



MINUTES
KEIZER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Tuesday, January 14, 2025
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** CALL TO ORDER – Chair Matt Lawyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Matt Lawyer, Chair Lisa Cejka, Vice Chair Gwen Carr Michael Pantalone Jill Gust	Youth Liaison Present: Liam Stitt Staff Present: Robert Johnson, Parks Division Manager Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder
Absent: David Louden Clay Rushton Tanya Hamilton Bob Shackelford	Council Liaison Present: Councilor Kohler
- 2. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR** Gwen Carr nominated Matt Lawyer for Chair and Lisa Cejka as Vice Chair.
With no further nominations, nominations were closed and Matt Lawyer and Lisa Cejka were elected by unanimous consent to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. December 2024** Lisa Cejka moved for approval of the December 2024 Minutes. Gwen Carr seconded. Motion unanimously passed as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Carr, Hamilton, Shackelford, Lawyer, and Gust in favor with Rushton, Louden, Hamilton, and Shackelford absent.
- 4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED PERSONS** Tammy Kunz, Keizer and Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA) asked about the proposal for Carlson Skate Park and would like to know where the Parks and Recreational Advisory Board stands on it and if they would like a letter in support.

Lisa Cejka shared that the Parks and Recreational Advisory Board was probably not ready yet to move forward at this point in time. When she gave her Park's Report to the Council, they were also in support of it. Chair Lawyer shared that all of the members were in support of the proposal. He encouraged the letters of support for the KP Crew.

Ms. Kunz shared that the GNEKNA recently reviewed the Parks Master Plan. She provided a list of several items that the GNEKNA would like to see repaired, replaced, or added to the parks. The Parks Board Members and Park's Division Manager Robert Johnson addressed the various requests.

Keith Standridge, Keizer, offered to help the Parks Board in any way that he can. He's willing whatever was needed, such as organizing some tournaments, especially Pickelball. Chair Lawyer shared that March 15th at 9:00 am. was the annual Event Center Cleanup and invited him to help clean up the property.

5. MATCHING GRANT APPLICATION

- a. Gold Star Families Memorial Monument ~ asking Parks Board for \$10,000**
- Chair Lawyer summarized the matching grant request. He stated that he does not have any conflict of interest, but he does support the grant request. It was noted that no members were concerned about Chair Lawyer engaging in the conversation.

Andrew Hemenway and Tim Berg, Keizer and with Gold Starr Families Memorial Monument, shared an update on the progress. They have raised over \$10,000 and received a lot of community support. The \$10,000 request would go towards the initial down-payment for the actual monument.

Chair Lawyer shared that the handout that Mr. Hemenway and Mr. Berg provided was very helpful, especially for City Manager Adam Brown on the monument placement.

The project deadline was discussed for the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument. All of the members were in support of issuing the grant money even with the deadline being beyond the current fiscal year.

City Manager Brown shared that he took pictures of the Ryan J. Hill park area for the monument and saw that the tree was down. He feels this was a great idea and although this grant process would be a little different and that was fine.

He would like to see the monument orientation of the monument be faced West with a little South so that the sunset shines through it in the evening. He shared that the timing was perfect for him because he was writing a grant for the State Park's Veteran's Memorial so the handout provided by Mr.

Hemenway and Mr. Berg was super helpful.

Liam Stitt introduced a motion: He unofficially made a motion to approve a matching grant application.

Lisa Cejka moved to approve the \$10,000 for the matching grant and request Council's exception to the policy to pay in advance of completion of the project. Jill Gust seconded. Motion unanimously passed as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Carr, Hamilton, Lawyer, and Gust in favor with Rushton, Loudon, Shackelford, and Hamilton absent.

Mr. Brown said that the Parks Grant would be on the February 3rd Council Agenda for action. Chair Lawyer would introduce the parks matching grant for the Gold Star Monument at the January 21st Council meeting.

6. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

a. Parks Reports:

**Tanya Hamilton ~
Ryan J. Hill and
Willamette Manor**

Gwen Carr reported that there was someone on Facebook complaining about fireworks at *Claggett Creek*, but she couldn't find any evidence of fireworks. There was a little graffiti on the utility box. She said *Clearlake* looks good.

**Gwen Carr ~
Claggett Creek
and Clearlake**

Lisa Cejka reported on Willamette Manor that it was a little spongy and there weren't leaves everywhere. *Palma Ciea* had a cracked sign that seems to be getting worse and that the path surface was easy to walk on. *Sunset* looks beautiful and has new gravel.

**David Loudon ~
Wallace House
and Keizer Little
League**

Lisa Cejka reported that **Keizer Rapids Park** has some moles.

**Jill Gust ~ Hidden
Creek and
Northridge**

Liam Stitt shared that he's creating a club at McNary and his goal was to plan community service projects for the parks or help the City. He invited students to be involved with the City, specifically with the parks. Chair Lawyer encouraged Mr. Stitt to move forward with this and offered to connect him with a previous Youth Liaison. Parks Director Robert Johnson had several ideas for work they could do and offered his support.

**Lisa
Cejka ~ Palma
Ciea and Sunset**

**All ~ Keizer
Rapids Park**

7. REASSIGNMENT OF PARKS FOR MEMBER REPORTS

Each member selected one park and drew park names for their second parks for their 2025 assignments.

a. See attached lists.

8. STAFF REPORT Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson shared that it was a very wet month so there was lots of sogginess and large logs being deposited from the Willamette River. The Keizer Rapids Park had high water at the boat ramp. A lot of limbs were falling down from the wind storms. They've been trying to keep the lawns mowed and leaves picked up.

Mr. Johnson recently learned about the Emerald Ash Borer. Mr. Johnson has some concern about this bug, and he would be devising an action plan because the bug will eventually, long-term kill the ash trees. He invited interested persons to contact him or Environmental and Technical Division Manager Jenny Ammon to conduct a tree inventory using the City's Geographic Information System by identifying and tagging the trees.

Mr. Johnson has a group of volunteers who would be working in Ryan J. Hill Park to remove the shrubs and island and relocating some boulders in the parks. It was suggested to have some sort of celebratory kick-off for the monument groundbreaking. They were able to grade the gravel the road for Keizer Rapids Park at end of Chemawa Road heading West. The parks' cameras are installed, operating, and the problems have stopped.

9. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT Councilor Daniel Kohler shared that this Board would probably have a new Council Liaison next month, and he appreciates the time given and communication by these members. He appreciates the work and kindness by this Board.

Chair Lawyer recognized Council Kohler's parks' work predating this work on this Board. One of the most impactful things he brought forward to this Board was the Youth Matching Grant.

Councilor Kohler was excited on the progress for the Gold Star Memorial and parks cameras, which caught some people from doing cookies at Keizer Rapids Park.

10. OTHER BUSINESS Chair Lawyer invited everyone to help out at the annual Keizer Event Center cleanup on March 15th at 9:00 a.m.

He passed around some pamphlets on the Gold Star Monument Foundation and invited folks to view additional information on the website and make donations.

11. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned: 7:30 p.m.

Minutes approved: _____

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