



City of Fairview
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2014

PRESENT:

Steven Marker, Chair
Brian Grattan, Vice Chair
Garth Everhart
Steve Kaufman
Jeff Arnold (arrived late ~ 5:40 PM)
Kate McLaughlin

ABSENT:

Council President Lisa Barton Mullins

STAFF:

Sarale Hickson, Development Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marker called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Marker called roll.

3. REVIEW AND ADOPT MINUTES

Committee Member Everhart presented proposed edits to the August 28, 2014 minutes (*Exhibit A*).

Committee Member Everhart moved to defer adoption of the August 28, 2014 minutes to the next meeting and Committee Member Kaufman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

Committee Member Arnold was not present for the vote.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (Public to be heard)

Committee Member Everhart referred to the 2000 Lakeshore Park Master Plan and the similarities in its conclusion for maintenance and capital improvements to PRAC's recommendations last August (2013). PRAC did not have this document at the time.

Development Analyst Hickson clarified the July 2, 2014 power point presentation to City Council titled Lakeshore Park Master Plan, Approved July 19th 2000, (*Exhibit B*) included PRAC's August 2013 findings and recommendations. Committee Member Everhart proposed adding the date to the pages identifying PRAC recommendations, Capital Improvements and Maintenance, to clarify what is from the original master plan and what is from PRAC's recent work (August 2013).

Chair Marker remarked the Exhibit B document title would lead a person to believe this is a July 2000 document and does not reference 2013 information and proposed including dates in

presentations to the Council and the public for clarity. Development Analyst Hickson remarked during the Council presentation it was made very clear what was 2000 and 2013. She forwarded parts of the July 2, 2014 Council packet to PRAC, but did not include the Council minutes from the July 2 meeting, which may have made things clearer.

5. STAFF UPDATES

Development Analyst Hickson reported the following.

- Fairview Woods Park: rock pile options will be assessed after trails have been widened and understory cleared. Trails have been widened and goats are scheduled to arrive October 1. Chair Marker inquired if the rocks are not being removed right now because they are too large or the equipment is too large to get back and remove them. Development Analyst Hickson replied some can be moved and some of the rocks are too large to be moved with the equipment we have.
- Fazett Park: Portable restroom has been removed.
- Street light out at Pioneer Park: staff located the PGE pole numbers and reported the outage. Have not heard back from PGE yet. Committee Member Everhart requested the pole numbers be given to the HOA for future reference.
- Staff provided the proposed Fairview Woods Park budget presented to City Council (*Exhibit C*).
- Park Cleone: trails are being asphalted. Had a recent storm (rain) event. The stormwater system worked perfectly; the pond and stream are beautiful. Park should be complete mid-October.

Vice Chair Grattan inquired about minutes from the staff and Bridge Street neighbor meeting. Development Analyst Hickson replied there were no minutes.

Vice Chair Grattan asked if there is a reason for the separation in Park SDC funds between Open Space General and Fairview Village. They indicate the same amount, \$1,850. Development Analyst Hickson answered not that she is aware of; there may have been historically. Committee Member Everhart remarked the separation may be residential and commercial. Development Analyst Hickson clarified Park SDC's are only collected on residential projects.

Chair Marker reported City Council approved the \$400 PRAC request for a Lakeshore Park survey. He saw the City Council presentation by Jose Gutierrez for the three Fairview walking map brochures. The presentation was excellent and he requested the presentation be given at PRAC.

Committee Member Everhart clarified the budget request was for public outreach, not a survey. Chair Marker replied that is correct and is what he meant to say.

6. WALKING MAPS

The Cascade Academy Foundation (CAF) Interns, Jose Gutierrez and Patrick Colby, who created the walking map brochures, were unable to present due to work commitments. Development Analyst Hickson briefed PRAC on the brochures they created. (*Exhibit D*) The first brochure created was the "Trails and Parks". It is a map of Fairview that highlights the parks and existing trails. The "Walking the Pocket Parks" map outlines a one mile and two mile walking loop. The "Historic Walk" brochure identifies a half mile walking tour that highlights Fairview's historic sights. The brochures are being printed professionally, and will be posted on the website. The interns primarily worked with Public Works staff. They were great to work with and each side learned a lot.

