

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

for

North Clackamas Park

June 27, 2007

Milwaukie Center

MEETING SUMMARY

PRESENT

Representatives Eric Shawn (chair), JoAnn Herrigel, Eleanor Johnson, Sally Shook, Tony Clark

Alternates Susan Shawn

Guests Dick Shook, Pat and Anne O'Donnell, Rosemary Crites

Staff Dan Zinzer, Kristen Cacka, Kevin Cayson

ABSENT

Representatives John Denny, Fr. Matthew Tate, Lisa Gibson

Alternates Holly Denman, Steve Berliner, Jim Schuld, Rick Frank, Kathi Schroeder, Beth Ragel, Dave Somann

Introductions and Minutes

Eric Shawn opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. He then asked the committee to review the May meeting minutes. Eleanor Johnson asked if the minutes could be more brief, for the benefit of the person taking them. Eric stated that he liked the detail, to limit the need to go back and make corrections from memory. Eleanor made a motion to approve the minutes. JoAnn Herrigel seconded the motion. Susan noted that she had not had a chance to read the minutes. Eric said that in the future NCPRD will send the minutes out to the entire committee in advance.

Action: The May minutes were approved, pending changes from those who haven't read them.

Horse Arena

Eric introduced the issue with the horse arena. At our meeting on May 23, JoAnn asked Eric to write letter stating the consensus from the Stewardship Committee. There is a need to review and come to a consensus with the committee that we can send in to the City of Milwaukie regarding the size and orientation of the arena. Equestrian representatives requested a 100' x 200' arena, as well as pull-through parking. Switching orientation from east-west to north-south allows room for parking, but reduces the arena to 100' x 180' because of the water line to the north. The question is, is there a significant problem with building the arena over the water line? Does it make the water line inaccessible? What is the impact?

Discussion:

- Dan-the paved path overlays the arena as well, but shifting to east reduces horse trailer parking
- Eric-could size of maintenance compound (to east of parking) be reduced?
- Dan-talking to Lisa, smaller size does not reduce the number of horses in show (26 possible), but she still prefers 100' x 200'
- Eric-Dave Somann, alternate, also prefers the larger size, but since neither rep has shown up to the meeting, we need to come to consensus among us
- Susan-can we call Lisa and ask about corners being rounded to allow the arena to be extended north?
- Eric-the impression is that they would be rounded like old arena
- Dan-no we planned square
- Dan-what do they do in the arena with 26 horses?
- Dick-all walk in a circle and obey commands as called out, such as, trot, canter, etc
- Kevin-we already have fencing ordered for a 100' x 180' arena, we'd have to order more; it will take longer if we make it bigger, and the footing for the floor of the arena is expensive
- Eric-footing specifications are from a university with a horse program, a local contractor, and conversations with local equestrian people, description in handout I've developed; the questions for consensus are:
 1. size
 2. orientation
 3. timing of footing installation
- Dan-can't get footing done for larger size for use this summer
- JoAnn-what type of parking is being installed, because the orientation is being driven by the parking issue
- Susan-coaches will use parking
- Dan-just make it unpaved, pervious, almost like it is now for overflow parking, it's hard as a rock right now, I don't think horse arena will be in use in rain when parking could be difficult
- Eric-is this a code issue between the city and county?
- JoAnn-what the district is submitting is a reorientation of arena
- Eleanor-how many times will they be using per year?
- Dan-maybe 5 according to horse people, plus occasional people who just want to ride in addition to shows, JoAnn, is there an ordinance showing we can't just park on grass?
- JoAnn-will have to check with planning department
- JoAnn-it's up to the horse people whether they want more space for parking or more for horses, it's a tradeoff
- Susan-going back to timing issue, if rails go up so they can use for summer, then put in footing with drainage later on, can you do parking also later on?
- Dan-I hadn't planned on doing much with parking
- Susan-it's nice having less pavement
- Dan-after heavy rain that might be a problem if we don't develop the parking
- Susan-but they can still park on the road
- Dan-in the rain, there is usually plenty of parking because no one else is out there

