

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

for

North Clackamas Park

October 24, 2007

Milwaukie Center

MEETING SUMMARY

PRESENT

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

Alternates Rick Frank, Susan Shawn

Guests Dick Shook, Anne and Pat O'Donnell, Rosemary Crites, Nick Bugliari, John Erich, Liz Lawson-Weber, Todd Weber, Jeanie Dugan, Jim Ballou, Denny Norton, Don Martin

Staff Dan Zinzer, Michelle Healy, Staci Hammond, Kevin Cayson

ABSENT

Representatives Lisa Gibson, Fr. Matthew Tate, John Denny

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

Introductions and Minutes

Eric Shawn opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. He then asked the committee to review the **August** meeting minutes. Tony Clark motioned to approve the minutes as read. Susan Shawn seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Action: None

Crowd Noise

Eric Shawn introduced the topic of Crowd Noise on the ball field. Rick was to do some research

Discussion:

-Continued from September meeting

Rick did quite a lot of research on other complexes facing similar problems with noise. He called Portland parks. They really don't have an issue with sound. They do respond to citizen complaints but do not have an active written policy that they go by. Spoke with them about park and time usages and they do schedule as early as 8 am on ball fields, but could not remember the last time

they did that. Most of the usage is during the evening hours. Most of their noise issues come from Portland International Raceway, where they do have an active noise policy. He spoke with Tualatin Valley Parks and Recreation District. They do have quite a bit of large facilities. Same thing, they do respond to complaints but they do not have an active sound policy. They have made no efforts to control sound; they haven't had it come up. He started looking nationwide. He spoke with the maintenance department down in Tucson. They have a 14 field complex. A 9 acre complex that is bordered on 3 sides by residential neighborhoods. Their grand stands hold up to 500 people. Generally their hours of operation are 9-9 on Saturday, close about 5 or 6 on Sundays. Their big source of noise is coming from their batting cages. The "ping ping" from the balls hitting the sides. They actually relocated two of the batting cages and fully enclosed the others. Their fields do not point toward the residences. They actually went in and did some more planting around the perimeter of the ball fields to help absorb some of the sound. Moses Lake has an Aquatic Center. They have made some adjustments by reorienting the bleachers. Most places don't have noise policies, things are more complaint driven. Everyone is trying to make this better but nobody seems to know exactly what to do. Walls and burms seem to be the best and easiest way to eliminate some of the noise. Sound walls will only eliminate about 20-30 percent of the noise. Rick is not done with his research. He found out that there are a lot of people out there trying to find a solution to the noise issue. So far he has not found anything that will solve our problem.

Rosemary Crites does appreciate all the research Rick has done. Rosemary brought some pictures for the committee to look at. Rosemary points out an open field. At the fence line there is absolutely no vegetation and the sound is going right on through to people's property. All of noise is coming from the bleachers. There is no buffering of the noise to peoples property. She proposes that NCPRD bring in a consultant, engineer, sound architect to come up with a proposal of materials that are out there that may work. As a resident she does not expect complete quiet. Traffic is white noise, if you are around it a lot it doesn't really affect you anymore. The noise from the ball park is an elevated noise. Can we bring in a consultant that can help find a way of modifying that elevation of noise? If we can figure out a way to fix this it sounds like we will be the first in the nation to actually find a way to eliminate sound. People will be calling us to find out what we are doing.

Rick says the main problem is there is no way around the law of sound. Physics wise. There are a lot of people better funded than us that are looking for a solution and have not found one. The small things that we can look at to fix is plantings or maybe how to direct the sound into the least obtrusive area.

Eric would like to put a modified proposal on the table. He went ahead and called an acoustical engineer he normally deals with. He got a referral for an acoustic engineer in town who specializes in community noise. He has never worked with the person but he would recommend that the Parks District bring in someone like that for 1 or 2 hours just to go ahead and look at the site. Try to identify which kinds of modifications in his experience are effective and economical. It wouldn't be to have someone who has built something but someone who could tell us if there is something feasible that we can do. That way the cost would cut down.

Dan does not think that it will be a problem to get someone to come in to see if we have any options.

Bioswale

Eric introduced the topic

Discussion:

Susan- We got a very intense phone call from Chris Runyard. He doesn't believe that the Bioswales are working properly.

