

PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2012

Regular Board Meeting

Attended by:

Park Board members: Norma Nickerson, Janet Sproull, Johann Eisenmann, Susan Ridgeway, Ross Mollenhauer and John O'Connor

Staff: Donna Gaukler, Dave Shaw, Jackie Corday

Others: Jane Kelly, Ray, Jim Habeck

Approval of minutes of meeting from [December, 2011](#) – approved as submitted.

Announcements

Public/Guest comments

Jim Habeck – comment on habitat for ducks at Silvers Park

Action Items/Presentations:

[Farviews/Pattee Canyon Master Plan](#) (Dave Shaw)

The referral to the Park Board is to recommend approval of the Farviews/Pattee Canyon master park plan. Previously a Parks Study provides a master plan for the eleven parks located in the Farviews Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council. The study was initiated in 2007 and had two phases. Phase One, visioning, consisted of an inventory of each park, a survey via homeowner questionnaire, and a charrettes program all of which resulted in a set of recommendations. Phase Two, master planning, created a graphic document comprised of a Master Trails Plan which proposed a trail network to link the parks and a series of Park Area Detail Plans which proposed levels of development at the various sites. On June 22, 2011 the study and summary were presented to the Farviews Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council as a resolution (attached) and the resolution passed by a vote of 40 Aye, 1 Nay, and no abstentions.

Discussion:

Dave reviewed the location of the specific parks, and the issues related to some of the comments by the neighbor regarding public access. The Conservation Land Advisory Committee reviewed the Master Plan and the recommendations made by Morgan Valliant. The concurred with his recommendations including to keep the current gravel trails rather than asphalt due to percent of grade of some of the trails.

Staff's recommendation is to support the Master Plan and supporting documents including the resolution.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the Missoula Parks and Recreation Board approve the following item: The Farviews Pattee Canyon Parks Study prepared for the Farviews Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council Parks Committee by Wonder Land LLC: Landscape Architecture, in 2008 and The Farviews Pattee Canyon Parks Study Summary Report of June, 2011. The motion was approved unanimously with one correction made to the resolution.

[FMRP Naming and Recognition Tiers and Policy](#) (John O'Connor)

In John's absence Donna presented the referral to approve the attached documents to be used by the Friends of Fort Missoula Regional Park for fund raising. Donna gave a brief history of the project, how it started with the purchase of open space land for the purpose of the development of soccer and softball fields. The process for the actual development of the park started with a first bond issue in 1995, and the ballot failed, then went to council which decided to not put on the ballot 2008. The goal is to raise the funds for development and the FMRP are seeking individuals and corporations to invest in the park. This step involves approval by the Park Board for the park naming policy, and tier naming and recognition tiers for fund raising purposes. The plans for FMRP allow great flexibility in construction, with seven "phases" identified. Phase One - consisting of nine multi

use fields, plus necessary support infrastructure, is designated to be built first. Any of the remaining six areas could be built in any order as funding supports.

Motion: It was moved to approve the following item: Approve the Friends of Fort Missoula Park Naming, Recognition Tiers and Policy with the note To support the historic character of the park, with final display and manner of recognition (including but not limited to style, location, size, material, etc) at the park are subject to approval by the Parks Department and the Missoula Parks and Recreation Board. The intention of the board is to work collaboratively with the donor.

Discussion items:

[Master Park Plan](#), Open Space Plan, Annual Updates (Jackie Corday)

Jackie Corday - The City Council and County Commissioners unanimously adopted the Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the Greater Missoula Area ("MPP") in May 2004, which "defines the 15 to 20-year vision for the Missoula Urban Area." Since then, the Parks and Recreation staff and Parks and Recreation Board have been working to implement many of its goals in order to increase the quantity and quality of parklands and recreational opportunities in and around Missoula. A MPP action item recommends the preparation of an annual report that describes the progress made toward achieving the MPP and Open Space Plan goals over the past year. Each year I gather highlights from each of the Department's divisions to include in the MPP report. The following were some of the highlights Jackie reviewed with the Board.

Goal 1.1 "Design parks for both active and passive uses."

Pleasant View Park Master Plan – to be completed this year.

Goal 1.4 "Provide 2.5 acres of Neighborhood Parks for every 1,000 residents."

