



June 26, 2019  
8:01 a.m.  
Newport, Oregon

## Joint Parks and Recreation and 60+ Activity Center Advisory Committee Meeting

The Parks and Recreation Committee and 60+ Activity Center Advisory Committee of the City of Newport met on the above date in the 60+ Activity Center.

**Members present:** Nancy Steinberg, Karen Smith, Cheryl Brown, Jennie Scarborough, Jason Nehmer, Jeff Schrantz, Luana Beeson, Al Gilhuly, Brian Norris, Anjanette Baker, CM Hall - Council Liaison. **Absent:** Mark Saelens.

60+ members present: Angela Pieti, Marie Laper, Debra Rittenhour, Bryn McCormack

**Staff/Guests in attendance:** Jim Protiva - Parks and Recreation Director, Peggy O'Callaghan - 60+ Coordinator, Judy Mayhew - Recreation Superintendent

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** None.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Approval of Minutes - May 22, 2019**

**MOTION** was made by Beeson, seconded by Brown, to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2019 meeting. The motion carried in a voice vote.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Overview of Goals, Mission and Purpose**

Steinberg introduced the P&R Committee's Mission Statement and added that the Committee also serves as the City's Tree Board, and has been active in assisting in the Parks Master Plan development. O'Callaghan passed out a brochure that the 60+ Committee had developed for the public. The brochure highlighted programs, activities and general information. McCormack noted that their brochure did not list the times and days of activities, but was more of an overview of what they offer and their mission statement.

#### **The Role of a City Advisory Committee**

Protiva explained how advisory committees fit into the process of local government. Steinberg noted that the P&R Committee established goals every year, which they work on and monitor throughout the year.

### **Fees and Cost Recovery for Services**

Protiva handed out a document, which showed the budgets for divisions within the Parks & Recreation Department, indicating the percent each area is subsidized. Mayhew noted that not every expenditure or revenue was included in the document - specifically the Administration Division, which does not generate revenue. Mayhew added that the information in the document was collected from the FY17/18 Audit. Protiva noted that the Council would be forming a task force to address budget shortfalls and how major repairs to facilities would be handled in the future. Hall noted that due to the current shortfall, the Council decided to hold off on some of the major repairs this fiscal year. Hall added that the Council was looking into the long-term sustainability of the City budget. The committees discussed the status of various projects, including repairs on the Recreation Center roof.

Protiva mentioned that when he addressed the Budget Committee, he had suggested eliminating discounts on passes to assist with the budget shortfall. He stated that the Budget Committee had rejected his suggestion, but believes that it may happen in the future.

### **Define "Senior" Citizen Age - recommend to council for policy change.**

Steinberg noted that the City has various ages that it uses to define what a senior citizen is. O'Callaghan noted that the 60+ Center was federally mandated through a grant to define 60 years as a senior citizen. O'Callaghan noted that the Recreation Center uses the age of 62 for a senior citizen. Steinberg noted that she could not find other City groups that use a senior designation for their fee structure. O'Callaghan asked Mayhew if she knew if changing from 62 years to 60 years for the senior designation would create a big economic impact. Mayhew said that she was unsure, but thought that it might mean more people coming in, because they could get the senior discount two years earlier. Mayhew added that she thought it made sense for the two facilities to have the same age definitions. Steinberg asked if she could get a report to see what the financial difference would be. Protiva stated that he would get the information for the committee. Gilhuly stated that he thought it would mean losing revenue, but thought it would eventually be a moot point as the discounts would probably disappear.

### **City of Newport Intern Policy Discussion**

O'Callaghan noted that in the past, the 60+ Center had benefitted from some very valuable interns at their facility. O'Callaghan added that at some point the City policy changed and she was informed that interns were not accepted by the City. She stated that she hoped the committees could make a recommendation to take to the City Council and hopefully get the policy amended so interns could be used again. Steinberg asked if the interns were paid minimum wage. O'Callaghan stated that she had never paid an intern, that they are usually from a university and it is part of their educational program. Pieti noted that she is a university student and she would be required to do an internship for credits. Pieti added that it is very useful for students, and there are goals and reports that are submitted on behalf of them. Hall noted that the Police Department was currently using interns and she thought that there was one in Public Works, as well. Scarborough noted that the school called interns student teachers, and it was handled a little differently, adding that they did background checks on all volunteers and interns. Steinberg asked that this issue be placed on the next agenda.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Protiva handed out the monthly report for the Parks and Recreation Department and a copy of the current Activity Guide.

Protiva noted that there was an issue regarding some of the trees at Frank Wade Park in the community garden location, noting that some had been removed a few years ago because of shade and needles, and now the community garden group was asking for more of them to be removed. Protiva stated that the City would probably just be doing some aggressive pruning, which should be acceptable to everyone. The Committee agreed that this would be the best thing to do.

Protiva noted that he had received a request for a bench at Don Davis Park, which would replace a rusty one already there. Protiva added that the Committee has not finalized a policy for the memorial bench program and they would need to do that at some point. There were no objections from the Committee regarding the bench replacement.

Protiva informed the Committee that there was a group of people spear-headed by Tomas Follett, that were working on developing trails in the City's watershed area that would be used for walking and biking. Protiva said that he believed there was enough momentum and enthusiasm for the project to move forward, and they would be having an information meeting with the neighbors of the area sometime in August.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Smith stated that she had several people ask her why the pool schedule had changed, noting that the Activity Pool is now open all of the time and Independent Exercise is no longer a separate activity. Smith noted that people had been telling her that they would not be renewing their membership because they do not have a time to exercise. Smith noted that they would just like one hour for the Independent Exercise and she was not sure why the schedule had changed. Protiva noted that they had been using the type of schedule that was used at the old pool with just one body of water and so there were many hours where there was not a time for people to swim. Protiva stated that staff reviewed the schedule in an effort to maximize the facility and get as many people in as often as they can, so various sessions were removed and open swim was scheduled almost all day long. Protiva added that some of the people he had spoken with that object to the new schedule do not want kids around when they are trying to exercise. They have requested an hour without kids and he is not willing to do that at this point. Protiva suggested that those people come at times when kids are not in the pool, such as early in the day or later in the evening. Smith noted that there had always been a time for independent exercise and it can be a fairly unworkable situation at times with people who have limited mobility. Smith stated that she would inform people of the best times to come, when kids would most likely not be attending. Protiva stated that staff tries very hard to create a schedule that works well for everyone.

### **Joint Programs and Opportunities**

Steinberg noted that there might be some redundancies or gaps that could be looked at between the 60+ and Recreation Center. McCormack stated that she didn't feel that there was any communication between the two facilities and the 60+ people had no idea what was happening at the Recreation Center, so they had no way to advise or encourage the people that they serve to attend different activities. Baker commented that she thought there was some confusion as to what is offered where. O'Callaghan noted that the new recreation software might be able to help with the confusion, as there were tabs for the various activities. Protiva stated that he believed that at least 50% of Rec Center users were seniors. Baker asked if the Activity Guide could be altered to indicate which classes were for seniors,

regardless of where they were held. The committee discussed various ideas to increase the communication between the two facilities.

**Develop Next Agenda**

Define "Senior" Citizen Age - recommend to council for policy change  
City of Newport Intern Policy Discussion

**Establish Next Meeting Date and Location**

The next meeting will be scheduled for July or August, depending on availability of members.

**Adjournment**

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.