

Rob Romanek

From: Jon <scanh2025@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 10:25 AM
To: Rob Romanek
Subject: Re: SPRAB AGENDA 6/13/20024 ITEM 4.a - SCAN Historic Preservation, Parks & Gardens Committee requests please for SPRAB to defer a decision on the Staff Recommendation until, at a minimum, July 2024, so citizens can review, and comment on the Staff Report

8-0 HPPG Committee vote unanimous requesting a SPRAB decision deferral on Agenda Item 4.a until July 2024 to allow ample time to review and comment on the Staff Report and recommendation.

Respectfully submitted

Jon Christenson, HPPG Chair

On Mon, Jun 10, 2024 at 9:30 AM Jon <scanh2025@gmail.com> wrote:

Correction: 107-108 years (1917) not 104 years as central park feature

Add: the vote of the SCAN Historic Preservation, Parks & Gardens Committee (HPPG) in requesting a deferral of decision was unanimous (7-0).

Jon Christenson
Chair, HPPG

On Mon, Jun 10, 2024 at 8:47 AM Jon <scanh2025@gmail.com> wrote:

SALEM PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (SPRAB)
Attn: RRomanek

Chairman Norris, Vice Chair, Members of SPRAB:

The SCAN Historic Preservation, Parks & Gardens (HPPG) formally requests the SPRAB defer a decision on the Staff Recommendation, Agenda Item 4.a, until, at minimum, your July 2024 meeting.

Ample, reasonable time has not been given to citizens to review, research, and provide feedback, substantive comments and questions on the Staff Report and recommendation.

Bush's Pasture Park has been a central feature of the Salem cultural and historic landscape for 104 years, the pivotal feature of the residential Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National Historic District for nearly four decades: and focus of thousands of hours of neighbors volunteer time; and of financial support over the years, e.g., Crooked House Playground rehab, Municipal Rose Garden, Heritage Collection, sidewalk lighting, sculpture, interpretative signage, founding of the Friends of Deepwood, service on Bush House Auxiliary, SAA Gallery, assisting Sofia in the restoration of the camas (*Camassia quamash*) et al.

Two working days, at best, for citizens to review in-depth the Staff recommendation and accompanying materials is staggeringly insufficient.

July 2024 would also be gracious, it seems, to two new Board members, for more assessment time, who are participating as SPRAB members for the first time on June 13.

Respectfully,

Jon Christenson
Chair
HPPG

Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Attn: Keith Norris, Chair and Dylan McDowell, Vice Chair
1457 23rd Street S.E. Salem Oregon, Room 146

To the full Board Membership:

We, the undersigned residents of Salem, thank you for the opportunity to comment on Agenda 4.a. SPRAB meeting, Thursday 6/13/24.

Your functions and duties under Sec.13.080 (b), of the Salem Revised Code (SRC) include recommending and advising the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting City parks. The parks that concern us here include Bush's Pasture Park and Deepwood Estate & Gardens. Both of these sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, within a recognized and honored residential National Historic District.

We ask you to advise Council that we are strongly opposed to moving forward on the Staff Recommendation, which facilitates a commercial for-profit business that would monopolize the park and on site parking resources during the summer months. This business would change the identity of the Bush's Pasture Park; cause a major disruption of the chosen preferences and historical and recreational use patterns (**please see TABLE 2 Favorite Activities at Bush's Pasture Park, CLMP 49, which had 350 Total Respondents**); and undermine the heritage of the area, and may violate the grant and conveyances of the land involved.

We are opposed to converting the legacy lands of the Bush Family, the park and parking lots, into a de facto summer baseball league facility for, in essence, a commercial for-profit operation which would provide revenue generation for Willamette University and a private corporate entrepreneur.

