



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: August 20th, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting

In Attendance

Committee Members: Ken Rattarree (Chair), Kristen Abele, Galit Pinker, Alaka Sarangdhar

Staff: Keith Watson (Community Programs manager), Jon Campbell (Maintenance Operations manager), Brenda Peterson (Maintenance Operations Office Tech)

Board Liaison: Wendy Kroger

Absent: Nanda Siddaiah (Secretary), Tricia Lance, Carl Nelson, Michael Reidel, Tiago Zuccari, Pat Sheleny

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM

- Recognition of outgoing staff liaisons: Committee members recognized and thanked Jon Campbell and Brenda Peterson for their time and dedication to the committee. Committee members helped design plaques for Jon and Brenda that will be delivered to them via district courier. Jon and Brenda both thanked the committee and spoke about their appreciation and dedication of the members.
- Introduction of new staff liaison: Ken welcomed Keith Watson as the new staff liaison.

II. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the March 2020 meeting were presented to the committee. Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. **Public Comment:** No public comments were received

IV. **New Business**

- Committee Assignment Extensions and Recruitment: Keith reminded members that in recognition of COVID-19 impacts on our committees, the Board of Directors offered members whose terms expire in 2020 the option for a 1-year reappointment to the committee. Impacted members need to communicate their desire to THPRD by August 21.
- Talking Walls Update: Lulu Ballesteros-Jones updated the committee on the district's Talking Walls project; a response to the current national focus on systemic racism. She offered members a chance to volunteer on the review committee that will select artists to deliver sketches and art for the walls. Kristin and Alaka were both interested and indicated they would email Lulu directly.
- Facility Reopening / Maintenance Update: Jon shared an update on the reopening of facilities and the standards for maintenance preparation. Conestoga Recreation and Aquatic Center and the Tualatin Hills Athletic Center will be opening on August 31. Jon explained the protocols for HVAC filtration and the addition of disinfectant stations at reopened facilities.
- COVID-19 Impacts on Park Maintenance: Jon shared the impacts of COVID-19 on park maintenance staff and the effect it has had on our park system. Jon detailed the significant loss of part-time staff and the shift to providing only essential services at our parks. More recently, a number of part-time staff have been

required which has helped full-time staff get their park sites closer to standard. Safety items will always be a priority, but other jobs outside of essential services will be performed as budget and time allows.

- Galit asked how previously discussed ADA projects were coming along considering the significant staff reductions and facility closures. Jon explained that good progress had been made by our skill-tech staff during the facility closure period. Keith indicated he would invite Kim Wade to the next committee meeting to provide an update.
- Future Dog Run Update: Keith provided a presentation on dog runs which updated the committee on progress from 2020 and included new site recommendations for 2021. A district map was provided of existing dog run sites along with the two new proposed sites: Garden Home Park and Ridgewood Park. A timeline was also provided which detailed the public outreach process for adding new sites. Keith explained that this is a process that we will continue using for any new dog run proposals in the future. Keith asked for volunteers to visit the two sites and provide additional feedback by the end of August, for discussion at the September meeting. Ken, Kristin, and Alaka were interested and Keith will email site maps and directions to the committee members.

V. Old Business

- Jackie Husen Dog Run: Keith shared the results of a public questionnaire on the Jackie Husen dog run pilot project. The questionnaire was sent out at the 6-month point of the one-year pilot project and closes at the end of August. Keith has asked the committee to review the results at the end of August in preparation of a discussion at the September meeting. The goal of the committee will be to review feedback provided throughout the pilot-project period and make a recommendation to THPRD management on the future of the dog run at the park.
- Jackie Husen Maintenance Update: Keith updated the committee on the maintenance of the dog run. He explained that the park opened in December, which is not ideal for weather conditions. The park quickly turned muddy and staff had to respond quickly. In partnership with our Volunteer Services department, staff coordinated several work parties to spread wood chips throughout the park. A wood-chip pathway was also created to improve access. Both staff and volunteer park stewards have been monitoring and recording the status of the park during their visits.
- Somerset West Grant: Committee member Kristin Abele asked for an update on the grant status for Somerset West Park. Keith will follow up with grant specialist, Cindy Dauer, and provide an update to the committee.

VI. Next Meeting

- The next meeting of the Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 6:00 PM. It will be a virtual meeting, held on-line, on MS Teams. Meeting invites will be sent out to committee members. The Committee also confirmed future meetings will be on the third Wednesday of the month. Future dates for 2020 meetings will be discussed at the September meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Keith Watson, THPRD staff