Committee Member Everhart inquired if the information would be included in the Fairview Point newsletter. Development Analyst Hickson replied yes.

7. SPRINGWATER PARKS AND COMMUNITY DISTRICT CONCEPT

Cathy Sherick presented a parks and community district concept. The special service district is a proposed means to meet the service needs of the community. There are a lot of unknowns i.e. boundaries, funding (tax), how it will be governed, etc. The beginning process is to initiate the conversations and strategize how we will gather the information we need to know.

Ms. Sherick explained the components of a parks and community district. (*Exhibit E*) Parks and schools field operations would operate as one system. This would include Fairview, Troutdale, Wood Village, Gresham and the school districts; Gresham/Barlow, Reynolds, and Centennial. School facilities could be upgraded and rented for community events and “green” infrastructure resources could be added and expanded. A district could provide enrichment resources to assist with base funding issues; focus on operation and administration. Understand communities want to keep the services they currently have. What a city pays for now, would be funded by the district. In this concept phase we want to begin the discussions, involve community leaders, initiate a feasibility study, etc. “We want to cultivate a vision.”

Ms. Sherick presented a draft proclamation supporting a Springwater District and requested PRAC forward it to City Council. The proclamation is based on three principals - maintain quality of life in East County, improve health and well-being, and improve our economy.

Committee Member Everhart remarked Fairview has funding issues with parks and may have to close or remove some of the pocket parks. Like other cities, Fairview may have created too many parks during the development boom. Committee Member Everhart asked how other cities are handling this issue. Ms. Sherick replied the district concept addresses the issue by proposing tapping into the “visitor market”. Initiate a tax that visitors will be subject to pay (i.e. fast food, soda pop) that covers current costs, future projected costs, and additional infrastructure costs. A feasibility study is needed. Cooperation from the cities is crucial for an accurate and timely feasibility study.

Committee Member Everhart inquired who owns the parks in the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD). Ms. Sherick answered THPRD started in 1953 and which park belongs to who, and who is going to take care of what was negotiated. All new parks, since 1963, belong to THPRD.

Committee Member Everhart asked who is responsible for injury liability. Ms. Sherick replied the entity that manages and operates the park is responsible for liability (a city or THPRD). Most parks in the THPRD are under the district and liability falls to the district.

Committee Member Everhart queried how the district will manage a productive relationship with Metro. Ms. Sherick replied she views Metro as being in the business of managing open space and ecology; not owning and developing parks. Parks like Blue Lake are an anomaly in their park inventory. Metro works cooperatively within the region with larger organizations i.e. THPRD. Metro is more likely to come from a point of negotiation vs mandating compliance with larger groups.

Committee Member Everhart inquired if Metro would be represented on the board. Ms. Sherick replied that is to be decided, but she would not suggest it. The initial thought is to have so many seats at large and so many seats for liaisons of each Council. This is a beginning point and the structure is open to change.

Committee Member Kaufman commented Fairview created some neat parks during the development boom, but did not plan for maintenance. A district may be a great option to create the needed economic maintenance dollars.

Committee Member McLaughlin asked who else they have had conversations with. Ms. Sherick answered she has met with all the School District Superintendents. They are open to the district idea and the potential for SUN after school programs in every school. School districts were open to allowing the use of their facilities but would need a third party to handle it since use would be after school hours. Troutdale's parks advisory committee was initially reluctant, but they are moving the proclamation forward to their Council. Want to gather more assessment information prior to speaking with Gresham.

Chair Marker noted people can be resistant to change, especially in a small city where they take ownership. He liked the concept and asked about the process for advancing a proclamation to Council.

