



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Sports Advisory Committee Meeting
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2011
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: AC Conference Room

In Attendance

Committee Members: Janet Allison, Chair; Brian Bauman, Committee member; Greg Cody, Committee member; Carrie Fisher, Committee member
Staff: Scott Brucker
Staff Absent: Julie Rocha

I. Call to Order

Janet called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 10th meeting will be submitted for approval next meeting.

III. Financial Report

N/A

IV. New Business

Reclassification/Renaming of Parks

Scott explained the proposed project that arose from suggestions from the 2006 Comp Plan. This is a clarification process of what our properties are. Staff is asking all Advisory Committees for their feedback and comments. Members noticed several park names were missing, e.g., Camille, Fir Grove, Ridgecrest, and surmised this is a list of only those parks that had a name change. Scott will check.

Brian referred specifically to Waterhouse Linear Park, Westside Linear Park, Willow Creek Greenway, and Rock Creek Greenway and commented from a consumer/user perspective, this is a stretch to rename all the former parks and combine them into one name. The users of a specific park now have to explain exactly where the park is since it is part of a larger or longer area. Brian continued there are anchors of certain parts that carry an identity.

After discussion about what the Comp Plan calls for, Greg explained some of the areas now called a "park" don't fit the criteria for a park, but instead should be called a "natural area".

Brian felt users know specific park names and know the amenities in that park. Now it will be called a "greenway" or "linear park" and those names do not convey it is a "park" with play equipment or other "park" amenities. He anticipates some pushback from neighbors and old-time residents.

Carrie offered they could have reclassified the areas but still kept the existing names.

Even though replacement signage is another proposed District long-term project, Janet asked what the cost was going to be for new signage and commented a new sign may not be installed for many years. This part of the renaming project seemed to be a waste of time, energy and money.

Scott moved on and asked for comments about the names of the HMT, Sunset Park and PCC complexes. He offered suggestions for new names since there is no category for these in the Comp Plan.

Janet gave her opinion to have the name remain the same for the HMT Recreation Complex. She feels "sports and aquatics" in the name is limiting and does not portray all that is offered here.

"Sunset Park Sports Complex" and "PCC Rock Creek Sports Complex" also were chosen by the members.

Janet asked why the Aloha Swim Center is listed as owned by BSD. Scott explained they owned the land the facility sits on. Janet suggested it state that since it is misleading as it reads now. The list should read "Aloha Aquatic Center Land" owned by BSD and "Aloha Aquatic Center" owned by THPRD. The same comment applies to the Raleigh Aquatic Center/Park. It should state land owned by BSD and facility owned by THPRD.

Carrie asked if any parks named after people have had the name changed. Scott did not believe there were any.

Family Assistance Update

Scott explained the current status of the program and the proposed plan of action including the award distribution change and paying into the FA program. After a long discussion about anonymity and the involvement of affiliated groups, Janet asked the members their opinion on the \$200/year/person vs. \$50/every three months for two quarters/person. Brian felt this change would not impact the affiliated groups, especially soccer. He does not feel it will make that big a difference on the recreation side. He thinks this change would not have as much impact on families as the last change from \$800/family to \$200/person. Greg felt baseball would be impacted but he felt the changes were necessary to manage the growth.

Brian asked if internal costs would go up processing \$50/quarter. Scott answered the computer system will automatically refill the FA patron's card.

Regarding those in the FA program paying a small percentage, the members discussed playing sports vs. playing highly competitive sports under the FA program. Also, Scott explained FA patrons were signing up for classes and programs and then not showing up. If they had to pay a small percentage, they would be more likely to attend. Greg agreed this was a problem when he coached baseball.

Janet confirmed last year's actual total was \$483,000 and the projected total usage this fiscal year would be \$554,000. She asked what the proposed amount was for the new budget year 2011/12. Greg thought it was \$450,000.

Carrie asked if there was any way each facility could contribute 1% of their budget to the FA program. Also, she suggested that when all patrons reload their gift cards, they could be asked if they wanted to donate \$1.00 toward family assistance. Members agreed these were both excellent ideas and worth looking into. Brian added patrons could be asked if they wanted to grow the FA pool when they sign up for a class or program. It won't solve the problem, but it will help. Janet mentioned a "round up" donation solicitation.