This conversion to commercial use would be incompatible and inconsistent with the Bush's Pasture Park and Deepwood Estates Cultural Landscape Management Plan (CLMP), adopted by the City Council in 2021. It would be in violation of existing zoning SRC 540 and SRC 542. It would be in contradiction to the explicit purpose and intent of the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National Historic District and would be a betrayal of the intent of the Bush Trust to have a "natural park in the heart of a city. The retention of the property for this purpose alone is important..." (**Stuart Bush 1960; p.1 CLMP**)

The intent of land conveyance documents of 1917 clearly state that the "property shall be solely used by grantee for public park and playground purposes and such uses and incidental thereto..."

This proposal would facilitate a privately owned summer baseball league team, with a "home field" season of at least 27 games, running up to nine evening games at a stretch (Portland Pickles model), including Saturdays and Sundays. The proposal would aspire to 500 cars carrying approximately 1500-1600 people to fit into 420 parking spaces. The proposal would also likely provide three alcohol service bars (Portland Pickles model) each night into late hours. We DO NOT consider these aspirations to be "incidental thereto".

We oppose a commercial operation at this scale, which would dominate park use in the summer months. This proposal would be a major disruption and intrusion into the cultural landscape, it would ignore the current and surveyed park use preferences, and a betrayal of the intent of the historical land conveyances and grant that established Bush's Pasture Park.

Respectfully,

Joan Stembridge, Ward 2
Chris Shoji, Ward 2
Gary Pederson, Ward 2
Janet Schneider, Ward 2
Jane Manning, Ward 1
Christine Ertl, Ward 2
Valorie Freeman, Ward 2
Sarah Rohrs, Ward 1
Pete Sequeira, Ward 2
Robert Monson, Ward 2
Walter Benson, Ward 2
Don Outland, Ward 7
Tambi Hurd, Ward 2
Gale Charles Strong, Ward 2
Patricia Deminna, Ward 2
Deborah Ehlers, Ward 3
Lynn Cardiff, Ward 6
Christine Chute, Ward 2
Lynette Willcox, Ward 2
Janet Adkins, Ward 1
Connie Sims, Ward 2
Susan Tribotti, Ward 3
Margaret Thompson, Ward 8
Meera Kreitzer, Ward
Sara Shatto, 97392
Julie DeMarco, Ward 2
Len Lingo, Ward 2

Dan Simmons, Ward 2
Deborah Emery, Ward 7
Kathy Rowell, Ward 1
Rob Kimmich, Ward 2
Gene Fewx, Ward 1
Dawn Banks, Ward 3
Jeanette Keating, Ward 2
Michael Pollard, Ward 4
Laurie Sequeira, Ward 2
Cheryl Randal, Ward 2
Carlene Benson, Ward 2
Lynn Albright, Ward 4
Joel Martin, Ward 3
Sarai St Julien, Ward 2
Roger Deminna, Ward 2
Nadene LeCheminant, W 2
Mary Anne Spradlin, Ward 1
Noor Chakravarty, W 5
Bonnie O'Connell, W 4
George Adkins, Ward 1
Randy Fishfader, Ward 2
Robert Tribotti, Ward 3
Roz Shirak, Ward 2
Ellen Stevens, Ward 8
Trudee Carter, Ward 2
Grace Smith, Ward 3

Tom Shoji, Ward 2
Eric Shuman, Ward 7
Joyce Huff, Ward 8
Peter Bergel, Ward 2
Walter Perry, Ward 2
John Hofer, Ward 2
Corey Keating, W 2
Patrice Pollard, W 4
Patricia Monson, W 2
Sylvia Strand, Ward 2
Kathy Outland, W 7
William Vogt, Ward 2
Bill Dixon, Ward 7
Pat Dixon, Ward 7
Robert Ehlers, W 3
Bill Hayden, Ward 1
Angela Gross, W 6
Ann L Lovejoy, W1
Roberta Cade, W 1
Herb Sims, Ward 2
Bob Muir, Ward 2
Kim Davis, Ward 4
Ron Speck, W
Sharon Miller, W 2
Molly Dinsdale W 2
Kathy Lingo, W 2