Committee Member Everhart commented he liked the idea of a parks district but is concerned about the environmental language. The scope seems to go beyond a park and recreational district. This may be why Troutdale was reluctant, because of their experience with Metro. Not supportive of another government layer regarding environmental issues.

Ms. Sherick remarked Troutdale did agree to forward the proclamation to their Council but it has not been adopted yet. The draft proclamation is something to respond to; to start the dialogue; forward the idea. The language may be changed to reflect what works for the city.

Chair Marker asked who came up with the Springwater name. Ms. Sherick replied a group of volunteers, but it is the concept phase, it can be changed.

Chair Marker left the meeting at 6:41 PM.

Vice Chair Grattan moved to table the discussion to the next meeting, come back with edits and comments, and Committee Member Everhart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

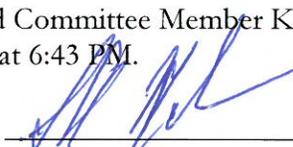
AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

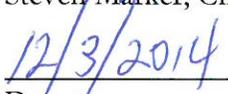
Chair Marker was not present for the vote. Ms. Sherick will send an electronic draft version of the proclamation to the Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Grattan moved to adjourn the meeting and Committee Member Kaufman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.


Devree Leymaster
City Recorder


Steven Marker, Chair


Date

A complete recording of this meeting is available by contacting the City of Fairview Administration Office,
1300 NE Village Street, Fairview, Oregon 97024 • 503.665.7929

EXHIBIT

A - PRAC 9/25/14

Proposed edits to 8.28.2014 Minutes

Several Item 5 items were discussed prior to Item 4 Staff Report. The order of the Minutes is slightly out of order but that is up to the Chairman.

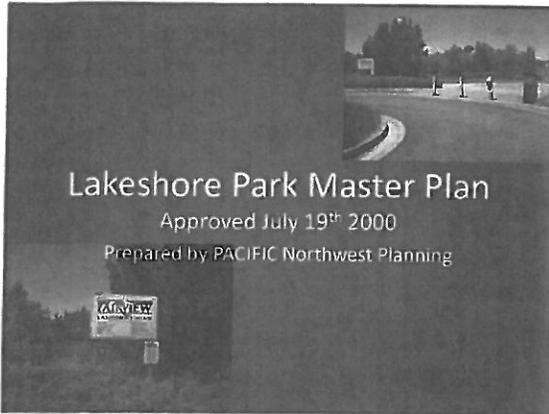
Item 4: Brian Grattan noted the Council Minutes regarding the \$74,000 budget for Fairview Woods Park that the budget was approved by PRAC which is not true. A case in point is no funding for the removal of the rock pile which was an issue discussed with neighbors during the PRAC public meeting and included in PRAC recommendations to Council. Staff noted the final list was worked worked out with selected neighbors.

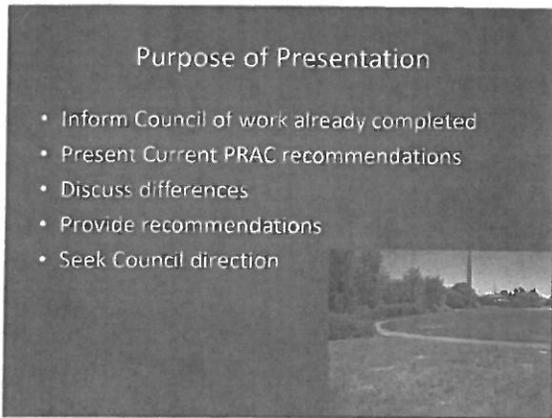
Committee consensus was the budget proposal should not have noted the list as being recommended by PRAC since it was a list between the staff and selected individuals out of public view.