Carrie suggested corporate and private donors be asked to donate to FA. Janet mentioned Bob Schulz, Director of Development for the Park Foundation, currently was working with donors to Who Should Play, the Foundation's FA program.

Sports Program Update

Scott provided reports from May 2010 and May 2011 comparing the numbers of adult softball teams and specifically calling to our attention the drop in the number of teams from last year. Janet mentioned there are several reasons why team numbers are down again this year including the fact that many of our players drove from the Clackamas area where they now are playing at the new complex in Clackamas, a synthetic turf field complex. She added the price of gas is a factor for those that drive from Milwaukie, Vancouver, Sherwood, etc. The biggest reason still remains the high out of district fees, now up to \$70/quarter. In talking to many players and managers, this remains the main reason teams are leaving T-Hills adult softball program to play at Delta, Hillsboro and other surrounding areas.

We have identified why the downslide is happening. As to what to do about it, we don't know what to do to stop the bleed.

Janet shared a few additional statistics:

2011 number of men's teams 69 total

High was 127

Recent high was 105

2011 number of women's teams 17

High 42

Recent high 35

2011 number of coed teams 56

Recent high 70 + 6 on the waiting list

The number of adult volleyball teams has picked up and remained steady for the last couple of years.

V. **Old Business**

AIR Update

Scott referenced an email he sent March 30 with updates on several issues.

- Asphalt the dirt patch next to the softball concession stand: Will be completed shortly and our Maintenance Department will foot the bill.
- Stop sign at the bottom of the semi-circle near the pool pick-up area: A simple and inexpensive fix was to drop in a stop sign on the left-hand side of the street. In 2 to 3 years the area in front of the AC will be redesigned and it made no sense to install an expensive stop sign now. Scott added if we do not see any results, they have discussed additional measures. Greg mentioned his idea was to paint a large "Stop" on the pavement since the new stop sign was installed on the left and they usually are installed on the right of the roadway. Members agreed this was an excellent idea. Janet asked if Park Patrol could be extra vigilant for the first few weeks to remind drivers of the new stop sign.
- Scott was asked to clarify what projects the money from the bond measure will build, specifically athletic field projects. He wanted to discuss this with Jim before he replies back to this Committee.
- This Committee had discussed a new name for the Adult Softball Steering Committee. After many suggestions, Scott said staff decided on "Adult Sports Steering Committee". This name does not limit the scope of the Committee to just softball. Janet reminded Scott she previously had suggested an "all sports" type of steering committee and her idea was not accepted as workable.
- Scott reported he discussed with Doug the camera for sports ID cards at the front desk of the AC. Scott will work out details with Sue LeBlanc on a new system to take a photo, print it, crop it, laminate it and give it to the patron. Once again, Janet reminded Scott this is the same idea that has been suggested several times to streamline the process especially for the out of district users who do not have to prove in-district residency. This idea was discussed for several years in order to save staff time, save camera film, and speed up the process for a patron to receive their card.

SAC Financial Report

Scott provided the current balance held by the Sports Advisory Committee as of March 31, 2011.

2011 Board of Directors Presentation

Janet suggested a separate work session to prepare the material for this presentation on June 6th or hold a combination meeting/work session on May 19th. Scott has a couple of items for the agenda on May 19th that

must be discussed so the latter will work. If the presentation needs to be completed, we could meet some time between May 19th and June 6th.

VI. Committee Time

Janet - Congratulated Julie Rocha, Corey Griffin, Kyle Kotchik and all other staff involved on the success of the 5 on 5 basketball tournament held on April 9th. Carrie commented we should consider two referees for every game.

Janet - Commented she was disappointed the new field at A.M. Kennedy Park would be scheduled as a practice field only, not a game field.

Janet - Commented she did not know the Challenge Grant amount for Advisory Committees and Friends' Groups increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500. She added the competitive Challenge Grant amount was listed as \$50,000 in the 2011/12 budget.

Janet - Asked Scott the status of the grant for the PCC restroom. Originally it was to expire in June. Scott answered the grant extension had not yet come through from the State. We will know tomorrow if PCC approves it at their meeting tonight.

VII. Next Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the Athletic Center conference room.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Allison