



CITY OF YACHATS

PARKS AND COMMONS COMMISSION

May 16, 2019

Approved Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chair John Purcell called to order the May 16, 2019 meeting of the Parks and Commons Commission at 3:00 pm in Room 1 of the Yachats Commons. Members present: Michael Hempen, Linda Johnson, John Purcell, Dean Shrock, Scott Gordon, and Craig Berdie. Absent: none. Also Present: Facilities Manager Heather Hoen, Trails Leads Bob Langley and Joanne Kittel. Audience: ?

II. Public Comment

John Mark Deriberprey (King Street) stated he attended the Yachats Home School program at the Presbyterian Church. He was speaking on behalf of the children at YYFAP. He reported the children cannot play on the ballfield because of dog poop. He proposed fencing an area for the children to have to use for soccer, kickball and other sports. He proposed that they would fundraise for the materials and the parents could install the fence. He also proposed that they would take care of the maintenance of the grass within the fence. Deriberprey provided a diagram of what they were proposing.

Purcell commended Deriberprey on his presentation. Commissioner Berdie asked how they would keep dog owners from thinking the fenced area was for the dogs. Deriberprey replied that they would put a lock on the gate and provide a key to the City Council and keep a key for themselves. Commissioner Shrock asked how tall the fence would be. Deriberprey stated that information was on the diagram and the fence would be made of metal.

Facilities Manager Hoen stated there was no procedure on how to proceed with this request. She explained the location they were proposing. Hoen noted Will Williams current mows the ballfield area. Hoen reported Public Works had mentioned they might remove the backstop because it was rusting and falling down presenting hazards.

Shrock suggested to Deriberprey that they could promote the regulation on picking up after your dog. Purcell suggested that a three-foot high fence might work better and cost less. Hoen suggested the higher fence might be to keep balls within the area. John Deriberprey added that the higher fence would keep people from putting their dogs inside the fence. Purcell added that there could be an issue in making this area exclusive. Purcell offered to have the City partner with the group. Shrock asked if the mole holes would present a problem. Nathan Barnard

1 suggested they could keep a supply of wood chips or other materials nearby to fill in the holes.
2 Commissioner Gordon clarified the 220 feet of fencing was to be added to the area already
3 fenced at the back stop. Hoen noted the City would need to look at the green space master plan
4 to ensure this project could be done.

5
6 Purcell indicated the Parks and Commons Commission would figure out what needed to be done
7 and review the project again at the June 2019 meeting.

8
9 Commissioner Hempen asked if there was a projected cost. Deriberprey stated they would create
10 a budget. Hempen asked Deriberprey to also provide a timeline of when they wanted to start and
11 when they expected to finish.

12
13 Sylvia Hood (7435 Ten Mile Road) asked that the City clean up the glass and residual trash on
14 the field after the Clean Sweep weekend to protect the safety of people and animals. Purcell
15 indicated he would pass that message to the Clean Sweep planners.

16
17 Lillian (317 W 2nd Street) stated the loose rocks on the black top around the Commons creates
18 hazards for scooters, noting her brother fell and hurt his knee. She also noted the hazard also
19 impacts kids playing basketball and kickball. She asked that the area where pipe was laid in
20 front of the Pavilion be repaved to eliminate the gravel hazard. Hoen explained Public Works
21 will pave this area when they do the repaving on Driftwood. Purcell asked Lillian to write a
22 letter to City Council describing the problem.

23
24 Ginny Hafner (168 Jennifer drive) stated it was fantastic for the kids to prepare and come to this
25 meeting to speak.

26 27 **III. Minutes – April 18, 2019**

28 Gordon moved to approve the April 18, 2019 minutes as presented: Aye – 6; No – 0.

29 30 **IV. Reports**

31 **A. Commissioners**

32 Johnson reported she got information from Florence on how to manage the transient population.
33 She noted Florence has hot meals five days each week, showers, and other facilities and services
34 for the homeless. She recommended that the City pay Florence to help take care of the transient
35 population.

36
37 Johnson reported from the Chairs meeting that the Library was costing \$375,000, the dispensary
38 was in compliance with City codes, Clean Sweep was scheduled for June, and the water billing
39 errors were being addressed. She also reported she went on the tour with the representative from
40 CIS who pointed out all of the signage and issues that needed to be address to ensure safety,
41 noting that the representative was asking for many items to be painted yellow, which Johnson did
42 not favor. Hoen added that many of these issues were being proposed by the insurance provider
43 to prevent negligence and were not coming from OSHA. Hoen also spoke to the City's
44 insurance agent who indicated the City would not be held responsible for not complying with
45 every suggestion as long as they showed a good faith effort. Purcell asked Hoen to pass the list
46 to him when she receives it.

1
2 Purcell summarized the highlights of the budget meeting the previous day, noting no major
3 issues arose.
4

5 **B. Facilities Manager**

6 Johnson asked Hoen about the possible expansion of the Farmers Market. Hoen explained where
7 the group could set up in front of the building and behind the Commons so as to maintain fire
8 lanes and not damage trees and vegetation. Hoen noted they had 37 vendors signed up and 35
9 show up the previous Sunday, and there were 10 vendors on a waiting list. Shrock added that
10 Manager George Mazeika appeared to be interacting very positively with the vendors.
11

12 **C. Trails Committee**

13 Trails Lead Bob Langley highlighted the report contained information on the wetlands as
14 requested. Purcell asked what devices the City had to keep people from putting goldfish in the
15 wetlands. Trails Lead Joanne Kittel indicated the area are established wetlands with the State
16 and the City can prohibit the addition of non-native species of plants and animals as a violation
17 of State regulations. Kittel noted there is a detailed document on the wetlands on the Trails
18 website.
19

