



MINUTES
KEIZER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, April 8, 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
Tanya Hamilton
Michael Pantalone
Clay Rushton
David Louden
Bob Shackelford
Jill Gust

Absent:

Gwen Carr

Staff Present:

Robert Johnson, Parks Division Manager
Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder

Council Liaison Present:

Councilor Parsons

Youth Liaison Present:

Liam Stitt

- 2. ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION ~ by Tina Richmond** Tina Richmond, member of the Volunteer Coordinating Committee, recognized the Community Diversity Engagement Committee volunteers, read the proclamation, and handed out City of Keizer lapel pins and Certificates of Appreciation.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. March 2025** Lisa Cejka moved for approval of the March 2025 Minutes. Tanya Hamilton seconded. Motion unanimously passed as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Rushton, Hamilton, Louden, Shackelford, Lawyer, and Gust in favor and Carr absent.

- 4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED PERSONS** David Philbrick, Keizer, spoke on a plaque in Keizer Rapids Park. He provided written public comments for the members. He wanted to talk about the natural beauty at an overlook in the park. He shared that the plaque had been diminished, and the colors were distracting and conflicted with the natural surroundings. He felt that plaques should be attached to benches and blend with the colors of the natural scenery. He requested a replacement plaque be attached to the back of the bench.

Vice Chair Cejka commented that the plaque started out less intrusive and was an antique bronze color, but it was tagged several times with graffiti and repainted.

Parks Director Robert Johnson shared that they currently use the bronze plaque as the standard, and that there wasn't a standard when the donated bench and plaque were installed. Mr. Johnson suggested bringing back the naming and donation documents to discuss the standards at the next meeting for discussion.

5. PARKS REPORTS

- a. **Mike Pantalone ~ Northview and Country Glen** **Mike Pantalone** reported that *Northview* that he would like to see a sidewalk installed from the stairs to the sports court | *Country Glen* looks great and the lawn was being mowed. He would also like to see a sports court at Country Glenn.

Clay Rushton ~ Clearlake and Bair

Clay Rushton reported that *Clearlake* and *Bair* looks well kept and are in good shape.

Bob Shackelford ~ Bob Newton and Mike Whittam

Bob Shackelford reported that *Bob Newton* looks good.

Chair Matt Lawyer ~ Ryan J. Hill and Chalmer-Jones

Chair Matt Lawyer reported that *Ryan J. Hill* was prepped and ready to go for the Gold Starr Memorial. April 26th would be the groundbreaking ceremony for the monument. *Chalmer-Jones* looks fantastic. He commented that there were over 100 volunteers for the annual cleanup, and there was a lot of great work. The KP Crew did great work in the skate park.

All ~ Keizer Rapids Park

Tanya Hamilton commented that the pickleball court and dog park in *Keizer Rapids Park* were busy with people.

Liam Stitt commented that the *Keizer Rapids Park* looked good, and he saw that every part of the park was being used, namely the Big Toy and the volleyball and pickleball court.

6. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- a. **The Big Toy Cleanup at Keizer Rapids Park**

Chair Lawyer shared that the plan for the Big Toy Cleanup at Keizer Rapids Park would be in June for painting by the volunteers. June 21st was tentatively scheduled to paint pending nice weather with the pressure washing and repairing the surface holes in May on some weekends. It was suggested to have a dedication anniversary the same day.

It was noted that volunteers were needed for the painting, and the paint and brushes would be provided by the City. Councilor Parsons would contact the artist, Beth Melondy, about touching up the artwork and the Keizer Public

Arts Commission to see if any of the members were available to paint. It was noted that the Keizer Fire District and Marion County Fire District would love to paint their fire track. Discussion ensued about having volunteers prepping in the fall to avoid mildew.

Bob Shackelford commented that users of the pickleball court seemed to not know how the rules worked or if it was your turn or another group's turn to play on a court. Chair Lawyer shared that the rules would be discussed again in the Spring and the discussion could take place sooner if complaints were received. Signage for skill-level courts was discussed, and it was requested to have more pickleball users bring their suggestions to the board.

Chair Lawyer provided an update on the Gold Star Memorial. \$12,000 in fundraising was received plus \$5,000 raised by the Elks Club, the monument was ordered, and the bids were done. Upcoming on May 31st would be an event for tickets to a private concert put on by City Councilors to raise money. He expressed appreciation to everyone who got this project materialized.

7. STAFF REPORT

Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson shared that KeizerFEST was planning on having a small clinic to introduce pickleball, the wind screen was put back up and the wind screens may need to be taken down yearly, the damaged fence should be repaired shortly, the lawn at the amphitheater was being reseeded, Park's staff was keeping an eye on the Willamette River level and the docks would be re-installed in May.

Mr. Johnson commented that Ben Miller Park still had a parking issue and staff discussions were had about posting signs and if cars could still be allowed to park there.

Clay Rushton asked about the plan for the existing courts at the Bob Newton Park. Mr. Johnson commented that the sports court would remain, but the type of courts were in question because some of the multi-combination courts are challenging to play on as it's difficult to see the specific sports striping. Mr. Johnson would like to have as much input as possible from the members on this board who were players to build the courts to help determine the number of users for each sport.

8. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilor Parsons shared that the budget season was coming up. There were a lot of events at the Event Center coming up that everyone could attend. A pilot pedestrian flag program would be happening by Keizer Rapids Park at 15th and Chemawa.

Mayor Clark shared that there was a matter of logistics to have a Cherriots bus at the Keizer Rapids Park and to get through the turnaround and to determine the timing of the routes. There was interest and a desire to see this happen. Mayor Clark would reach out to our representative Ramiro "RJ"

Navarro for further discussion.

Chair Lawyer noted that May 24th was Soggy Day in the Park.

9. NEXT BOARD MEETING: June 10th (the May meeting was Cancelled due to the Budget Committee meeting)

10. ADJOURNMENT ~ Jill Gust would report to Council on April 21st.
Clay Rushton
Reports to Meeting adjourned: 7:13 p.m.
Council on April
21st - 6pm Minutes approved: _____

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