

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2006**  
**4:00 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**MILWAUKIE CENTER**

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

For

N. Clackamas Park

October 25, 2006

Milwaukie Center

**Meeting Summary**

**Present:**

**Representatives:**, Sally Shook, Eric Shawn (chair), JoAnn Herrigel (vice-chair), Tony Clark, Susan Shawn, Eleanor Johnson, Lisa Gibson

**Alternates:**

Steve Berliner, Rick Frank, Jim Schuld, Holly Denman

**Absent:** Fr. Matthew Tate (rep), John Denny (rep)

**Guests/Observers:** Dick Shook

**Staff:**

Dan Zinzer, Michelle Healy, Joe Loomis Clackamas County

**Introductions/Opening Comments/Meeting Minutes**

Eric Shawn welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the committee to review the September meeting minutes. Michelle Healy passed out a packet of information for each committee representative which included the agenda, prior meeting minutes and additional dog information.

*Action:* The committee approved the September minutes as presented.

**Dog and Park Work Group Report**

Tony Clark presented an update on the progress of the dog working group.

*Update:*

- The working group has begun to look at alternative sites for dog runs in the District.
- Group still needs to figure out public process to engage the larger community.
- Rules for dog parks are on the next meeting agenda.

*Discussion:*

- Eric Shawn commented that one of the remaining tasks for the group is to figure out a public process to reach consensus on a recommendation.
- Eric explained that the working group is moving towards finding a solution, such as moving it to another part of the park, and establishing multiple dog runs to take the pressure off NCP.
- Dan Zinzer asked how people felt about moving the dog run out of North Clackamas Park. Tony explained that the only way they might support moving the dog run is if there was a better replacement. It needs to be close and nicer.
- Jim Schuld commented that there should always be something at NCP.
- Rick Frank commented that dogs are inevitable at NCP, with a dog run at least there is a way to somewhat control them.
- Discussed an alternate site at Three Creeks behind the Aquatic Park. Susan Shawn commented that Three Creeks is perceived to be dangerous, doesn't think many people would want to go there.
- Susan reiterated that a public process is necessary and suggest that Mary Forst might be able to help.
- Dan commented that Mary's contract has lapsed, but that could be overcome.
- Eric commented about the importance of reaching a decision that people can support.
- Sally asked if the Park District might be able to suggest alternative dog run locations, e.g., WES properties.
- Dan commented that it is important to come to a solution. The District is grappling with how dogs factor into the north side planning.
- Eric commented that the dog working group is small and not inclusive enough. This could derail the process if there are people who feel that they haven't been included in the discussions.
- Tony asked what would happen if the stewardship committee made a recommendation and the neighbors don't support it. Dan explained that the recommendation would go to the DAB for consideration.
- Sally asked if the Park District had a position on moving the dog run. Dan said no.
- Sally said that neighbors could be supportive, if the dog run was controlled. Currently, it is not controlled and hasn't been for 8 years. There are times when there are 40 dogs and 30 people in the run. It is very loud. We don't need a dog run that serves the tri-county area.
- Jo Ann commented that the stewardship committee needs to come to a solution that is acceptable, otherwise if it goes to the DAB, they will have to fight it out again. Need to get everyone involved now. It might be hard, but we need them to participate.
- Lisa Gibson suggested that the committee consider swapping the location of the dog run and horse arena. The working group will look at this option.
- Dan commented that we need a decision on the horse arena. The goal is to have all the commitments done by March.
- Dog working group meetings are scheduled at the Milwaukie Center every other week. There is a meeting following today's stewardship meeting. The next meeting will be November 8 at 6:30 pm.

*Action:* The dog group will discuss ideas for a public process.

### **Amplified Sound Policy**

The committee discussed the draft amplified sound policy for the ball fields prepared by the District. Michelle gave an overview of how the policy was drafted. The DAB has not taken action on it.

