



Keizer RIVERR
(Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources)
Task Force Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 17, 2005 at 5:30 p.m.
Keizer City Hall ~ Conference Room B

Call to Order:

Chair Richard Walsh called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Roll Call:

The following were present:

Present:

Richard Walsh, Chair
Ron Campbell, Oregon State Parks (left 6:45)
Mark Brown, Willamette River Navigator
Rich Ford, Parks Advisory Board
Christine Dieker, Keizer Chamber of Commerce
Tanya Beard, Marion County Public Works
David Louden, Citizen-at-large
Dan Clem, City of Salem (arrived 6:25)
Janet Carlson, Marion County Commissioner
Red Vanis, Bikeways (for Hersch Sangster)

Staff:

Nate Brown, Community Development Director
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder
Cheryl Vavakos, Senior Planner

Absent:

Hersch Sangster, Bikeways
Mike Kirby, Citizen-at-large

Also Present:

Rhonda Rich
Diane Johnson
Darrell Richardson
Beth Daniell, Claggett Creek Watershed Council
Scotta Callister, Keizer Times
John Blake, Willow Lake Nursery
Victoria & Nick Lacey
Chris & Henry Vandenbroeke
Garry Whalen
Travis Terrell

Approval of Minutes ~ Mark Brown moved to approve the July 20, 2005 Minutes. Red Vanis seconded. The motion passed unanimously by all members present: (Walsh, Campbell, Vanis, Brown, Ford, Dieker, Beard, Louden and Carlson).

Appearance of Interested Citizens ~.

John Blake, Willow Lake Nursery, encouraged the task force to keep in mind the fact that cougars have been seen in the area when considering fencing at the park.

Diane Johnson, K.A.R.E.S., reported that she had spent about 8 hours getting signatures of dog owners (131) who supported the Keizer Rapids Park. She encouraged consideration of an ADA accessible dog area at the new park.

Rhonda Rich, Rafael Street, questioned how the park would impact her neighborhood. Nate Brown explained that bicycle and pedestrian access was planned between the neighborhood and the park but location would depend on a willing owner. Specific design details will be done during master planning.

Darrell Richardson, Rivercrest Drive, asked if there would be a bike/walking path behind peoples' homes connecting River's Edge Park, Sunset Park and Keizer Rapids Park. Nate explained that the funds required to acquire that right-of-way would be substantial and those resources are simply not available. Connection is planned via street access only. Discussion followed regarding the Marine Board grant and the required boat ramp facility which will be located as far away from the neighborhood as possible.

Travis Terrell, 13th Avenue, voiced his support of the dog park adding that he was anxious to get involved in planning bike paths and trails. Red Vanis invited him to the Bikeways Committee meeting at 7 p.m.

Victoria Lacey expressed excitement, anticipation and support of new bike trails in the park.

Old Business/New Business Outreach

- ***Survey Monkey*** ~ Chair Walsh encouraged everyone to fill out the survey on line. Following discussion regarding the method for tabulation of the results, Cheryl Vafakos agreed to contact Eric White (survey developer from Marion County) to work out details. Deadline for surveys is mid-September.
- ***Letter to Editor (Guest Opinion)*** ~ Commissioner Janet Carlson encouraged the submittal of a "Guest Opinion" to the local newspapers with a listing of park priorities and a request for feedback from the public. Richard Walsh, Dan Clem and Nate Brown agreed to work together to accomplish this. Ms. Carlson also suggested that all task force members develop a short message with a link to the survey and forward this message to everyone on their e-mail lists so that they can easily participate in the survey.
- ***Oregon Parks Lease (85-Acre Parcel)*** ~ Nate Brown explained the agreement with Trust for Public Lands adding that the lease is not a contingency but a requirement of two grants. It is a 25-year renewable lease. Ron Campbell reported that the lease has been with the city attorney who has not voiced concern but has some recommended changes. When it comes back, if it is acceptable, it can be signed by the director.
- ***Outreach Meeting*** ~ Janet Carlson reviewed completed goals of the Outreach Workgroup noting that the only remaining goal is to integrate the outreach plan into the master plan. She recommended organizing the committees suggested by Dan Miller. Mark Brown agreed adding that more distribution of outreach materials should take place to develop interest in a larger venue. He encouraged all members of the task force to participate in the distribution of the materials.
- ***Discussion of possible submittals to newspaper (outreach)*** ~ Following discussion it was agreed that the timetable should be e-mailed to members along with available

outreach materials. Dan Clem suggested submitting something to the Parks Newsletter.

Alvarez/Nutbrock Boundary Issues Update

- *Alvarez* ~ Chair Walsh showed the location of the area in question pointing out that because of existing fence locations there might be innocent trespassing by park users unless another fence is put through the forest land. He noted that he would like to make an offer to purchase 2-3 acres from Mr. Alvarez to avoid this situation and asked for input from the task force. Discussion followed at length regarding easements, grants, access, funding and security concerns.

Janet Carlson moved to endorse with caution exploring the purchase of the 2-3 acres of Alvarez property. Richard Ford seconded. Motion passed unanimously by all members present. (Walsh, Clem, Brown, Ford, Dieker, Beard, Loudon, Vanis and Carlson).

- *Nutbrock* ~ Mr. Walsh reported that Mr. Nutbrock would like a "buffer" around his parcel in exchange for some labor on the parkland. Nate Brown pointed out that state parks or the city would probably not support exchanging land for services. Additional discussion and explanation followed including discussion on possible buffer alternatives.

Bikeways Recommendation ~ Red Vanis, representing the Keizer Bikeways Committee reported that the committee is recommending that the RIVERR Task Force take steps to research possible bike path access for Keizer Rapids Park. Bikeways Committee has noted that there are several access possibilities off 15th Street which would provide the most usable access to west Keizer neighborhoods. Nate Brown responded that this is consistent with SKATS (Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study) and Bikeways support is appreciated. Additional discussion followed regarding funding and leveraging of funds, the governor's scenic bikeway touring of Oregon, regional connections from a bike perspective and exploration of grant possibilities. Nate Brown asked Mr. Vanis to request assistance from the Bikeways Committee in researching how to leverage funding effectively.

Other Business ~ Christine Dieker reported that the Keizer Community Night at Volcano Stadium is on August 29 and this would be a good place for a display booth. Volunteers who work this booth would get a free ticket. She agreed to coordinate this effort.

Adjourn ~ Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Next Meeting ~ September 21, 2005