



SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

April 11, 2018

Traffic Control Center Conference Room 325

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Woody Dukes
David Fridenmaker
Dylan McDowell
Kasia Quillinan
Paul Rice
Micki Varney

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tony Caito
Diana Dickey
Patty Tipton

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Becktel
Patricia Farrell
Jennifer Kellar
Becky George
Toni Whitler

1. ROLL

Roll Call: Tony Caito, Diana Dickey, and Patty Tipton were marked absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. February 14, 2019 minutes approved with correction.
- b. March 14, 2019 Minutes and Findings approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Linda Bierly, Glenn-Gibson Watershed Council

The Glenn-Gibson Watershed Council submitted a letter to SPRAB requesting that the Board recommend City of Salem adopt wise landscape maintenance practices and horticultural diversity. Ms. Bierly asked SPRAB to find out how robust the City's integrated pest management plan is and requested that the pollinator gardens and community gardens be kept chemical free.

4. ACTION ITEM

- a. *Congestion Task Force Recommendations – Julie Warncke, Transportation Planning Manager*

1. *Recommendation on Proposed Opening of Musgrave Ave. NW*

Julie Warncke presented the proposal to open Musgrave Avenue NW to the Board. She asked the board for advice to Council on the recommendation by the Congestion Relief Task Force.

There was quite a bit of discussion with concerns that focused on the following:

- Traffic coming into the park creating a risk to the park users.
- Runners currently utilize the roadway when the sides of the road become wet or muddy. If traffic is allowed through, some accommodations would need to be made for runner safety.
- Issues arising from boaters trying to enter Musgrave from Wallace Road.
- Conflicts arising due to heavy traffic in areas where people recreate in the area of the soccer fields, pedestrian bridge, etc.

Chair Quillinan noted that a significant portion of the park could be lost if we allow the opening of Musgrave. The Board showed an interest in Marine Drive both south and north of Glen Creek Road as shown in the Wallace Marine Park Master Plan as a "new" road. The members would like this option to be further explored.

Member Rice noted that he didn't see how this could alleviate congestion when you have to go through the railroad bridge and wind through the trees. He added that it is basically routing Wallace Road through the park and he doesn't see how this makes sense.

Motion: Chair Quillinan moved to recommend that City Council concentrate on finishing the Marine Drive extension first and not open up Musgrave Avenue NW into the park. Member Varney seconded. All members voted in favor of the motion.

2. Recommendation on Proposal to Provide Park and Walk/Bike/Shuttle Services at Wallace Marine Park

Ms. Warncke presented the proposal to provide a park and walk/bike/shuttle at Wallace Marine Park. She again asked the Board for advice to forward to Council on this second recommendation from the Congestion Relief Task Force.

Discussion ensued with concerns by the Board primarily focused around the fact that the gravel lot is highly used by people parking and using the pedestrian bridge and/or the park. Adding a specific use for parking and biking may limit use by regular park users.

Chair Quillinan stated that she doesn't feel there is enough information to make an informed decision.

Member Rice said he doesn't like encouraging long-term use in the parking lot. There is a lot of recreation use at certain times and to change the informal nature of the lot to a permanent long-term use goes against what we want in our parks.

Motion: Chair Quillinan moved that the Board is not expressing approval of the current proposal, but recommends that City Council look into this issue further, and in particular, explore other areas in or out of the park that would not impact recreational uses. Additionally, zoning and 6(f) determination issues need to be addressed. Member Rice seconded. All members voted in favor of the motion.

5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS

a. Parks & Recreation Budget Presentation – Jennifer Kellar/Patricia Farrell

Jennifer Kellar spoke to the Parks Operations and Recreation Services budget and Patricia Farrell to Park Planning for FY2019/2020. The presentation to the Budget Committee will take place April 24, 6:00 p.m.

Member Varney asked about System Development Charges. Ms. Kellar replied that SDCs cannot be spent on maintenance, it must be spent to accommodate growth such as purchase of park property, development of park property, and improvements at parks to accommodate growth such as expanding programmable ball fields.

A question was raised as to the allocation of funds for the Civic Center Plaza for planters and trees. Ms. Kellar said that lies in the operating budget and there have been discussions about these improvements, but just balancing funds right now. There is no line item for that work.

b. Board Debriefing of March 14 Public Hearing – Chair Quillinan

Chair Quillinan held discussion with the Board to receive input from members on the March 14 public hearing. The intent was to look at how the process and procedures could be improved for future public hearings and to adopt the Findings submitted by Chair Quillinan that summarized the outcome of the hearing.

Motion: Member Dukes moved that the Findings be adopted as written. Member McDowell seconded.

Members Dukes, McDowell, Quillinan, Rice, and Varney voted in favor; Member Fridenmaker abstained.

6. INFORMATION REPORTS

a. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Quarterly Report – Michael Slater, Executive Director

Mr. Slater distributed the Mission Street Parks Conservancy Quarterly Report to the Board. There was no presentation. He said the Rose Garden is looking phenomenal.

b. Food and Sundries Distribution Task Force Recommendations – Mark Becktel

Mr. Becktel distributed the *Food & Sundries Distribution to the Homeless Community Task Force Recommendations*. The City Manager asked staff to form a Task Force to determine recommendations for distribution of food and sundries to the homeless. After the recommendations were presented, the City Manager asked that the Task Force recommendations be presented to SPRAB.

Mr. Becktel said the focus is to get as many of the homeless to established shelters as possible. Acknowledging there will be some people who will not go to a shelter facility, there will still be a need to feed outdoors. The question was: Where to conduct the feedings?

Based on the recommendations from the Task Force, the City Manager has offered four options to be considered:

1. Recommend outdoor feedings in up to 10 Salem Community and/or Urban Park locations. The feedings would follow a specific protocol for number of times allowed to feed per week, no more than 3 hours duration, and specific requirements according to a special feeding permit; or
2. Recommendation as stated in 1. But only 5 parks: Wallace Marine, Minto-Brown Island, Marion Square, Cascades Gateway, and Civic Center - Peace Plaza; or
3. City Council could refer the decision to Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; or
4. Do nothing.

Mr. Becktel said the Board does not have to make a recommendation at this time. He is only bringing them the information as requested by the City Manager and City Council.

Ms. Farrell asked why Minto-Brown Island Park was considered a good location since the shelter is so far from the bridge where the homeless seem to be located. Mr. Becktel replied that they looked at locations where there was a shelter and a restroom facility, and parks where the homeless live or congregate.

Chair Quillinan is concerned about holding these activities in parks. Parks are for recreation and this is a social issue that needs to be addressed. There should be other potential locations other than parks for these feedings.

b. Recreation Services Update – Becky George

Ms. George informed the Board as to the status of the fields at Wallace Marine Park with the recent flood events. Modifications needed to be made with regard to scheduling of events due to park closure. Jennifer Kellar added that three parks were closed due to high water: Minto Brown Island Park, Wallace Marine Park, and West Salem Park. She also announced the upcoming SOLV event for the following weekend.

c. Damage Report

The damage report was distributed.

7. NEXT MEETING

May 9, 2019

8. ADJOURN

8:00 p.m.