



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

Regular Meeting

May 2, 2017

5:15 p.m.

City Council Chambers

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

Board Members Absent: Gail Duman

Guests Present: none

Staff Present: Joyce Bornstedt

### **Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

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

None

### **Approval of April 3, 2017 Minutes**

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

### **Old Business**

#### **Kirkway & 'H' Plantings**

Collins provided an update on the planting project and shared a drawing showing the landscape plan of the project area being 10' wide by 138' long. Oregon Trail Nursery suggested planting three layers. Collins selected a variety of plants that are deer resistant at an estimated cost of \$300-\$400. Bornstedt confirmed that the project budget would allow spending up to \$500, and that the nursery can bill the Parks Department in advance. Bornstedt recommended setting a planting date soon so the project can be completed prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, within the current budget year. It was decided that planting could occur before a drip line is put in place because arrangements can be made to have access to water during planting.

#### **Cedar Acres Park Playground Installation Preparations**

Mosier reported that Baker Sanitary will donate all of the items requested; portable toilet, wash station and dumpster. Nelson reported that the cost for concrete through Triple C will be \$700. Triple C will donate the rock needed. Nelson also confirmed that the Lions Club will provide the tables, hamburgers, hot dogs, soda and cooks for both BBQ lunches for the work crew at the site. Fellow board members volunteered to make side salads. Joseph said he has arranged to transport the playground equipment from storage at the cemetery to the installation site at Cedar Acres Park. A meeting time was agreed upon of 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Bornstedt provided a handout of the playground improvement budget. Bornstedt added that the Tree Board plans to plant bigger trees at Cedar Acres Park after the playground equipment is installed.

#### **Dog Park Updates**

Duman was not present to report on the Dog Park Project however, Bornstedt stated that the City has already received donations of about \$1,285 and she will submit a "Bark for your Park" grant application requesting funds in the amount of \$25,000. Bornstedt and Duman will be researching other grant opportunities as well.

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Other**

D/My Documents/Parks/Advisory Committee/Minutes

There was much discussion about the proposed budget for the City of Baker City. Bornstedt and Mosier fielded questions related to the general fund and parks department, specifically if transfer of funds to the playground improvement fund may be reduced or cut completely. Concerns were expressed involving the proposed unappropriated ending fund balance of \$21,000 being substantially lower compared to \$1MM (e) in recent years. Possible explanations for the difference were offered, including that an assumed revenue increase from ambulance billing was not realized as well as a decrease in call volume and added FTE at the Fire Station. This budget cycle also has to absorb a PERS increase of \$300,000.

There was conversation about the proposed restroom project at Kirkway & H, and the board is hopeful that the match dollars will stay in the budget. Further discussion about park restrooms in general included the idea of having self-locking restroom facility doors that would be on a timer. Collins brought up a concern that was relayed to her about a tree on the LAMP that has a fungus that could potentially spread to other trees. Bornstedt is aware of the subject tree and will check into it further. Jacoby said that Karla Macy approached her about speaking to the board about accessible playgrounds in Baker City. She was invited to attend this meeting. Jacoby expects to speak with her again. Nelson informed the board that the labyrinth project for Central Park is now fully funded. The installer has been selected and it could be ready and delivered by mid-June. Bornstedt will coordinate with City crew to do the ground prep work. Bornstedt said the concession stands at Geiser Pollman Park will be refurbished by next month. She explained that this was a project started by the group "Citizens on Patrol" who intended to use the space as somewhat of an information booth. Bogart indicated he would like to do some painting yet on the Gazebo at Geiser Pollman Park. Bornstedt told the board that a new permanent picnic table was installed at River Park. She also had some old playground equipment removed from River Park. The last two picnic tables have been ordered and at a better price.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. Unless deemed necessary, there will not be another meeting until September, 2017.