#### *Discussion:*

- Steve Berliner has concerns about the decibel level.
- Eric suggested that the policy apply to the whole park, rather than just the ball fields. There were noise issues during the Fall into Art event. It would be good if the policy were compatible with the city code.
- JoAnn commented that the city limits noise to 60 decibels in noise sensitive areas (e.g., churches, residential areas and schools).
- Susan asked about how frequently amplified sound could be used. She talked to people who neighbor a park in Portland. They said that they could hear games from 10 to 12 blocks away. She wasn't sure if they had a portable or permanent system at the park.
- Rick Frank and Joe Loomis commented that amplified would be limited to tournaments only, not everyday use. It would generally be limited to the National Anthem, announcing players and handing out trophies, not "play-by-play".
- Eric explained that the idea of the policy is to limit amplified sound to special events and control the decibel level. The stewardship committee's goal is to clarify the criteria and impacts on other park users.
- Susan wanted clarification on the difference between league games and championship games.
- Lisa helped to clarify. A championship game is not every night, mainly on weekends at the end of the season.
- Eleanor asked about how this policy affects weddings in the gazebo. Concerned about amplified sound being used on the fields during a wedding. She asked how this will be controlled.
- Joe explained that Rose and him having been working on a schedule. They will try to space out events. There are opportunities to adjust game schedules, look at when the "hot" time for wedding vs. tournaments are, etc. Also, the teams don't necessarily have to use amplified sound when a wedding is occurring. There may be bumps in the road, but we will work through them.
- Susan suggested that we remove fields from the title and make the policy apply to the entire park. Also, adjust decibel level down to 65.

*Action:* There was general consensus by the committee to take the adjusted policy to the DAB for consideration. Dan Zinzer will place it on the DAB agenda.

### **North Side Planning**

Eric explained that the committee needs to discuss what we hope to accomplish from the north side plan and how we are going to do it.

#### *Discussion:*

- Michelle explained that we are doing a concept plan only. Until we have a source of funding for construction, it doesn't make sense to spend a lot on construction documents.
- The District will either hire a consultant with Landscape Architecture and natural resources specialty or a temporary employee with these skills. The district is still discussing.
- Surveyors have been out on site. They have been flagging the boundaries of the creek and other landmarks. District should have information by mid November.
- Susan wants to assure that the planning process is open.
- Michelle explained that she wrote up a draft public process that she can share with the committee.
- JoAnn will work with Michelle on the process and they will bring it to the committee.
- Dick Shook commented that the plan prepared in the early 1990s said that the north side would remain passive.
- Susan commented that ADA issues need to be addressed in the plan.
- Lisa commented that the horse arena needs to be included if it is moved.

*Action:*

- Surveyors and wetland consultants to finish work.
- The District needs to decide whether a consultant or employee will be hired.
- The stewardship committee will work with the District to come up with a public process.

*Storyboards:*

Susan Shawn presented a proposal to create a subcommittee to work on the storyboards for North Clackamas Park. She explained that she envisioned boards similar to those at Wildwood Recreation Area. The boards would help educate adults and children about natural resources that need to be protected. Jon Mantay agreed to pay for 5 boards.

Possible board topics include,

1. Watershed
2. Animals/Wildlife
3. Plants
4. Forest
5. Etc.

The purpose of the subcommittee is to come up with content and placement not illustrations. The subcommittee could come up with a proposal and present it at the next stewardship meeting, that way the boards could be ready by March. There are local school teachers who are interested in helping. This could segway into children's arts and crafts classed at the Milwaukie Center during ball tournaments. Susan also suggested that the signs be in Spanish and English.

*Action:* Unanimous consensus to create subcommittee to work on storyboards.

*Ball field Usage:*

Committee discussed whether adults could use the new fields when youth are not using them, for example an adult “pick up” game during a picnic.

*Discussion:*

- Sally thought that they should be allowed to play. We’ve excluded enough people from the south side of the park already.
- Rick commented that adults could use the two larger fields if they were not scheduled. They should be used on a first come first serve basis.
- Susan commented that she thought that the need for fields was so great that the new fields would always be used by the youth.
- Rick commented that there wasn’t going to be a lot of free time, but there might be some. Especially later in the summer.
- Susan commented that NCP is a community park, assume usage is ok.

*Action:* Consensus that informal adult use was allowed. The committee agreed that no formal action for a recommendation was necessary at this time.

### **Ombuds Activity**

*Progress Report: Ball field Construction:*

Dan provided a brief update on the ball field project.

- Things are proceeding on schedule. Trees will be planted soon. Swales being completed. Buildings being installed.
- A question was asked if the neighbor access had been resolved on the south side. Dan will check into it.

### **Committee Comments**

Eric Shawn commented that Chris Runyard is withdrawing his volunteer project at NCP. He was frustrated by the process and bureaucracy. Susan commented that we have lost an ally and support. She suggested that the District talk with Chris and do some “fence mending”. Dan agreed that this is important.

Eric commented that the next regularly scheduled meeting is the night before Thanksgiving. He asked if the committee was interested in changing the meeting date. There was general consensus to move the next meeting to November 29. Michelle will contact Rose to reserve the room.

**Next meeting – November 29, 2006, Milwaukie Center, 4-6 p.m.**