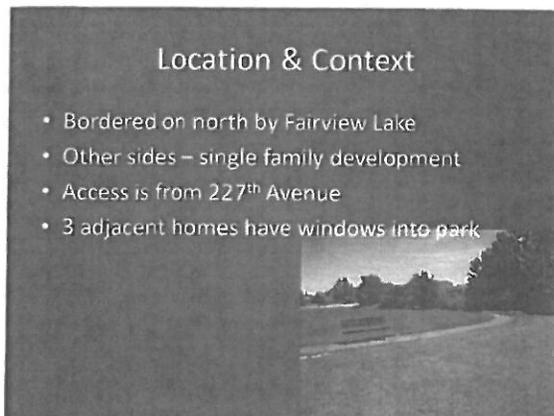
Item 5: FLOPA

2013 date should be added after each month cited.

Brian Grattan noted in the July 2, 2014 City Council minutes, Director Berry presented the original Lakeshore Master Plan along with PRAC's recommendations.







Environmental Conditions

- Site was generally flat
- Elevation 12-13 ft ASL
- Lake elevation in summer is 11.4ft ASL
 - unchanged
- Lake elevation in winter is 8.6ft ASL
 - unchanged



Soils

- Saturated throughout most of year
- Dry to a depth of 12" for short periods in summer
- Soil has a severe rating. Wetness a problem for:
 - Camp areas
 - Picnic areas
 - Playgrounds



Vegetation & Wildlife

- Ponded areas excellent for waterfowl in winter
- Common wildlife
 - Black-tailed deer, foxes, skunks, raccoon, opossum, rabbits, & mice
- Birds
 - Hawks, owls, vultures, jays, crows, woodpeckers, flycatchers, shore birds, blackbirds, larks, & starlings
- EMCSWC district report
 - osprey, bald eagles, & herons

Potential for wildlife habitat

- Soil conditions and water proximity create food and habitat for
 - Beaver
 - Muskrat
 - Nutria
 - Mink
 - otter



Constraints

- Pacific Power & Light Easement
 - Crosses the eastern edge of the park
 - Easement is 100 ft across
 - Vegetation limited to small trees
 - No structures allowed within the easement



Opportunities

- Location
 - Public access to the lake
 - Eastern terminus of the Columbia Slough
 - Canoeing
 - Education



Opportunities

- Environmental
 - Restoration
 - Riparian habitat
 - Upland habitat
 - Nesting areas
 - Food sources
 - Resting sites for wildlife
 - Limited plantings limited that potential

Opportunities

- Import fill
 - Small open lawn areas
 - Playground
 - Low intensity recreation activities

Primary Constraints

- High water table
 - Standing water
- Needed additional fill to take site to 15-16ft ASL
- PP&L Easement
 - No large trees
 - No structures



Survey Performed

- 5 questions posed to 300 residents
 - Responses received from 38 people



Results

- Improvements mentioned
 - Walking paths (29)
 - Benches (28)
 - Open lawn area (22)
 - Canoe launch (23)
 - Shrub / flower beds (18)
 - Picnic tables (18)
 - Restoration areas with native plants (17)
 - Play equipment (12)
 - Interpretive signs (8)

Results

- Residents split on provision of parking
- Vast majority didn't have children under age of 18
- Those who expressed concerns voiced:
 - Traffic
 - Keep area natural
 - Maintenance / litter
 - Didn't want playground equipment

Results

- When asked how they would use the park:
 - Walking
 - Canoe launch
 - Picnicking
 - Bird / wildlife watching
 - Play areas
 - biking

The Master Plan Vision

- Park becomes the eastern terminus of the Slough
- Lots of visitors
- Birders enjoy lakeside viewing areas
- Generational use
- Benches to sit on
- ADA accessibility
- Strolling
- Picnicking
- Traditional neighborhood park

Proposed Design Goals

- Develop a neighborhood park
 - Used mainly for area residents
 - Some visitors by car
- Improve the wildlife value
 - Riparian areas
 - Existing ponds



Major Features

- Playground for toddlers and older children
- Covered shelter
- Paved path
- Soft-surface path
- Lawn area
- Meadow area
- Interpretive signs