20 Kittel reported she recently learned that State Parks will cover all the costs in the event that
21 FEMA did not come through with funding. She noted they did not get the Siletz grant for the
22 bridge but the work that View the Future did to raise the \$62,000+ has pleased the funders so
23 that Trails does not need to submit for more grants. Purcell commented that the City was getting
24 a \$375,000 bridge for a contribution of \$5,000. Kittel also reported the county has increased
25 their contribution and the Cape Perpetua Foundation/Discovery Northwest raised their donation
26 \$500 to \$3,500 and is contributing staff time.
27

28 Hempen expressed great appreciation for Kittel and the work of the Trails Committee.
29

30 **D. Little Log Church**

31 Purcell thanked the Little Log Church board for their report. Berdie noted the report was well-
32 written and explained a lot. Mary Crook added that they got two new events:

- 33 1. Byrdsong Concert, Saturday, June 8, 2019 at 3:00 pm
- 34 2. Buddhist Priest Blessing, July 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm
35

36 Hoen noted the group's landscaper was departing and they would need to go through Hoen to
37 contract a new landscaper. Hoen would get more details from Manager Beaucaire on the
38 process.
39

40 Johnson clarified that the Little Log Church charges \$75 to use the building. Hoen noted they
41 needed to figure out a new system to do reservations for the Little Log Church in the new
42 reservations software. Crook reported Pat Armstrong is using the computer to deal with
43 reservations.
44

45 Berdie clarified that the visitor count was those that actually signed the guest book and asked if
46 there was an estimate of how many do not sign the book. Dave Baldwin estimated 90% of
47

1 people sign the book.

2
3 Hoen reported the Lions Club and the Ladies Club were very willing and eager to help with
4 fundraising efforts for the Little Log Church. The Ladies Club suggested an open house on
5 Labor Day where they could send people over from the Pie Social. Hempen asked if the Little
6 Log Church was going to do anything to capture the crowds here for July 4th. Crook stated that
7 they have not been open on the 4th for two years as it was too hectic in the past.

8
9 Johnson suggested that they expand the Museum if they were going to be rebuilt, perhaps in the
10 style of the interpretive center. She noted it was the bus stop and it could be the center and main
11 information conduit for Yachats Information. Hoen indicated Johnson's suggestion would
12 require a larger building. Hoen and Johnson discussed whether volunteers could operate an
13 interpretive center and how that would relate to the Visitors Center. Purcell added that there was
14 more clarification needed in terms of the jurisdiction of the Commission, Committee, and Board.

15
16 Carl Miller stated the Board is meeting with an attorney on June 11, 2019 in Eugene to change
17 their nonprofit status to a 501(c)3. He also has gotten contact names for help with grant writing.
18 Miller clarified that a comment at the Budget meeting that the Friends of the Little Log Church
19 had the purpose to raise money for the operations of the Little Log Church, which was not true.
20 Purcell asked the Little Log Church group to inform the City when it pays for items to help
21 maintain and upgrade the facilities.

22
23 Hempen asked if the Board had discussed the option of having an interpretive center as part of
24 the facility. The group indicated they could discuss that idea at the next board meeting. Purcell
25 appreciated the Little Log Church's willingness to be open to new ideas.

26 27 28 **V. Business**

29 **A. Finance/Budget Committee Update**

30 Purcell referred to his report earlier. Berdie noted the maintenance line in the budget was at 42%
31 and had concern about underspending on maintenance. Hoen reported that some of the previous
32 recording of expenses was put in the wrong categories and this situation was being remedied.
33 She noted it has only been in the last two months that she has had a budget to work with. She
34 stated there would be significant changes in the maintenance activity in the coming year. Purcell
35 added that Hoen was working on an overall maintenance plan. Hoen stated that much of her
36 time in the past year has been addressing unforeseen issues, and she expects to have an ongoing
37 schedule developed soon. Hoen also noted that when she does maintenance work herself, that
38 cost is attributed to her regular pay.

39
40 Berdie also asked about the Trails budget being underspent. Langley explained their budget.
41 Purcell stated that the City gets great returns on its investment in Trails. Hoen noted there was
42 some pushback on the Trails budget at the Budget meeting around the Trails not qualifying for
43 Visitors Amenities.

44
45 Several Commissioners reported that people have been parking on the 804 Trail along Ocean
46 View Drive. Purcell indicated this issue would fall under Code Enforcement.

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2
3 **B. Trails Letter from Joanne Kittel**

4 Purcell noted the Trails trimmed their budget by \$2,500.
5

6 **C. Evans/Betz**

7 Purcell reported Evans/Betz was not included in the FY2019-2020 budget. He indicated View
8 the Future decided the cost of the property was too high. Purcell explained the objectives and
9 approaches of the McKenzie River Trust who were interested in investing in a larger package of
10 parcels, especially those that impact the watershed.
11

12 **D. New Commission Member**

13 Purcell indicated he would plan a course to address this issue.
14

15 **VI. Other Business**

16 **A. From the Commission**

17 Berdie announced the Cape Perpetua Collaborative will be holding their Land-Sea Symposium
18 event at the Commons in November 2019.
19

20 Purcell reported the Council will be looking at the role the Commissions and Committees play
21 and they would likely be asked for input.
22

23 **B. From the floor - none**
24

25 Purcell adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.
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30 _____
31 John Purcell, Chair

_____ Date

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33 Minutes prepared by H.H. Anderson, June 10, 2019