

1. 2:00 P.M. Agenda

Documents:

[2023-09-05 Parks And Commons Agenda.pdf](#)

2. Meeting Material

Documents:

[Councilor Parker Of Newport Corresp..Pdf](#)

[Trails Report 2023-09.Pdf](#)

[Commons Status Report.pdf](#)

[Peace Park Rehab Project Proposal.pdf](#)

[Proposal To The Parks And Commons Commission For Consideration.pdf](#)

[Memorial Benches And Plaques.pdf](#)



CITY OF YACHATS
PARKS & COMMONS COMMISSION
441 Hwy 101 N. Commons Civic Meeting Room 1
Yachats, OR 97498
Tuesday September 5, 2023, at 2:00pm
To Be Held In-Person & Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82841590548>

Meeting ID: 828 4159 0548

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Announcements and Correspondence
 - a. Congratulations to Joanne Kittel on award
- III. Citizens' Concerns (limited to items not on the agenda, 5-minute limitation per person)
- IV. Reports
 - a. Trails Report
 - b. Monthly Meeting Summary
 - c. City Manager Report
 - d. Update City Coordinator (Krystal)
 - e. Report from Chairperson's Meeting
- V. Ongoing Business
 1. **Commons:**
 - a. Roof Repair
 - b. Carl Miller memorial
 - c. Painting the exterior
 - d. Electrical and lighting upgrades

This meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are invited to attend. This meeting will be audio taped. All items to be considered by the Commission must be submitted to City Hall no later than one week prior to the meeting. Minutes of all public meetings are available for review at City Hall, or on the City website at www.yachatsoregon.org. In accordance with ORS 192.630, City of Yachats will make a good faith effort to provide accommodations for any person desiring to attend a public meeting, if the request is made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting time. The meeting room is physically accessible to persons with mobility devices; a sign language or foreign language interpreter may be available, with advance notice. Call City Hall at 541-547-3565 or Oregon Relay 1-800-735-2900 (TDD) two days in advance. POSTED 08/30/23 By: Kimmie Jackson, Deputy City Recorder

- e. Heating and Air system upgrades
- f. Leveling pavement behind Commons for pickleball/basketball/tennis/etc.
- g. sidewalk in front of Commons
- h. Concrete steps near the marquee
- i. design and construct north entrance to Commons
- j. Pavilion behind Commons (painting, enclosing, sinks & lighting)
- k. Oversight Committee presentation/discussion
- l. Discuss meeting of Dan, Geo, Rick, and Krystal

2. Parks

- m. Sunset Park North
- n. Sunset Park South
- o. Memorial Benches
- p. Re-affirmation of our support of purchasing the Landmark
- q. Peace Park review
- r. Bayside boardwalk
- s. developing a trail along Yachats River
- t. Yachats Community Park/greenspace
- u. Dredging wetlands
- v. rebuild horseshoe pits
- w. relocate and/or enhance osprey pole

VI. New Business

- a. Discussion – Signs at the pump station (Ocean View Dr./Marine Dr.)
- b. PCC Meeting & Agenda Planning

VII. Other Business

- a. From Commission
- b. From Staff

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July 24, 2023

Yachats City Council
PO Box 345
Yachats, OR 97498

JUL 27 2023

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of fast-tracked construction of the boardwalk and viewing deck (known as the Bay Boardwalk), to be sited facing the beautiful Yachats Bay along Oceanview Drive.

My involvement with this project began as an OPRD employee and doing research as to which state permits might be necessary, when I was the acting Ocean Shores Coordinator back in 2021. From my viewpoint the parcel in question sits solidly above, or right off, the state beach, officially called the Ocean Shore State Recreation Area.

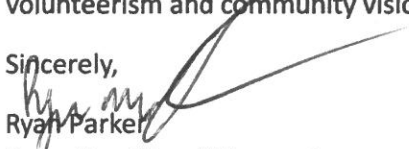
My understanding that the delay in proceeding with this project lied in the transfer of Oceanview Drive from the County to the City. Since that barrier has been resolved, the local planning jurisdiction would be the City of Yachats assigning its Public Works Department and City Council-assigned Work Group to immediately proceed with the detailed engineering, SHPO requirements, and necessary grant applications to build this structure. Having the financial support of View the Future also adds to the feasibility and success of this project's completion.