Alternative Features

- Paved parking lot for 8-10 cars
- Canoe launch



What was built



PRAC Findings

- Lakeshore Park has very good connectivity for pedestrians and bicycles
- Park is almost totally deficient in active recreation opportunities
- Lack of park amenities demonstrates unequal distribution of amenities across City parks

PRAC Findings

- As a neighborhood park there are limits on creating financial and operational partnerships. The addition of amenities may expand the interest in the park.
- Expanding opportunities within the park i.e. gazebo, may encourage groups to support the park
- Natural areas of park are well defined and fenced to reduce impacts on this area. Area would benefit from educational signage

PRAC Conclusions

- Make corrections based on:
 - Active recreation for children, families, and teens
 - Passive recreation for daytime users, seniors, and adults



PRAC Recommendations

- Capital Improvements
 - Playground structure at east end
 - Benches around park
 - Swings at east end
 - Garbage cans
 - Picnic area at west end on wood chips
 - Gazebo at west end
 - Doggie pots
 - Educational signage
 - Fence off playground equipment

PRAC Recommendations

- Maintenance
 - Clear out blackberries along the north and west sides
 - Limb up trees on the north and west sides
 - Replant native plantings that have been choked by the blackberries
 - Remove select invasive trees/shrubs along the lake
 - Correct park hours as needed
 - Relocate geo-cache to a more prominent location
 - Emergency information signage near the lake

Current Grant Application

- Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration Grant
 - Viewing platforms
 - Board walk
 - Trails
 - Interpretive signage
 - Benches
 - Hides

Comparison

- Major differences:
 - PRAC feel no need to expand access to the currently fenced natural areas
 - Masterplan has viewing platform and boardwalk to island

Staff Recommendations

- Perform an updated survey for the park use in this neighborhood
- Place the work on hold pending receipt of the results of the grant application and completion of Park Cleone
- Incorporate the listed PRAC recommendations into the proposed masterplan
 - Evaluate the needs for fencing based on survey results

Concurrence

- Does Council wish to proceed with the original Master Plan?
- Does Council wish to add PRAC recommendations?
- Does Council support staff recommendations?
- Does Council support additional funds?
 - With successful grant receipt ?
 - Without successful grant receipt ?

EXHIBIT

C-PRAC 9/25/14

Proposed Solution to Access and Public Safety Issues at the Fairview Woods Wetlands Park

We met with representatives of the Bridge Street Community, and discussed the PRAC recommendations. The following is a recommended path forward, together with estimated costs for performing the associated tasks.

1. Widen trails for maintenance and public safety access. This would involve adding 18-24" of trail. Scope would include additional rock, excavation, use of cut tree trunks to hold the slopes etc.

Estimated cost = \$17,000

2. Trim, top, and remove trees that are dead, dying, or present a public safety issue.

Estimated cost = \$25,000

3. Clear the understory using goats. This will provide for clear vision from trail to trail and may discourage behavior. Healing Hooves LLC are the company that did the work for the last park restoration project. The last project was a partial clearing, and was accomplished for \$4,750. The estimate for this project has been based on a 10 day plan, and would clear the understory between all the park trails. This work could occur in late September/early October 2014.

Estimated cost = \$10,000

4. Plant the areas on the west side of the park to eliminate the informal trails using native plants to discourage access. Additional placement of felled trees may be used to supplement this effort.

Estimated Cost = \$5,000

5. Installation of fence along the park boundary with Fairview Oaks / Woods Apartments. This fence is not to eliminate access to the park, but to control the accessible locations to the park. This is a project that could be a partnership with the apartment management group.

Estimated Cost = \$12,000

6. Park signage and trail markers to be provided as a guide for park users and to enhance public safety.

Estimated Cost = \$5,000

Total Estimated Cost = \$74,000

Schedule: September – trail widening and tree trimming
October – goat clearing
November – planting, fencing, and signage.

Completion date: December 1st 2014

Exhibit D

the walking maps which will be attached to the final minutes but too big to attach to this e-mail.

The community impact model. A livable, healthy, economically and environmentally thriving community.

