

MINUTES
Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre Task Force
Thursday, October 8, 2009
Keizer Civic Center – City Manager’s Conference Room

The first meeting of the Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. In attendance were:

Council Members:

Cathy Clark
Lore Christopher
Richard Walsh (arrived at 2:15 p.m.)

Staff

Chris Eppley – City Manager
Kevin Watson – Assistant to the City Manager
Shannon Johnson – City Attorney
Rob Kissler – Public Works Director
Tracy Davis – City Recorder

Chris Eppley noted the Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre Task Force was established by the City Council on September 21st, 2009 to review the management of the Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre and the noise concerns voiced by the nearby residents.

Reviewing the events of the 2009 season, Rob Kissler provided an example of a special event permit, including the conditions imposed for this concert event. Mr. Kissler noted this event and several others were not able to comply with all the conditions set forth, causing some safety concerns. The time frame between the permit processing and event was too short for this first season. In addition, some of the City park regulations, such as lighting and park closure times were ignored on event days. In response to a request from Cathy Clark, Mr. Kissler will provide the Task Force with a spread sheet showing all revenues generated by the event permit applications.

Mr. Eppley suggested a direction for the next year may be to bring the event management in-house and solicit outside proposal for marketing and concessions. Mr. Kissler agreed City staff can better manage the scheduling and permit requirements. Ms. Clark agreed with this concept for the short term; however a long term vision for the amphitheatre should be developed.

The Task Force agreed by consensus to recommend City Staff take on the management (maintenance, scheduling, and permitting) of the Keizer Rotary Amphitheatre.

In discussing scheduling of the amphitheatre and city sponsored events, such as a free concert series, Kevin Watson shared the process used by the City of Dallas. He noted City budgets funds are used to sponsor free concert series each summer. The Task Force requested he further investigate their process and share the information at the next meeting.

In discussing a rate/fee structure, Rich Walsh pointed out the amphitheatre is a city facility in a public park and should be available for public use without a fee. Without a user fee, Mr. Eppley noted maintenance costs would be absorbed within the parks budget, possibly taking away funds from other parks. Larger events require more manpower, amenities, and increased liability for the City. Mr. Kissler estimated the Parks Department incurred costs of \$10,000 to \$11,000 this last season. After a lengthy discussion, the Task Force concluded the rate structure needs to be further explored.

After a brief discussion of the noise issues, the Task Force directed staff to contact a professional sound engineer to explore ideas to minimize the noise impact to the neighborhood. The report will be shared at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Tracy L. Davis, MMC
City Recorder