12. Parks to be visited on the tour are: Chalmers Jones Skate Park, Northview and Wallace House. Everyone will meet at the gazebo and caravan from there.

OTHER BUSINESS: Matt Lawyer urged everyone to participate in the upcoming Community Center Cleanup and announced that volunteers will be given lunch when the project is completed.

Dylan Juran will report to Council.

***Next Meeting:** Parks Tour, April 12, 2021 ~ Regular Meeting, May 11, 2021*

ADJOURNMENT ~ Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Approved: 05-11-21