COMPONENTS OF A PARKS & COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Parks and schools operate as one system. Schools, parks and community fields operations managed as one system for an economy of scale. New resources build green infrastructure. When regionalized, this will facilitate large sports tournaments and events that fuel the local economy.

New resources open existing community facilities. Support for existing services in regional facilities [school pools, public plazas, school buildings etc.] would allow them to be open for more public use, recreation, gardens and community programs.

Enrichment, culture & recreation funded by "grants" from the district that focus on operations and administration. This leverages private donations for services, enhances economic development and supports eco-tourism, environmental education, recreation, sports and volunteerism. By funding what currently exists we sustain what works now in business, non-profit and faith agencies and increases opportunities to grow services.

These investments result in..

Health & wellness: Direct access to trails, parks and green spaces. Children and adults are less likely to have weight problems, a precursor to diabetes and heart disease. Drug, alcohol and gang prevention are supported by outdoor activities for teens. Community gardens, play areas for children and healing gardens are components of "age friendly" livability.

Economic prosperity: Integrated services. Marketing the "smart" community provides development incentives by having a safe and livable future focus. Housing and business development is enhanced by green amenities. By embracing our diversity, we foster prosperity and increase our cultural capacity.

Protecting our way of life: Wise use of resources for future generations. Managing, developing and using green infrastructure with local control. Building environmental protections that support clean air & water.

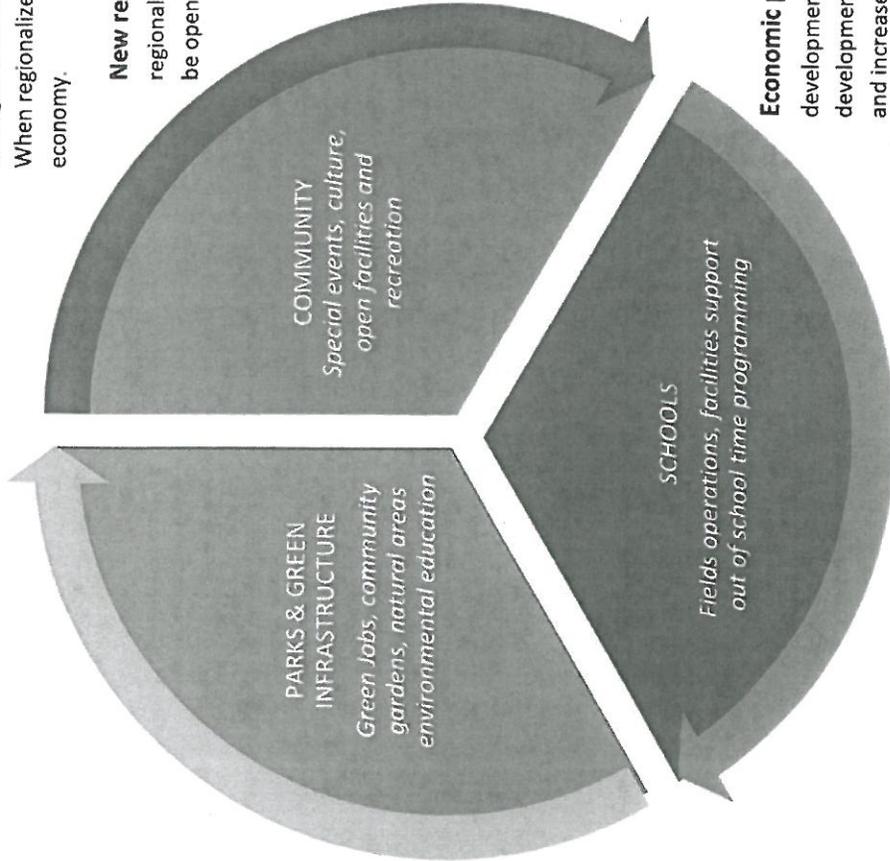


EXHIBIT
E-PRAC 9/25/14