CITY OF YACHATS

PARKS AND COMMONS COMMISSION

March15, 2018

Approved Minutes

Chair John Moore called to order the March 15, 2018 meeting of the Parks and Commons Commission at 3:00 pm in Room 1 of the Yachats Commons. Members present: John Moore, Michael Hempen, Linda Johnson, Ruth Bass, Scott Gordon, and Dean Shrock, Derek Ojeda. Absent: Michael Hempen. Also Present: Facilities Manager Heather Hoen, Trails Lead Bob Langley, Friends Board President Rose Valentine. Audience: 3.

I. Minutes

Commissioner Shrock moved to approve the February 15, 2017 minutes: Aye – 5; No – 0. Minutes approved. (Ojeda late)

II. Reports

A. Facilities Manager

Facilities Manager Heather Hoen reported she is meeting with a structural engineer about the 501 building, basement, and current Library building. She noted the engineer would have to cut into concrete floor at the 501 Building to check for rebar.

Hoen reported she has been working with the Sheriff's Department about transients sleeping in Picnic Shelter. She added Dave Rieseck and Public Works are looking into building doors for the front of the picnic shelter. She added she is turning off power to the outlets when not in use so that only lights go on from dusk to dawn.

Hoen noted Ace Alarms has developed a plan to bring the Commons alarm system into compliance, and the Fire Marshall has approved the plan. They are waiting on county approval. The cost estimate is $8,600. She added the alarm workers can address the 120-volt circuits but will need an electrician to work on the panel boxes.

Shrock asked Hoen about information on marquis being left up for a week after the event. Shrock wanted to see the reader board have something at all times. He suggested added events earlier if nothing else going on.

B. Yachats Trails Committee

Commissioner Johnson asked for clarification on the State's mandate to complete the Oregon Coast Trail and whether the State is providing financial assistance. Loren Dickenson noted there were funds previously for the 804, but he was not sure if those still were available.

Johnson asked where she could see Amanda Creek Bridge plans. Langley suggested

she talk to Joanne Kittel. Dickenson noted there are FEMA funds involved in this project.

Johnson asked for clarification on the exercise equipment for the wetlands trail. Dickenson noted Lauralee and Ron Brean are in charge, and he understood the exercise equipment would be items like a balance beam, not a treadmill. Langley suspected the equipment was more along the lines of static equipment on a parcourse.

C. Friends of the Commons

Friends President Rose Valentine reported eighteen months ago they were considering putting in LED lights on the stage. She stated that after seeing the extension cords on the stage, they want to resume the project. She noted LED lights would make the stage cooler and use less electricity. She indicated the Friends are partnering with Polly Plumb Productions and One of Us Productions to do the project and will share the cost and responsibility. Stephen Farrish has agreed to be the project manager. Meredith Howell has offered to write for grants. Valentine expected to have a plan for Parks and Commons at their April meeting. She noted they would address all of the electrical issues on the stage.

Valentine announced they are hosting another Community Coffee Break on May 27, 2018.

Moore thanked Valentine, the Friends, and One of Us for working together. He asked Valentine to run plans by Hoen.

Ojeda clarified that the Friends Board meetings were on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 in Room 3.

D. Year to Date Revenues and Expenses

Johnson clarified whether the changes they made at the last meeting were incorporated into the document presented. Moore indicated they were.

III. Business

Moore reminded Commissioners to not “Reply All” to an email from Moore, adding that they could reply to Moore individually. Moore explained a “reply all” constituted a public meeting.

A. South Entrance Sign

Moore noted the sign is the shape of the sign on the north end of town and incorporates the new City logo. He noted the current sign is south of the city limits, and the new sign would be would be on the northeast side of Windy Way on City property. ODOT has given its approval. If Commissioners approve it, Moore hoped to complete the project by the end of the fiscal year. Johnson believed the law was that if the sign were breakaway, it could be closer to the highway. Moore indicated the foundation was to be determined. Langley asked if the spot was in the area of the only off-street parking

area. Joanne Kittel asked if the City could remove some of the blackberries and brush to create another usable area for parking.

Commissioner Bass asked if there were plans to have the north and south signs match. Moore concurred matching signs was a good idea. He indicated the decision would be contingent on the cost of the south sign. Ojeda indicated he liked the north sign and how it blended with the natural environment. Johnson suggested reusing the south sign for marking the Commons.

Johnson asked who would be giving final approval of the project. Moore stated Parks and Commons was in charge, and the Council has approved the logo and the CIP. Shrock noted the north sign does not stand out.

Gordon moved to approve the sign as designed: Aye – 6; No – 0.

IV. Other Business

Since the last meeting, Moore reported he presented their recommendations on the rental policy to the Council on March 7, 2018. He noted a Councilor asked the Commission to consider making the Commons free for all nonprofits. No Commissioner wanted to reopen the discussion.

Next month Maxine Johnson will present a proposal about having a Yachats Commons Day to raise money so that "by donation" events would not have to collect donations. Moore clarified that she was only considering the ongoing exercise groups, not the major events.

Moore also reported he met with the Little Log Church Board to re-establish their relationship with the Parks and Commons Commission.

Moore reported Public works would be removing some trees in the northwest corner of the wetlands as they are presenting a safety danger to nearby property and to people. Bass noted Public Works had been using a backhoe to prop up one tree to keep it from falling on Betty Johnstone's house.

A. From the Commission - none

B. From the floor

Betty Bahn (146 Spruce Street) indicated she was part of the group who developed the original Parks Plan. Bahn noted Rieseck's plan did not involve a licensed landscaper. She stated the Department of State Lands (DSL) was concerned with the water flow moving in or out of the wetlands. She asserted the current plan does impact the water flow by having a path. She noted the first plan cost $40,000 for the evaluation and grading work. She suggested adding elements could impact the approval of the DSL plan that began around 2002. She noted things like wood on boardwalks could not touch the soil and they could not use any treatment on the wood. She specifically noted the exercise path on the north end would impact the outflow. She recalled the landscape architect had noted the Spruce root fields need to be kept clear, as they

could withstand foot traffic but not any gravel or bark on top of them. She noted a 24" culvert is hidden in areas behind picnic shelter to collect water in that area to direct into the pond. She noted at the time they were aware the flow might change, in which case they might have to readdress the situation. The original landscape architect was Dr. Stewart from Oregon Sate University. She noted the State took into account that the flow had already been impacted prior to their work. She recalled the north end had once been blown out by dynamite as locals thought stagnant water was not healthy for a school.

Bahn indicated a professional sports trainer had told her that the selection of equipment was significant when considering an elderly population, suggesting there might be a liability over a mature population using equipment like chin-up bars or elevated balance beams.

Johnson noted the Rieseck plan was done with lots of community input.

Moore stated the Commission has recommend to Finance that they fund the fitness trail. He indicated he would take her concerns to the City Manager.

With no further business to discuss, Moore adjourned the meeting at 3:59 pm.

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Chair W. John Moore Date

Minutes prepared by H.H. Anderson, April 3, 2018