

October 27, 2020 9:02 AM Newport, Oregon

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

The Newport Parks and Recreation Committee met electronically, via Zoom, on the above date and time in the Council Chambers of Newport City Hall. On roll call, Steinberg, Smith, Brown (left @ 10:06a.m.), Beeson, Baker, Chandler, and Council Liaison CM Hall were present.

Staff and guests in attendance were Mike Cavanaugh, Parks and Recreation Director, and Michael Rioux, Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Chairperson.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes - September 29, 2020

MOTION was made by Chandler, seconded by Brown to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2020 meeting. The motion carried in a voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Collaboration

Cavanaugh shared a spreadsheet that indicated various projects from the Parks Master Plan that might be of interest to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee. The Committee discussed the projects with Michael Rioux. Cavanaugh noted that the Ocean to Bay Trail was one of the projects they would like to complete and could be done fairly simply.

Subcommittees Ordinance

Steinberg noted that to change the current sub-committees, a formal motion would need to be made. Steinberg added that at the previous meeting, they decided on the following subcommittees:

Parks & Trails
Tree City USA/Bee City
Aquatic Center
Rec Center & Programs
Friends of Parks & Recreation Foundation

MOTION: Norris moved to recommend the subcommittees as noted and to forward them to the City Council for approval. Seconded by Baker. The motion carried in a voice vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cavanaugh noted that the reopening of the Recreation and Aquatic Center was going well, with a few issues regarding reservations. Staff is working on a way to handle reservations that are made but not kept, leaving some unused spaces in the pool. Cavanaugh added that staff were reviewing the possibility of reopening pickleball and volleyball to add programs.

Cavanaugh stated that he was able to get in touch with Fred Springsteen, who was on the original Friends Foundation and was needed to be able to renew the State forms.

Cavanaugh reported that assisting with the Red Cross wildfire evacuees took up a lot of staff time that was supposed to go into the Hispanic Heritage month activities. Cavanaugh added that he planned to have some of the activities presented at a later date and to carry the ideas throughout the year.

Cavanaugh stated that he and Judy Mayhew, Recreation Superintendent, had evaluated the budget to find a way to cover the cost of all-day child care that was needed by the community.

Cavanaugh added that he had attended an OSHA meeting regarding the COVID pandemic that could change the current policies and procedures the department has in place.

Cavanaugh noted that there has been a problem with the hot tub/spa in the Aquatic Center. Some sort of imbalance is occurring which causes the water to look green. The spa is still currently closed until they figure out what is causing the problem.

Cavanaugh added that Rec Center staff had been working very hard on getting the childcare program up and running. Supplemental funding was being requested for scholarships for patrons through the County and United Way.

Cavanaugh noted that Parks Maintenance had been working hard, especially after the storm at the first of the month. Cavanaugh added that the garbage intake was still very high.

Cavanaugh reported that Peggy O'Callaghan, 60+ Activity Center Supervisor, had been providing several Zoom programs through the 60+ Center. O'Callaghan was also teaching her clientele to use Zoom meetings on their own.

Cavanaugh added that they would be advertising the Sports Coordinator position soon and hoped to be able to fill it in a timely manner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Brown asked if there was a way to cancel a reservation online when using CivicRec. Cavanaugh stated that he would look in to it.

Chandler asked if Cavanaugh might know when sports fields would be able to be used again. Brown noted that the fields were locked during school hours. Cavanaugh stated that he had read that when the school moved into the hybrid model, the fields should be open.

Steinberg noted that at the end of the calendar year, members whose term was up would receive a letter regarding their desire to remain on the committee for another term. Officer elections would be held in January.

Steinberg reported that the City Manager, Spencer Nebel, had read her statement on diversity and systemic racism and asked her to edit the statement so that it would come from the entire City, not just the committee. Steinberg added that Nebel and CM Hall would be reviewing the statement and editing it as needed.

Develop Next Agenda

Diversity on the committee
Vision 2040 - Leslie Palotas
Sub-Committees Resident Requirements
Planting of Trees
Paul O'Neil - OSU Capstone Project for Forest Park
NEWTS - Trail Update

Establish Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting date is scheduled for November 17, 2020.

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM.