



## **Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

Regular Meeting  
February 6, 2018  
5:15 p.m.  
City Hall

Board Members Present: Lisa Jacoby, Linda Collins, Jeff Nelson, Loran Joseph, Kim Mosier

Board Members Absent: Gail Duman

Guests Present: None

Staff Present: Joyce Bornstedt

### **Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

### **Additions or Modifications to Agenda**

None

### **Approval of January 9, 2018 Minutes**

A motion was made by Joseph with a second by Nelson to approve the minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

### **Old Business**

#### **Dog Park**

Bornstedt reported that she met with the fence contractor. The bid amount was approximately \$15,000. As the lowest bidder, he was selected and an agreement was signed. The contractor indicated he could start the project next week. Bornstedt recently visited La Grande's dog park and shared some photos taken with the board. The same fencing contractor was used by the City of La Grande and Bornstedt thought the work looked good. Bornstedt is working on the small dog park irrigation design. She said since man power is available now, she will move forward with the irrigation work and then amenities can be done in phases as additional funding becomes available. Bornstedt and Michelle Owen, Baker City Public Works Director, met this week with Kurt Miller, owner of the Truck Corral property adjacent to the dog park site. Mr. Miller agreed to allow parking on his property and is willing to display signage at the front of his business directing people to the dog park entrance. They also discussed an area of existing fencing that has been damaged by trucks and needs to be replaced. The fence contractor gave an estimate of \$1,159 as an added cost to replace this section of fence. Although Mr. Miller is not inclined to cover that expense, he offered to pull the barriers and straighten them out in hopes that this will keep any future damage to the new fence from occurring. The board agreed that this cost can be included in the total project budget. As a reminder, Bornstedt stated that the dog park budget is about \$43,000 and the fund balance is about \$27,000. Bornstedt mentioned that Ms. Duman will be involved in developing opportunities for sponsorship of project amenities.

#### **Central Park Amphitheatre Enhancements**

Joseph said that he is involved in planning a fundraiser for the project to be held in late March or early April. Details are pending, but it will be along the lines of a music festival at or near Central Park. Bornstedt said that there is still a funding shortfall of about \$4,000, but the project will move forward and construction will start soon. In fact, pouring the block steps could happen in the next week or so. Bornstedt is following up with D & B Supply regarding her request for project support in the way of landscape block (either outright donation or reduced cost in the form of in-kind materials.) The estimated cost of the blocks in the project budget is \$3,980.00. Joseph said he is

also waiting to hear results from a request of funds submitted to OTEC. Joseph asked if the Tree Board might be interested in planting shade trees at the top of the terraced seating. Bornstedt said she will ask the Tree Board.

### **Central Park Splash Pad**

Various board members obtained information (material attached) from the cities of Ontario, Joseph, West Linn, Fruitland, ID and Walla Walla, WA regarding their splash parks. The costs varied significantly due to size and features of each splash pad. Comparisons were made and discussion ensued regarding the process of water recirculation. The Board opted to go with a "fresh water" system, which entails no recirculation and therefore will not fall under water treatment requirements. Mosier spoke at length with Fruitland Public Works. Their splash pad system is motion activated and the timer on the sprayers is set at two-minute rotations. Bornstedt said the City of West Linn has 4-5 splash parks and she was told the cost for each was under \$125,000. She also learned that a mechanical room will be necessary to house the controls, pumps, etc. A discussion followed about the possibility of adding on to the existing restroom building to accomplish this at a cost savings. Bornstedt added that this option would require having to re-route the pathway there. Bornstedt estimates each sprayer tube at a cost of \$3,500-\$4,000. She intends to get a quote from Natural Structures to manufacture (6) metal pipes. It was noted, as a safety feature, anti-slip material will be used in the splash pad. Design options for the splash pad were discussed. In addition, the conceptual drawing of the design of Central Park was included in the material presented. Joseph wondered if the Public Arts Commission should be involved in design review at some point in the process. Bornstedt pointed out that the current city budget funds \$2,000 for use by the Public Arts Commission. Overall project funding was discussed. Initially a total project cost was estimated at \$80,000. This projection included having multiple spraying features, but it did not include costs to re-route pathway and construct an addition on the restroom facility. With more research, it is looking like the funding level may need to increase to \$100,000. Bornstedt explained that 60% of the project cost would be covered through Oregon Parks & Rec. grant award. The remaining 40% could be obtained through a combination of grant opportunities. The following potential funding sources were suggested; TLT, Leo Alder, Lions Club, St. Alphonsus, Ash Grove, Walmart, US Bank and Community Bank. Bornstedt also remembered that Dave Lindley had mentioned having small grant opportunities for park-related projects. Jacoby volunteered to approach Mr. Lindley and get more details.

### **New Business**

Joseph said he would like to pursue a permit process to allow alcohol under prescribed circumstances in Baker City Parks. No alcohol is currently permitted on the grounds of any Baker City park, and he feels that having this option would lend to the City hosting more events. Further discussion included a suggestion that specific parks be designated rather than include all city parks, and a recommendation to look at similar ordinances in other cities. A question was raised as to whether the intent was only to allow the sale of alcohol in the park(s) during a community event or if individuals would also be permitted to bring alcohol on to the premises. An argument was made for charging rental fees for facilities associated with this permit since the vendor will make a profit from the sale of alcohol. It was agreed that this new fee revenue should go into a designated "Parks Improvement Fund", rather than the General Fund.

Bornstedt said that we are still looking for an applicant to fill the vacant board position.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next regular meeting will be March 6, 2018, at 5:15 p.m., City Hall.