

City of Milwaukie
Milwaukie Park and Recreation Board (PARB)
MEETING MINUTES
City Hall Conference Room
October 27, 2015

Members Present: Lisa Gunion-Rinker (Chair), Lisa Lashbrook (Vice Chair), Ben Johnson, Linda Blue, and Andrew Craig
Members Absent: Lynn Sharp (Treasurer), Erin Willett Holcomb (Secretary)
Staff/Visitors: Mitch Nieman (City Staff Liaison), Jeroen Kok (NCPRD Liaison), Amy Aschenbrenner (City Staff), Milwaukie City Councilor Wilda Parks, and Kevin Cayson and Tonia Burns (NCPRD staff).

1) Welcome and Introductions

Chair Gunion-Rinker called the meeting to order and everyone introduced themselves.

2) Review & Approve September 2015 Minutes

Chair Gunion-Rinker asked if members had a chance to read and review the September minutes. **Vice Chair Lisa Lashbrook** moved to approve the minutes, **Member Blue** seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

3) Tree City USA/Tree Ordinance Update

Mr. Nieman updated that the subcommittee had a conference call and discussed the ordinance. The most recent version was included in this month's PARB packet. The next steps were for **Treasurer Sharp** to send the draft to her contact at the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) in order to see if the ordinance would pass Tree City USA standards. If ODF decided that it met the standards, the ordinance would then be taken to the City Council for them to decide if any public outreach needed to be involved, or if it could go straight into adoption.

4) Formation of a Park Foundation – 501c(3)

Chair Gunion-Rinker explained that she had not had much time for research, but would get back on it and provide updates soon.

5) Feedback on Pest Solutions Proposal

Mr. Nieman summarized the three proposals he received; from Geese Guys, Pest Solutions, and an individual in Tacoma, WA. **Mr. Nieman's** recommendation was to go with Geese Guys, but he wanted to make sure the group had the details on all the proposals in order to make an informed decision.

Vice Chair Lisa Lashbrook brought up the geese situation in Bend, OR. **Mr. Kok** clarified the situation and the group agreed that whatever tactics they would try, there was no one-time fix.

Mr. Nieman added that there was funding, pending Council's approval, so that was good news.

Mr. Nieman and **Mr. Kok** explained how they were more comfortable with Geese Guys because they had references, experience, and techniques that worked better for the northwest climate.

6) Member News/Reports

Mr. Kok introduced two members of his NCPRD staff, Kevin Cayson, and Tonia Burns.

Ms. Burns gave an update on Spring Park construction, highlighting that the trail should be re-opened in the next several weeks, and the first planting event was on November 21st, 2015 at Spring Park.

Councilor Parks provided a brief update on the District Advisory Board (DAB), noting that it was a fairly routine meeting. **Mr. Kok** added that he had provided an update on neighborhood parks hoping to be established. **Councilor Parks** added that the DAB was attempting to schedule a retreat, and Chair Gunion-Rinker, Mr. Nieman, or someone from PARB was welcome to attend if desired.

Mr. Kok reported that the City Council adopted the Three Park Master Plan, and the next step was to work on the funding.

7) Riverfront Park Interim Landscape Field Survey

Mr. Nieman explained the desire to do a hands-on field survey of Riverfront Park while working with the subcommittee to find approaches to the geese situation. Mr. Nieman temporarily adjourned the meeting as the group walked over to Riverfront Park.

The group briefly noted the absence of the “Welcome to Milwaukie” sign, and **Mr. Nieman** provided the update that the Riverfront Task Force endorsed the idea of relocating the sign to the north, near the City limits on McLoughlin Blvd.

The group discussed the challenges that the geese presented, focusing on the movement of the geese from the water up onto the bank and heading into the park. They explored the possibilities of plantings that could break up the open space and discourage the geese. The area the group was looking at for the plantings was the open space near the beach where kayaks often launched into the water.

It was decided that all of the money would go to installing plants on the west side of the sidewalk, nearest to the river, as that was where the irrigation was located. The group discussed possible challenges such as: the plants blocking the view of the river from the park, the rising water and the possibility of flooding, and the balance of creating a walkway for people to get down to the beach, but also impeding the geese.

The group decided that the planting of a hedge row all along the edge in the open space, with a slight maze approach for pedestrians, would be the best solution. **Ms. Burns** would draft up a concept and present it to the group for approval during the next meeting. **Mr. Kok** also added that NCPRD would put together a document explaining what NCPRD would do regarding the maintenance of Riverfront Park.

8) Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at Riverfront Park at 8:55am.

Prepared by: Amy Aschenbrenner, City staff