

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

for

## North Clackamas Park

August 27, 2008

### Milwaukie Center

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## MEETING SUMMARY

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### PRESENT

**Representatives:** Eric Shawn (chair), Lisa Gibson, Tony Clark

**Alternates:** Steve Berliner, Rick Frank

**Guests:** Rosemary Crites, Jim Ballou

**Staff** Staci Hammond, Tonia Burns, Kevin Cayson

### ABSENT

**Representatives:** Fr. Matthew Tate, JoAnn Herrigel, Sally Shook

**Alternates:** Holly Denman, Jim Schuld, Dave Somann, Beth Ragel, Susan Shawn

### Introductions and Minutes

Eric Shawn informed Tonia that he was going to be late. Steve Berliner opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. He then asked that the committee review the July minutes. The minutes were approved as read.

*Action: Minutes approved*

### Sound Level Discussion

Steve Berliner introduced the topic of Sound Level Discussion.

#### *Discussion:*

Rosemary would like people to come to her house during a tournament and listen to the sound level first hand. Tonia wrote up a scope based on what she heard in the last meeting. The first part of the scope work is to take decibel readings. The preferred is to take decibel readings when a full tournament is on and also during a girl's tournament. She also has that they will need to take readings both in the park at the park boundaries, one in the middle of the west end, one at the fence by the horse arena, and one near Mt. Scott creek. Then we need to take additional readings at several of the neighbor's houses. Including Rosemary's house, Shook's and O'Donnell's house. This is what she has as far as the first step in taking decibel readings. Rick does not have the fall schedule. He said the tournaments try to go out as far as Halloween but they usually get rained out the last couple of weekends. Tonia suggested that we figure out a tournament

in the next month to take readings. Rick said that he would like the readings to be taken during both a girls and boys tournament to be fair. Just to make sure that the reading is fair all the way across. Tonia said the reason that it was requested for the worst case is because this is to mitigate. The final goal of this process is to try to mitigate sound levels. So the goal is to take decibel readings, then determine the sound levels at all these spots and then investigate the structures within the ball field and make recommendations that might achieve the goal of reducing the sound level. Rick just wants the whole picture looked at rather than just what people think is the worst case scenario. Rosemary said that it isn't the ball hitting the bat and things like that. What it is is the screaming of the people. It's not the laughter of the children. There has to be some kind of material out there to dampen the sound. She doesn't expect to not here anything during a tournament but she still wants to be able to enjoy the outdoors at her home. Tonia asked the committee if they agree that the scope covers the issues they we need to address in order to get the process started. Steve agreed but he did suggest that it needs to be done by an acoustic engineer and not just ourselves. Tonia said that the scope goes to someone as a scope of work and then companies come back and say they can take the contract from the parks district and complete it. Kevin said this goes out so that these different companies are all bidding on the same scope of work. Rosemary is concerned that you get what you pay for. She said that we have a \$4 million park and she doesn't expect this to be solved with a cheap deal. If the county can come up with another park for \$16 million they sure can come up with a couple hundred grand to fix this problem. Tonia said she will type up the scope and forward it to everyone for additions or comments. Tony just wanted to make sure that the committee would be present at the time of the decibel readings and Tonia assured him that was what was planned. Steve said that we are missing a lot of member at this meeting so it would be good to send it to them because he is sure that everyone wants a say in this topic. Rick said that because we are doing this so late in the season that the levels are going to be a little off just because of the weather. The crowds are down this time of year just because it's colder and the whole family doesn't want to sit in the cold. Steve said that because of that maybe we get someone to come out now but that we won't be able to finish the study until next year just so we make sure that we are getting accurate readings during tournaments. Kevin said that he thinks it's a better idea to do it all at the same time just because it is going to be hard to keep a contract going until April 2009. We either need to do the sampling now and then again next spring or do it all next spring. He doesn't think we are going to be able to carry a contract that long. Tonia will get the schedule from Joe Loomis. Lisa suggested getting the RFP out now so that we have a baseline started with one of the contractors out there. Steve said that we need to get the scope to all the members within a week and tell everyone that it is a priority and that they have a limited time to get there suggestions back to Tonia. Rick made a motion that Tonia put out a draft scope of work for bid to all committee members by email tomorrow, response deadline for comments is September 5 and then Tonia will seek Eric's final comments and complete the scope and get out for bid. The committee will give Eric the authority on the committee's behalf to make the final changes with Tonia. Steve would also like the email to include that we are taking recommendations for preferred engineers and firms. The engineer that Rosemary recommends is CSA. Motion was seconded by Tony. Committee voted with 1's all around.

*Action: Tonia will get the scope of work out for bid. Topic continued at next meeting.*

## **Coyote Education**

Steve introduced the topic of Coyote Education.