- Eric-would it be fair to craft the proposal for consensus with a 100' x 180' arena with parking on pervious surface, with fencing to go in now, footing to be installed in fall?
- Sally-is there any problem with installing footing at a later date, after railing goes in?
- Dan-it would take a little work, but would be fine
- Susan-looks right now that parks district is using that area for storage, where building is constructed
 - Dan-there will be a fenced storage area, not a building, but outdoor bins and storage trailer where there will be an office and storage for concession items
 - Dick-I would say if there's an overflow of horse trailers they'll park on the grass just like they did before
- JoAnn-I see that we have a consensus proposed, but we're at a loss because the horse people are not here
 - Dan-if you did head-in/back out parking instead of pull-through, we could fit in the arena, but that is not as convenient when hauling a horse trailer
 - Eric-the equestrian reps are not here, do we postpone making a decision until next meeting, or go ahead and move forward?
 - JoAnn-I suggest taking this proposal to horse reps and see if they sign off; if they don't agree we'll come back and talk about this again
 - Susan-we need to get approval in writing
 - Eric-my sense is that they will accept this, I'll ask them their level of agreement
 - Eric-for the committee members present, where are you with this? North-south orientation, 100' x 180', fencing in now, footing in fall before rains, pull-through parking with pervious surface; please use your consensus measuring tool
 - ALL 1's
- Kevin-there is a 20' x 10' piece to north that we added, we'll put in the first two layers of footing when the grass is scalped for fencing of the arena
- Anne-are we going to get a response right away from the horse people?
- Eric-yes, I'll be meeting with them right away

Action: The proposal is to build the horse arena with a north-south orientation, 100' x 180' in size. NCPRD will put the fencing in now, and install the footing in the fall before rainy season begins. There will be pull-through parking with a pervious surface. Eric will take this proposal back to the equestrian representatives for approval.

Ball Field Hours

Eric introduced the topic, stating that there is a need to discuss start times for ball games, particularly on weekends. Additionally, we need to discuss the timing of maintenance activities and practices based on neighborhood noise issues.

Discussion:

- Sally-it's noisy because of maintenance
- Rosemary-a lot of you guys are retired, I'm not, we have a stressful society, I work seven days a week, but lots of people sleep on weekends, noise interrupts that rejuvenation and peace, I understood the games would be from 10am – 10pm
- Susan-I think there's confusion between amplified sound and discussion of noise that's not amplified
- Rosemary-we discussed it Susan, our amplified sound discussion came after the discussion about noise

- Susan-I'm not saying we should be putting up with noise at 6:30 in the morning, that's absolutely not good for the well-being of the residents, my understanding is that what we may have to do now, halfway through first ball season, is talk about the impact of starting maintenance and games early on weekends, can we afford to continue doing that?
- Dick-the City of Milwaukie code says maintenance noise in city is prevented from 10pm to 7am
- Rosemary-read the community overlay code
- Eric-Susan Shanks suggested that most effective way to deal with this is to use park rules rather than city code; there is an exception to city code for parks
- Rosemary-I think noise is on Saturday and Sunday both; if you had a neighbor that every weekend started making noise at 6:30, 7:30 in the morning, what would you do? that's the issue
- Dick-I walked through the park and the tractors weren't making noise while dragging the fields; I think some of the maintenance activities can be scheduled for later and some scheduled earlier, quieter activities first
- Eric-what possibilities exist for this? Is there room to start ball games later to shift maintenance later?
- Dan-that's the issue, if games start early, maintenance must start early
- Eric-how critical is it to start games early?
- Dan-the main issue is tournament play, they have to start early in order to finish the number of games before 10pm; bigger tournaments usually start on Friday and end on Sunday
- Susan-it's not just Rosemary and the Shooks, there is a man named Sandy who is so upset he can barely be civil, and he's thinking of selling his house; Theresa who lives to the west is keeping a diary on sound because it's so noisy they can't hear each other talk, they are irate beyond words; neighbors at the Mt. Scott Creek intersection couldn't believe games started at 7am
- Anne-at planning meeting last Wednesday, another guy was really upset
- Susan-these are just people who have contacted me, who knows what I'd find by going and talking to those that haven't contacted me
- Eric-does anyone have ideas for a solution?
- Rosemary-I was hoping John and Rick would be here so I could talk to them
- Eric-if games are in 2 hour blocks, and they start at 8, could we recommend that start time was 9, so kids hit field at 7:30 for practice?
- Dan-if we're going to move it back, we'll move it back 2 hours and just eliminate the first four games; however, the schedule is set for this year
- Susan-people are saying they want to picket, etc
- Eleanor-I've also heard people who are happy to hear the kids and find it refreshing; we can't please everyone
- Rosemary-grandpa can sleep in on other days, people that have to work can't sleep in on their days off if the ball games start at 7am
- Eric-I wonder if it would be a reasonable recommendation to make to ask them to change the schedule next year
- Eric-I make a proposal that Joe take a look at the schedule for next year with the idea of starting games at 10am
- Anne-how much longer do games go on?
- Dan-at the end of July there's a break, but there are a few local league games in September to the beginning of October, until the weather changes
- Sally-I'm wondering if there's any way to change the level of dust coming from the fields, I have to dust every day now

