



Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting

March 12, 2019

5:15 p.m.

City Hall

Board Members Present: Lisa Jacoby, Gail Duman, Karla Macy, Kim Mosier, Linda Collins, Nathan Defrees

Board Members Absent: Loran Joseph

Guests Present: Christo Morris – Powder Basin Watershed Council

Staff Present: Joyce Bornstedt

Call to Order

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

Additions or Modifications to Agenda

Mosier stated that she would like to add discussion regarding a pump track to the agenda.

Approval of February 12, 2019 Minutes

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

New Business

Christo Morris introduced himself, and gave a brief personal background as well as explained the mission of the Powder Basin Watershed Council. He indicated that he was there to present information regarding the effort to enhance fishing along the Powder River corridor through Baker City. He provided the 2017 PBWC Annual Report as well as a strategic outline for moving forward with "Fish the Powder River." He indicated that there are several possible sources of funding from granting agencies that could be utilized to implement the plan. The first step to begin the process will be to conduct the ODFW Aquatic Inventory protocol to assess the habitat for trout from Mason Dam to Hughes Lane. A proposal will be submitted to OWEB in early April to fund the inventory. If the grant is successful, the inventory could take place as early as next fall. Access to properties along the river will be crucial to successful completion of the inventory. The Board asked several logistical and implementation related questions in regards to the proposal. Mosier commented that the proposal is very thoughtful, and the steps as outlined are very logical. Bornstedt indicated that implementation of the improvements would need to take into consideration other recreational uses of the river through Baker City. Morris further explained that their organization recognized that the river through Baker City is very channelized, and that it cannot be addressed as a wild and scenic river would be. The methods to address the project within the city would be very conservative. The Board thanked Morris for the information, and were generally in favor of supporting the project. He indicated that he will provide the Board with updates as the endeavor progresses.

Old Business

Bornstedt suggested that the Parks Master Plan update be postponed until fall. Mosier asked if the survey would be postponed as well. Macy indicated that the survey could possibly be completed. The Board discussed possible changes/additions from the previous survey completed in 2012. Members will review the information and make suggestions. The final survey format and the dissemination platform will be determined at the next meeting. Mosier

suggested live outreach booths as well as online survey, and possibly a high school piloted survey to make the results comparable to the last one that was completed.

The voting effort is going well. Macy indicated that she has been approached by many people regarding the Moda Assist effort. She also indicated that something should be done to thank Eastern Oregon Rental for their donation of the reader board on Campbell Street. Mosier suggested that they may be able to get a tax deduction for the value of the donation. Macy suggested that there should be a lunch or party to celebrate all of the kids who lent their faces to the campaign. Macy further commented that she did not expect the community focus to be so great for the kids with disabilities. She said that all of the parents of these kids want ALL of the wood chips to go away. She asked if there was a way for community members to donate to the project. Bornstedt gave a summary of the current costs of the various surfacing options. She also noted that donations can be made to the parks and playground improvement fund with the donation specified for this particular project. The cost at the time of the 2014 playground improvement for Smarte surfacing was \$65,000 +/- . The area surfaced at that time is smaller than the area remaining to be surfaced. Discussion regarding all-inclusive play ensued. Mosier talked about the timeline for developing the scope of the project after the Moda award amount is known. Duman asked if the splash pad project had been set aside for the all-inclusive project. Mosier clarified that the OPRD LGGP grant for the splash pad has been set aside in order to allow for the grant to be used for assistance with land acquisition for Central Park. Discussion regarding funding strategies and possible sources continued.

Mosier said that there is renewed interest in reviving the pump park concept on the Resort Street right-of-way north of 'D' Street. Bornstedt indicated that the concept had been presented to the City Council by a previous Baker Loves Bikes representative. They directed him to survey the surrounding property owners to gauge support for the project. He did not return to the Council with results of that survey. Jacoby indicated that she had discussed the survey with Luke Burton with Baker Loves Bikes, and indicated that he could pick up where the previous representative had left off. Mosier also wanted to talk about bike trails that would start in the downtown area. Bornstedt indicated that the Baker City Transportation System Plan has identified potential multiuse trail options and that would be a good place to start. She said that she would check to see if it is available online.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The next regular meeting will be April 9, at 5:15 p.m., at City Hall.