Michelle- I got the same phone call and told him we needed to get some information and go out and look at it. Dan and I went out the next couple days to get a personal take on it and honestly wasn't as clear to me on what the major issue was.

Susan- We went out the same evening but we didn't know enough to know if things were working properly.

Dick Shook reports that WES discovered detention outlets too large, which means that they don't detain the water long enough for it to settle out.

Dan- The outlet is sized for flow that occurred before the development of the parking area.

Michelle- When we went out there the water was moving very slowly. We think it is working on how it is designed to work but we will keep an eye on it.

Sally Shook said she looked at the flow into Mt. Scott Creek from Camas and it looked like it had more sediment in it than it had before. Most of the sediment is coming from the second bioswale which is runoff of the ball fields.

Everyone is looking at the map and talking all at once.

Michelle- Let me tell you the 5 key elements of properly functioning bioswale and then we can all go away and be experts.

1. The detention pond is holding water and draining slowly
2. Water is moving or absorbing
3. Water is not staying stagnant for long periods of time
4. Plants and vegetation are thriving; no scoured soil
5. Swales are not overflowing

Horse Arena Renovation Update

Eric introduced the topic.

Discussion:

Dan- The footing design was approved by the city but by the time we got the approval the rain came. So we went in and started hauling and the filter fabric down. There has been so much water already that we have stopped. What we will do is wait until the service firms back up again. We are going to wait until we have dry ground so we can do it right and not have to go back and do it a second time to make corrections.

Eric- Are you going to wait until spring?

Dan- It would probably work if we got some sub-terrain freeze to where you could drive over it but something where you can drive the rigs in to compact the rock without the ground being so soft. We are going to do the base first so we can move the trucks in and out easily. Then we will do the fence.

Planting Replacements

Eric introduced the topic.

Discussion:

Kevin Cayson- You were wondering what the warranty was, It is a year from the date of substantial completion. So we need to have a contractor out within that time and do an inventory of what they found and what didn't survive and have them replace it. We don't have a date yet. Approximately May or June. I would like to mention that there are 29 oak trees sitting out there in the oak/ask planting area waiting to get planted.

Ombuds Activity & Reports

Eric introduced the topic of Ombuds Activity & Reports.

Discussion:

Eric- There was a question of park closing time and questions about postings in the dog park.

Michelle- The closing time that is posted right now is 6pm; and that is to go into effect November 1st. The park is dark during the winter months so that is a good time to have it close. There will be no ball field activity until march/April. The hours will switch back when we turn our clock forward again.

Susan- We need a better posting system in the dog park so people can be informed about what is going on. I think given the level of confusion, concern and rumors it would be very nice a way to communicate what is going on with the dog park during north side planning. A lot of the people don't see the big bulletin board when you enter the park.

Tony- I think that if you put the bulletin board in the dog park you are limiting who is going to see it. I think we should have one at the beginning of the walk way so everyone entering the park will know what is going on. Put something right by the restroom.

Susan- This brings up another issue which is Jim Schuld is not able to make these meetings and I really think we need to find another dog representative, and I don't know how to go about that.

Tony- I think the parks district needs to form a dog park committee that we can work from that will not only help to establish rules to deal with the noise, what kind of dogs should be in the park. Some of the noise is based on dogs that shouldn't be in there but as well as starting the process of finding other spaces. For this park there are no set rules;

Dan- I just wanted to let you know that on November 13 is the next public meeting for Harmony where people can come in and give their ideas on what should or shouldn't happen there. If you think a dog park should go there don't forget to tell people to come and voice their opinion.

JoAnn- I think it's a great idea. I don't think there is any precedence for that, that the district would form a committee.

Tony- Maybe it could be a private group that could work with the district.

JoAnn- I think that would be key, you form the group and tell the DAB we are here to tell you and we are happy to help you/ here are our ideas.

Committee Member Comments

Eric introduced the topic of Committee Member Comments.

Discussion:

None

Citizen Comments

Eric introduced the topic of Citizen Comments.

Discussion:

Dick Shook would like the caretaker to expel dogs that continue to bark.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Next meeting will be held on November 28, from 4 to 6 pm at the Milwaukie Center.