*Discussion:*

The parks district received 3 calls from neighbors who were concerned about coyotes in the park. Tonia did talk to all 3 people and what it sounds like is one coyote has been visually seen by one person. They have also been heard. Joan Young said that she has heard them and that when the fire engines go by they howl and that they have been here for 10+ years. After Tonia did some research she found out that Steve worked with Susanne Bader who used to be with NCPRD on the same issue back in 2001. One of the best sites that Tonia found was Audubon Society website. They have a lot of good reading about coyotes in the urban environment. They have a summary of animal caused human death in Oregon between 80s and 90s. Horses were the main cause, Bees wasps and spiders, cows and bulls were next, domestic dogs, sheep, mules, pet buffalo, someone was consumed by his pet lion and an infant was killed by a ferret. The only true wildlife death was a car collision with a black tailed deer and a fatal bite by a rattle snake. They have lots of tips on how to live with wildlife in an urban environment. Tonia will try to get all the links out to everyone. She asked that as members of this committee if you could please look at yourself and then pass on to your neighbors. We just want to make sure that there are not myths that are being spread about what is going on. The coyotes are part of the eco system here and if we don't have them then the ecosystem gets pushed off balance. Then you have too many bunnies around and it goes on from there. Rosemary said that she saw one on her property and as soon as it saw her it was out of there. Steve said that they are very shy. They are very socially organized animals. There is an alpha male and female and they control their breeding within their territory. No other pairs are allowed by their society to breed in there. That is how they don't get themselves over run. We don't want to remove the alpha pair because then there will be juvenile breeding with no alpha and it can in a way make it worse than it was before. Tonia notified the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. We have also put up some temporary signs along the wildlife corridor in order to educate park users. Kevin said there will be 3 temporary signs. One at the dog entrances, one on the walking path and one in the park. The goal is to have the signs to educate and notify people.

*Action: District put up temporary signs along the wildlife corridor at the park.*

## **Ombuds Activity & Reports**

Eric introduced the topic of Ombuds Activity & Reports.

*Discussion:*

**Horse Arena Update:** The horse is done! It is ready for horses and we have already had some in there. Today we put up 3 hitching posts. Two are about 4' or 5 feet and then the other one is lower for ponies and things like that. We got the pitch fork to pick up stuff. Kevin talked to the county's risk manager about the rules. Kevin has the rules done and will be sending it to the county sign shop to get the sign made. Lisa would like to get a formal opening scheduled. She said people are really excited about it. They didn't think it was going to happen and it has to be that's great! She would like to name the arena, she knows a gentleman that ran the biggest 4H program in Clackamas County. Now that it's there again maybe that could happen. Steve said that we need to

get the suggestion to Dan and see if the district would be open to naming the arena. The suggested name is Jim Havelhurst.

**Northside Update:** We are still working on it. We just moved forward with Alta. Tonia submitted a scope of work & budget. Tonia told them to take it down. We went back and forth with Alta. We didn't get it down as much as we had hoped but it is okay and we are now moving forward.

**Lighting Adjustments:** Dick Shook is not present. Steve said on August 12 Dick met with Joe and Tim at 8pm with the cherry picker and tried to angle the light down by 2%.

**Dog Park Committee:** Tony was late sending out the guidelines so he recommends putting this topic off until the next meeting that way I have everyone's responses and suggestions. Tony really thinks that we should not look at anything that would become an ordinance. They should just all be guidelines because it will be far more easy. Steve asked if they could still be rules but not enforced. Kevin said he will get some clarification from County Council.

*Action: Kevin will get clarification on dog rules. Tonia will take the name suggestion to Dan.*

### **Committee Member Comments**

*Discussion:*

The district did some testing on the creeks that surround the park for nitrate rates. We hired a company that is called Envirolodgic Resources. They tested in 4 spots, where Mt. Scott Creek comes in, over by Casa Del Ray gate, where the confluence of Camas Creek comes into Mt. Scott creek and then again where it leaves the park. What they found was that all the nitrate levels in the park well within an acceptable level. The highest nitrate level was measured at Casa Del Ray gate where the neighborhood storm water drains into the park. It was 11.1 milligrams per liter. The lowest level was at the confluence and then was 1.12 milligrams per liter. These are very good numbers.

Tonia announced that the district will be getting an AmeriCore person starting October 1<sup>st</sup> and their title will be Natural Resource Tech. She also said that Eleanor is no longer going to be on the committee. Joan knows of one person but they can only meet at 5. We need to decide to either change the meeting time or Joan needs to keep looking for someone else that can be more flexible. The committee agreed that we should let Joan keep looking for someone that can meet at the current meeting time of 4pm.

### **Citizen Comments**

*Discussion: NONE*

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**Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.**

**Next meeting will be held on September 24, from 4 to 6 pm at the Milwaukie Center.**