

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
Wednesday, March 26, 2014 5:30pm, Lacey City Hall

Present:

Commission: Gary Hanson, Paul Royer, Shawn Smith, Lu Carlson & Robert Kowalski

Excused: Glen Crandal

Staff: Lori Flemm

Public: James Reddick, Dave Johansen

The meeting was called to order at 5:32pm, by Chair Lu Carlson.

Additions or deletions to the Agenda

Additions: 7c) New Business, Park Rule Interpretation

Minutes

The February 26, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved and placed on record.

Calendar

Correspondence

Old Business

- a) Report on March 6 City Council Work Session
Paul & Robert attended and made great presentations to the Lacey City Council. Council seemed quite happy with Park Board activity/progress.
- b) Recruitment of Commissioners
Gary Hanson's term expires on August 1, 2014.
Lu Carlson's term expires on November 17, 2014. Lu may elect to serve a second term.
Lori will draft a recruitment letter for prospective citizens. Gary suggested the letter include description of what Park Board does. Letter will go to volunteer, service and user groups, as well as 'word of mouth' to anyone interested.

New Business

- a) Accept Lu Carlson's resignation as Chair of the Board of Park Commissioners due to health.
Motion: to accept Lu Carlson's resignation as Chair of Lacey Park Board, due to a health issue.
Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- b) Elect Chair for remainder of calendar year 2014.
Motion: to 'flip' Chair and Vice-Chair. Paul Royer to Chair and Lu Carlson to Vice-Chair.
Motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Commissioners thanked both Lu and Paul for their continued service.
- c) Park Rule Interpretation
Dave Johansen would like to fly recreational remote helicopters in City Parks, and asked if that would be permitted. He requested an interpretation of Rule #12, "launches or detonates any object such as model aircraft, rockets, fireworks, etc., without prior approval". Commissioners went outside for a live demonstration of the radio controlled device.
Information about devices:
 - Equipped with Go-Pro and often used to film activities (sporting events, skiing, etc)
 - Can fly as far as the eye can see

- Programmed to flash when battery is low, so user knows to bring it in for a landing and avoid 'crash landing' down.
- Devices valued up to \$500
- Many flying clubs offer liability insurance (ex. \$2 million liability coverage = \$50/yr).
- Most devices equipped with GPS, altimeter & safe technology.

Commissioner discussion:

- Require personal liability insurance and proof of insurance on user.
- Require application and prior approval by Park Director.
- Rewrite rule #12, defining what can and cannot be done.
- Specify parks, specific location within parks, dates and time approval may be granted.
- Address issue of camera on devices & privacy concerns.
- Age restriction or parent/guardian required? Device manufacturers recommend minimum age of 13yrs.
- What/who does liability insurance cover? Device, family or operator?
- Parks to consider: low traffic: Brooks Park, Meridian, Horizon Point. What is someone wants to film a game at a busier park (RAC, RV)?
- Distance restriction: 100 ft away from building/structures.
- How are homemade devices monitored? Same requirements.
- Designate landing & take off zones
- Crowding? Most is common courtesy, taking turns. These are expensive devices so owners do not want to risk crashing into people, structures, trees or other devices. Batteries last about 15 minutes, so users take turns. Could limit number of approved users at a time.
- Usage Fee? Have to check with WCIA. Fee may increase liability.

Dave Johansen thanked Commissioners for their time and offered to help draft a policy or answer additional questions in the future. Commissioners requested that staff research insurance carrier (WCIA) requirements

Director's Report

a) Programs & Special Events

- 1) Spring Program Registration: Up about \$12,000 over last year. Web registration constitutes about 30% of all registrations, more in person registration due to day camp registration not allowed online/by phone. Many new households this quarter. Paul suggested people be allowed to set up their household online. Lori explained concerns with accuracy, duplicate households, etc.
- 2) April events: Family fish-in, Arbor Day, Earth Day.
- 3) May events: STEM Fair, Fun Fair and Grand Parade.

b) Construction Project Updates

- 1) Lacey Senior Center One Year Warranty
- 2) Lacey Senior Center Public Art
8 local artists were selected to jury and 13 pieces were selected for the Lacey Senior Center. Photographs, paintings and fabric/bead wall hangings of various sizes, all outstanding quality. Art reception will be open to the public later this year.

c) Planning

- 1) 2010 Comprehensive Plan for Outdoor Recreation: start work in Fall

d) **Grants & Budget**

- 1) WA State Sales Tax Bill did not pass in House, bill died. No change to existing tax laws.
- 2) RAC Financial Plan: agenda item for May meeting. Originally a 15 year agreement with Thurston County. County settled with City and paid their 50%. After 2014, City will be 100% responsible for M &O at the RAC.

Commissioner's Report

Shawn apologized for missing last month's meeting due to health appointments. He has been 'green lighted' for a double lung transplant and is moving forward with planning, testing in order to be a registered candidate for the transplant. He does not anticipate interference with his commitment to Park Board, but wanted to keep everyone up to date. Lori and Commissioners all wished Shawn very well.

Chair's Report

No report.

Citizen Comments

No citizens present.

Committee Reports

a) **PARC Foundation, James Reddick**

- Oly Centro (formerly Alpine Experience) has committed to holding a raffle for National Trails Day.
- The Jocelyn Dohm fund for classical music will offer up to \$7,000 for grants through 2015.
- There are concerns that the Thurston County Parks & Recreation Board was not involved or communicated with in the transition to the Health Department DDD.
- Request to Lucky Eagle Casino for Tenino Quarry Pool for \$5,000 for Splash Block.
- Regional Park Board minutes.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 5:30pm at the Lacey City Hall.