This project will shore up and vastly improve the safety for pedestrians and create an infrastructure that is already world-class in Yachats, protecting the road's right of way for future visitors and residents alike.

Under my city council hat in Newport, I find many of our pedestrian safety improvements and sidewalk/trail/bike projects stymied by ODOT and state preemption, and it seems to me you have dodged this bullet.

I urge my south county neighbors to earnestly move towards completion with the Bay Boardwalk Project, and I offer you my unbridled support. The project shines of a perfect blend of citizen volunteerism and community vision. I look forward to enjoying it upon completion.

Sincerely,


Ryan Parker
Councilor, City of Newport
541-270-6054

CC: YachatsNews.Com

TRAILS REPORT – Parks and Commons Commission – September 5, 2023

Volunteers – We have averaged approximately 30 volunteers for the last few sessions.

YIPS! – Continued removal of blackberry from the wetlands area S of the Public Works yard and along the west portion of Ocean View Drive.

Trails – Routine trimming of vegetation on various trails, including the short stretches between Aqua Vista Loop and Marine Drive and between King Street and Horizon Hill Road.

Pocket Parks – Trails volunteers have continued to help with the planting and watering of native plants in the two pocket parks as well as with weed removal.

Trails picnic – After a 4-year hiatus due to covid concerns, we resumed our annual volunteer picnic which was held August 19 at Quiet Water. Attendance was strong and a good time was had by all.

Trails Committee Goals for 2023 – Last year, we were asked to identify a set of goals for this current year and these are the goals we submitted to you:

1. TRAIL INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR SURVEY - Survey each trail, locate and mark maintenance/repair needs, compile them into a master list, prioritize them, and use that prioritized list to determine which projects to undertake first.
2. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE LIST - Compile a list of routine maintenance items (ex. Whale Park, pampas grass near Windy Way, trimming of encroaching vegetation on Amanda Trail) for use in planning out what to do during upcoming work sessions.
3. TRAIL LEADERSHIP - Continue the process of finding trail crew members who have the interest in and capacity to become team leaders.
4. CONTINUING EDUCATION - Trail leaders and committed crew members continue to seek out educational / training opportunities to develop skills in invasive removal, native plantings, trail maintenance and construction, management, and networking
5. COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS - Maintain our positive collaborations and partnerships* and expand with others such as Chamber of Commerce and Oregon Coast Visitor's Association.

Regarding Goal #3, Kevin Erdahl is now a “trails leader in training” and is making excellent progress towards becoming a 5th Trails Committee leader.

Regarding Goal #4, Joanne, Bob, and Kevin will be attending the Oregon Outdoor Recreational Summit and have received approval from the Interim City Manager to do so. This statewide gathering in Coos Bay on November 2-3 is an excellent opportunity to learn new things while networking with others in the statewide trails community.

PCC/Trails Committee links – It is interesting to note that every current member of the Parks and Commons Commission is or is about to be a current trails volunteer.

* Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept, Siuslaw National Forest, local businesses, View the Future, Angell Job Corps, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Midcoast Watersheds Council, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians

Krystal Geisinger

Overall, we're in great shape! The state of the building demonstrates our community's dedication to its preservation. We do have several things in the works that I'm excited to share.

We've had a lot of problematic water accumulation in and around the building. We have the following list of projects to address this:

- Gutters cleaned 8/31 and new gutters to be added. So far, the small roof above the YYFAP basement entrance has a new downspout that leads directly into the lower gutter.
- We are installing a channel drain at the front of the disability parking place on the NE corner of Commons. The water will be routed west.
- We are installing a channel drain in the electrical room that leads into the sump pump basin.
- We are installing a new, larger capacity sump pump basin. We will install a higher capacity pump and new grate to keep out debris.
- We installed a dehumidifier in the electrical room.
- Dec-o-vents will be installed to prevent water from flowing under the building.
- New siding will be installed on the south facing wall by the MP back stairs.
- We are installing an eave above the MP room back stairs.

