



May 25, 2021
9:01 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, Nancy Steinberg, Cheryl Brown, Jeff Schrantz, Eva Munoz (arrived @ 9:14a.m.), Al Gilhuly, Brian Norris, Anjanette Baker (left @ 9:57a.m.), Todd Chandler, Council Liaisons CM Hall and Beatriz Botello were present.

Staff in attendance was Mike Cavanaugh, Parks and Recreation Director.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: None.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes - April 27, 2021

MOTION was made by Chandler, seconded by Schrantz to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting. The motion carried in a voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tree Board Training - Derrick Tokos

Steinberg noted that Derrick Tokos would be walking through City Ordinance 2154 regarding the Parks and Recreation Committee serving as the City Tree Board. Tokos explained that on occasion, the City is approached by citizens wanting to remove a tree and there needed to be a process for them to do that. Tokos reviewed the steps in the flow chart which established the process. He noted that most requests were regarding a damaged or dead tree, which the Public Works Department handled. Tokos added that a website had been developed: Newport TSP.

Newport Transportation System Draft Plan Discussion - Derrick Tokos

Steinberg introduced the item, and asked Tokos to review the projects that intersected with the Parks and Recreation Committee. One of the areas of interest was the Harney Street extension which potentially could go through Forest Park. Tokos also gave an overview of Urban Renewal funds and projects.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cavanaugh gave an overview of the department divisions, noting that he had been busy interviewing for vacant positions within the department, including the Aquatics Supervisor, Sports Coordinator, Parks Maintenance Supervisor and Fitness Specialist.

He added that he had attended a City Council work session to discuss updating the City herbicide policy which hadn't been updated since around 2011. The current trend was to develop an integrated pest management plan which includes insecticides, herbicides, pesticides, and lining out what steps should be taking.

He also added that Keeley Naughton was working as the acting Aquatics Supervisor and was reinstating programs, including private swim lessons. He added that they were monitoring the crack in the pool and were determining a timeline for repairs.

Cavanaugh noted that Judy Mayhew, Recreation Superintendent, had been involved with most of the interviews he had mentioned, in part due to the restructuring of the department, which included the placement of the Aquatics Supervisor and Sports Coordinator positions back under the Recreation Superintendent.

He reported that Parks Maintenance is doing okay - Jim Guenther is working one-half time to help out, until they can replace him. Much of the staff time is handling garbage, mowing and custodial duties. This puts them behind in Parks tasks and responsibilities.

Dee Key is back working at the 60+ Center. She started in April, about two weeks before Peggy O'Callaghan retired. She continues to offer virtual classes, although they are starting to see a burn-out effect of those. They are now working on getting some in-person activities presented while handling OHA protocols. Cavanaugh added that they had received two grants from NRPA totaling about \$17,000 for their evidence-based classes.

Cavanaugh noted that middle school track and field was in progress, noting that it has been difficult with the COVID restrictions, but they have about 38 kids registered. He added that the Coast Hills Classic Mountain Bike Race was coming up and they had been working on trails and other preparations for it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Steinberg stated that the pesticide policy that was currently in place was developed through the Parks and Recreation Committee and would affect other City Departments.

Steinberg asked how the committee felt about meeting in person in the coming months, if it were possible. Cavanaugh noted that further direction from the City would be forthcoming.

Chandler noted that he had spoken with Peggy O'Callaghan and she was very interested in being on the Parks and Recreation Foundation Board.

Develop Next Agenda

Rec Center/Sports Program Update
Vision 2040 Update - Anjanette Baker
Parks Master Plan Update

Establish Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting date is scheduled for June 22, 2021.

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.