- JoAnn-where's dust coming from?
- Sally-from dragging the fields, I can imagine it's a lung problem, can they dampen it?
- Dan-they soak it before the games
- Dick-after they drag it?
- Kevin-they wet it before and after dragging
- Dick-do they do it differently during the week? Looked like fields were dry when they were dragging
- Anne-there's no possibility for changing times for this year?
- Dan-it's already booked right up until the 10 pm shut-down; they'd have to find somewhere else to play their first four games since tournaments are already scheduled
- Susan-I have a recommendation that we table this conversation for today and pick it up again next month with a heads up to ball reps and others from the neighborhood to attend
- Dan-that would also give us a chance to get Joe here
- Susan-and have Kevin Cayson attend also, maybe we can adjust which maintenance activity is done first to offer relief for this year on maintenance noise; we don't have the people here to make a decision today, so that gives us another month of torturing people
- Dan-they can wait to use the blowers until later, as far as I know we already asked them to use the blowers last
- Susan-with all this activity going on I don't have a place to go for peace and quiet
- Sally seconds idea to table discussion until later
- Rosemary-I appreciate all you're doing; I think you're working to make it livable, but the thing that gets on my nerves like fingernails on a chalkboard is the screaming; I just wanted to tell you my frustration, because I'm representing others from the neighborhood

Action: It was agreed that this discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

Ombuds Activity & Reports

Updates on public access to the ball fields, north side planning, and the dog park.

Public access to ball fields

Discussion:

- Dan-schedule's been adjusted, every day there's a field available for public use
- Anne-how do people get in?
- Dan-walk in, gates are unlocked when they're available for use
- Kevin-they line all the other fields first, then kick people out of 4th field to line last, just before games

North side planning

Discussion:

- Kristen-handouts from June 20th public meeting were distributed, showing top priorities for the north side, as well as an updated list of comments received to date; consultants will be here next stewardship meeting with 2-3 concept plans for us to review; next round of revised concepts will be presented at the second public meeting

Dog park

Discussion:

- Tony-don't divide the existing dog park, just add a smaller section for small dogs, large dogs need a larger area to reduce concentration issues
- Dan-so can we wait to do the dividing then until after north side planning is done?
- Tony-sounds good

Committee Comments

Discussion:

- Susan-I was impressed with the north side planning meeting, Michelle really did a great job
- Eleanor-I heard nothing but compliments from people who stayed at that meeting
- Tony-can we move the Stewardship Committee meeting to 5-7 instead of the current time so we can get more people here? Maybe that's why some of our members are not attending, can we poll members?
- JoAnn-we can poll members, we are losing 1 or 2 now, and if we change it how many would we be losing? Is it worth it?
- Eric-Kristen should do a poll via email to see where people are at
- Dick-noticed blackberries are getting large again, would like permission to come down and do some trimming; shaded so fruit isn't that great
- Eric-do you know when contractor will remove erosion control fence?
- Kevin-contractors have to do final inspection on ball fields construction before we can remove them
- Dick-oak trees?
- Dan-trees haven't been received yet, but will be here soon
- Susan-past artwork there's a buffer planting, could I pull some weeds that are choking some special plants that you planted there; want to make sure they live; worried about the smaller plants
- Kevin-if it's an invasive weed, I don't have a problem, just tread lightly
- Susan-just right along trail, not going to walk far back
- Eleanor-how high are you going to let it get?
- Kevin-it's supposed to be a natural area, so as high as it naturally gets
- Eleanor-I think it's ugly

Action: Kristen will send out email to committee members soliciting feedback on meeting times. Dick has permission to trim the blackberries. Susan has permission to do some weeding in the buffer planting.

Eleanor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Susan seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.

Next meeting will be held on July 25, from 4 to 6 pm at the Milwaukie Center.