We're installing a new sink cabinet in the Pavilion. Work will start September 5th.

Our playground is getting spruced up! Paint, replacement parts and a new seesaw are being ordered.

Electrical is being updated in the MP room. We now have a light for the stairs that lead backstage and new outlets in the ceiling for our stage lights. Next, we will be removing the old lights directly in front of the stairs and covering the holes with a metal plate. That circuit will then be used for an outlet installed near the stage light bar for a projector to be mounted.

We are working towards starting up movie night again! We have the large screen set up and will it to the back wall of the stage for ease of use. It's covered by the back curtains. We plan to serve popcorn and show a movie at least once a month.

The stage cooling system is being repaired. We are installing a new fan to replace the old one that is rusted and seized.

Our heating and cooling units in the Commons are now operating correctly. They have been connected to an app on City Hall staff's phones.

We have installed AEDs (defibrillators for use by almost anyone) in the Commons building, City Hall, the waste water treatment plant and Public Works. We'll be installing one at the Library when the remodel is complete.

We need a new reader board and a City Hall sign. We would like to accommodate the increasing number of events and activities. The existing reader board is difficult and time consuming to change. It would be beneficial to have a way to communicate pertinent information to the community in a timely manner. My hope is that we can form a workgroup to address this need asap.

The lighting in the Pavilion could use upgrading. I would appreciate working as a team on this project as well.

Peace Park Rehab Project Proposal

Here are some notes and photos of Meg and Dan's field trip to the Peace Park, including the main trail down to the beach. We went to the Peace Park on Friday, Aug 4th to learn what we could about what is, along with some ideas of what could be.

The first question we had has to do with the Peace Pole: Should it be moved to give definition to the park entrance or should it remain where it is but with some trimming of shrubs around it to allow it to be better appreciated? If it were to be relocated, we were thinking that it should be moved to the entrance of the Peace Park, opposite the Oregon Coast Trail post, both of which would then be visible from the street. On the other hand, the benefit of leaving it in its present location is that it provides context for a meditative space that unfolds as one walks through the tree/shrub-protected trail from the street to the Peace Park bench. The sign with white painted lettering next to the Peace Pole (see below) that says "Beach —> stay on path." should be removed. We feel that additional shrubbery (or a large rock) would provide a non-intrusive barrier to keep people from walking down the abandoned trail (behind the sign).



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The rustic park bench is in good, solid condition. Its unique design is in harmony with the setting and its location provides a natural windbreak, so that sitting there is quite pleasant, not to mention cozy. The sign is in need of rehabilitation. It is not brittle, but the letters and the background are so similar in color that on a bright day the letters are difficult to distinguish from the background. Cleaning the sign or carefully staining it (or a portion of it) would likely make it more readable. If it is desirable to move the sign for aesthetic reasons, additional pieces of driftwood similar to the existing vertical pieces to the right of the bench could be placed behind the bench, and the sign affixed there.





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We were asked to research whether the salal in front of the bench obscured the view of the ocean and beach. While ocean view is slightly obscured (when sitting), the benefits of keeping the salal in place probably outweigh the benefits of removing it because removal would negatively impact the trail definition going down to the beach. We believe that this would degrade the slope leading down to the beach due through the ravages of erosion and it would reduce the rustic, but cared for, sense that one experiences in the setting. In addition to erosion control, the salal provides a welcomed wind break for those sitting on the bench.

Bench sitting view (taken by a person with a shorter than average torso :-)



Bench area view when standing:



Note: There is the main trail down to the beach and also a rarely used sub-trail (not pictured) just southwest of the bench. We recommend that shrubbery on the sub-trail be left to fill-in so that only one trail (the main one) remains visible for park users. Erosion and safety issues are present with the sub-trail, especially where it leads down to an undefined steep, sandy slope leading down to the beach.