White Pine Park Development – CDBG grant for \$71,000 has recently been recommended for funding for Phase 2 development to include additional park furnishings, and the addition of a climbing/play structure. This enhances the goals to provide access to play within walking distance for every child and to promote outside physical activity.

44 Ranch Park Development – This 5+ acre park was completed in 2010 by the subdivision developer with Parks oversight. This year a second phase of the planned park added a beautiful new 40 person Picnic Pavilion.

Goal 1.5 "Provide recreational opportunities and facilities for people of all ages and abilities, including meeting ADA requirements."

Splash Montana and Currents Aquatics Center continue to be extremely popular recreational facilities with all age groups. "The Lake" 50-meter pool is heavily utilized by fitness swimmers and the local competitive swim teams. This year Splash Montana and Currents celebrated their 5th birthdays with special programming and evening pricing deals. Attendance at both Currents and Splash in FY11 was excellent with 192,000 visits, despite a cool, rainy May and June (Splash usually opens in late May, but did not open until June this year).

The Parks Dept outdoor program, MORE (Msla Outdoor Recr and Education), designed and implemented a new afterschool program in conjunction with the Flagship program, called **Active 6** with a goal of getting all Missoula 6th graders physically active. The program is part of a partnership with the YMCA, Flagship, Active Kids Network, and Parks & Recreation.

National Public Lands Day in 2011 had 60 volunteers working on a multitude of projects including trail construction, litter removal, weeding & tree planting at the Tower Street Conservation Area. This year's projects included many partner organizations coordinating to help make this year a big success, including OSAC, OLAC, REI, and MCC. Expenses for materials, tools and refreshments for the volunteers were covered by generous donations totaling \$1,000 from REI, Rocky Mt Elk Foundation, Five Valleys Land Trust, and Exact Image.

Volunteer Programs continued to be an outstanding success with 1305 volunteers who donated a total of 6,635 hours on projects, which encompassed work on conservation lands, developed parks, trail projects, helping at all our special events, and assisting to prepare Splash MT for the season opening

Goal 5.7 "Use permeable pavements, recycled materials, locally manufactured products and materials

Wood Waste from Mill Site – In May the State Legislature awarded Parks with a \$300K DNRC RDGP grant having completed successfully with numerous projects Statewide. Agreements with MRP, EKO and DNRC will facilitate using ~30K yards of wood waste, which was slated for the landfill, to be processed by EKO to create topdressing, bulking agent for local soils and mulch at minimal cost to the City.

Milwaukee Trail – Milwaukee trail construction this year utilized 100% crushed recycled concrete for the trail base prior to paving. This appears highly successful and is expected to be utilized throughout the trail system for trails that are paved.

Jackie also updated the board on the status of the Transportation Bill and encouraged board members to reach out to Senators Baucus and Tester to support funding for nonmotorized transportation. Jackie is drafting a letter to be sent by the Mayor. She would also like to have the Parks Board send out a similar letter. She proposed to draft a letter to be signed and sent to the Senators.

MOTION:

It was moved and approved to suspend the rules to vote to take up send a letter to the Senators.

It was moved to send a letter to Senators, regarding the importance of the transportation bill, and the Cardin amendment to improve bike pedestrian funding, and upon review and edit; approve the Parks Board Chair to sign and send to the Senators. The motion carried unanimously.

Park Board Liaison, Sub-committees, Updates and Staff Reports

(Director, Recreation, Projects, Open Space, Operations, UF, TMH, NMT, CLM, Administration)

Fort Missoula Regional Park (John O'Connor) the committee continues to meet regularly and there is final approval of documents and donation information will start to be distributed.

Friends of Missoula Parks – There has been a schedule for a meeting to discuss and formalize with groups as 501(C3).

Tree Board & FUF (Janet Sproull, Susan Ridgeway, Ross Mollenhauer)

Extraordinary Events – (Bruce Micklus – Liaison) – No Report

Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (Janet Sproull) – Janet report the new chairs is Giles Thelen and Colleen Matt is the co chair of the committee.

Future items

LLBB agreement for use of Playfair Park fields

Conservation Lands Management Report

Adjournment at 2:00 pm.