...

We were asked to look for an additional place for a bench, down the main trail. The plateau pictured below would provide an ideal spot for an additional sitting and viewing space. We feel that a *sitting rock* would be the most harmonious furniture for the setting, similar in nature to the basalt rocks below. Realities associated with moving a large rock or several medium rocks to this spot might argue for the installation of a wooden bench, however. In any event, this would be a wonderful place to watch the waves, birds, and sea life. The plateau and the view from it is pictured below and in the following picture. This park is described by many users as their favorite place in Yachats to experience and contemplate the beauty of our wild coastline.





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The bottom portion of the trail on the way to the beach is a bit slippery in places, especially on the western section of the trail as seeping water makes its way through the rocks. If additional rocks were dug in and installed on the west side of the trail as it reaches toward the beach, trail users could be guided toward the east side of the trail which is less prone to being slippery (in wet or dry weather). A few flat, grippy, medium sized rocks suitable for walking on should (if feasible) be placed at the very bottom of the trail in the soil covered slope next to where Meg is standing in order to increase walking traction as one steps from the trail onto the basalt (high water region) leading to the rocky, sandy shelf. The precise area of proposed improvements are made clear by Meg in the photos below.





Meg is pointing below to where some additional stepping stones might go to make safer the trail going down.



Proposal to the Parks and Commons Commission for consideration

From Joanne Kittel 1356 Hwy 101 S. Yachats

Memorial Plaques and Benches

Create a new policy whereby bench plaques shall be dedicated to nonprofits who contributed greatly to the Yachats Community.

Each organization will be asked to create words that describe their philosophy, their love for community, etc. Since there are more nonprofits than new benches, the invitation could be based on the oldest to the newest nonprofits. Eventually Yachats will have more benches like at the Bay Boardwalk and Commons Park and additional organizations shall be recognized.

Yachats Ladies Club

Lions Club

YYFAP

Friends of the Yachats Library

Friends of the Little Log Museum

View the Future

Polly Plumb

Cape Perpetua Collaborative

Presbyterian Church (yes, they have become a nonprofit to serve the community)

An additional consideration is to honor past nonprofits that have contributed greatly like the Friends of the Yachats Commons or the Yachats Health Clinic.

Individual plaques for loved ones who have died

There are about 30 rocks around the two pocket parks that have flat sides. Memorial plaques could be placed on those. Instead of the typical honoring with birth and death not that the dates couldn't be included. But have the surviving loved ones create a statement that reflects the love they had for this community or its environment or inspiring words and a short phrase that they loved or lived by.

Such plaques would have stipulations

Eg.

Bronze

Size

Non-religious

Non-political

The phrase would be reviewed by the Commission for approval. The loved ones would pay for the bronze plaque and a fee (donation) for the installation to be determined by the Commission.

Memorial Benches & Plaques

Task: Create a new policy whereby the criteria for the addition of future memorial benches and plaques are standardized.

Meg and Dean met on August 16th and walked the Amanda Trail to the 2 benches, Christensens and View the Future, and assessed those existing benches for their materials, size, installation, durability, and overall design. We also considered plaque material and size. We met again the following week to put together our thoughts and recommendations to bring to our commission.

Recommendations:

Benches: Recycled plastic material, 6 foot, stainless steel buried mount – Same bench that is there now

Plaques: Bronze, 6" x 2.5", recessed into back of bench

We also discussed ideas for the process that we might use to give authorization for future benches.

Questions:

Who decides?

Parks & Commons Commission? City Council? City Manager?

Criteria for getting a bench?

Service – how long has someone served in the Yachats community and what was that service?

Significant monetary contribution to the community and how much did they contribute?

Who pays for the bench?

Other considerations:

Since there are only so many benches we can add to the community, other options to recognize someone are a brick, rock, and future Bay View boardwalk options such as plaques on railings.

These would be considered on a case by case basis.

