

St. Helens Parks Commission

Monday, April 18, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Minutes: March 21, 2011 regular meeting
3. Topics from the floor—from attendees not otherwise on the agenda
Speakers are limited to 3-5 minutes. Topics requiring action may be placed on the next month's agenda for further discussion.
4. New Business
 - Parks Commission Applicants
 - Off Leash Test Area Update
 - Sand Island - Issues and Resolutions
5. Old Business
 - Review Parks Master Plan
6. Discussion Items
7. Councilor's Report
8. Other Matters
9. Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the St. Helens Parks Commission is scheduled at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2011, in the City Hall Council Chambers.

If you would like to know what other City Boards and Commissions are doing, you may review their minutes from the City's website at www.ci.st-helens.or.us.

ST. HELENS PARKS COMMISSION

Minutes for Meeting of March 21, 2011

Council Chambers, City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Brewington, Chair
Debi Corsiglia, Vice Chair
David Mileti, Commissioner
Betty Bundy, Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sari Swick, Commissioner
Jacob Woodruff, Commissioner

COUNCILORS IN ATTENDANCE

Doug Morten

STAFF PRESENT

Dale Goodman, Public Works Director
Thad Houk, Parks Supervisor
Sheri Ingram, Secretary

GUESTS

Perk Carter
Colleen Palmer
Kannikar Petersen
Luanne Kreutzer
Howard Blumenthal

■ ■ ■

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Corsiglia at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brewington made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting. Motion was seconded by Mileti and approved unanimously.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

Knob Hill Nature Park: Howard Blumenthal from 462 S. 3rd Street stated he and his girlfriend are the founders of Friends of Knob Hill Nature Park and wanted to remind everyone there will be a work party on April 2nd from 10am to 1pm. They do it twice a year and remove invasive species and they will do a plant walk. They do a lot of planting partnering with the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council and they have planted almost 300 plants in the last year. He is wondering if he can get a little gravel in the next few months to spread on the trails. If he could get a pile at 3rd Street and in the driveway by the treatment plant, he can spread it out. Goodman said we could get him some gravel. Corsiglia stated she was curious to know why there was pre-registration and Blumenthal stated just so they have an idea of how many people are coming and make sure they have enough release forms. Corsiglia stated they are a unique group and it's great to see them volunteering for so many years.

Art in the Park: Kannikar Petersen and Luanne Kreutzer from the Arts and Cultural Commission spoke about having a new event for Summer Arts in the Park. Petersen stated Morten came to her with an idea to paint trash cans in the parks. He thought it would be a good idea to beautify the park and would be a good opportunity for Public Works, the Parks Commission and the Art Commission to work together. They discussed it at the last Art Commission meeting but haven't finalized it yet. They have Summer Arts in the Park every year but it is only one event and they hope to expand it in the future. For the past three years, it has been a competition for people to build art from scrap material, recycled material or trash.

They bring it to the park on Fourth of July and people vote for the one they like the best and they have had a cash award for the winner.

She has been with the Commission for one year so last year she attended the event and noticed, besides the food booths in the parking lot, there aren't activities for people. People start coming to the park in the morning to reserve a spot for the fireworks and kids are trying to keep occupied all day. She did notice a machine to make post cards. It is a washing machine barrel and you put paper in the middle and the motor makes it spin while you put paint on the paper. She noticed late in the afternoon that there was a line of people wanting to do this because it was the only activity in the park.

So this year, instead of having Rapture of Scapture, where people bring art they have already made, they want to have an art-making activity in the park which is a trash can painting competition. Based on their last meeting, there is one concern. The cans are smelly so she called Morten and asked if Public Works can do the smelly part. One can is not very big so they thought about teams of kids or something like that and it could be done in a period of three to four hours. Maybe high school or Junior High students can do the design based on what Parks Commission thinks should be a theme like if it's McCormick park, the theme would be baseball or skateboarding. We could set up some kind of criteria and draw up a program for competition and send it out to groups that may be interested. They could submit a design and then come to the park on Fourth of July and paint it on a trash can. Then they have a personalized can that looks a lot better than just a shiny metal trash can. It is an activity that is fun and cheap. Kreutzer stated they haven't ironed out all of the details but they have been looking on-line to see how other places do these kinds of competitions.

Corsiglia asked how many trash cans we have roughly. Houk said around 30 and most of them are stored at McCormick right now because they pick up the extras in the winter and clean them up and repaint them if needed. Goodman asked if we have a half dozen spares and Houk said yes.

Morten asked of the Arts Commission looks at the Arts in the Parks as an ongoing endeavor. Petersen stated they have money allocated in the budget for this every year. She thinks it is \$1500.00 but last year they only spent \$300.00 because they handed out \$100.00 to three winners. The number that is in next year's budget is \$1000.00 so a portion of that can be allocated to the trash can painting and they do hope to expand their activities. They did talk about not doing it because they did not have a good turnout for Rapture of Scapture last year. Instead of not doing anything, they plan on switching to something else.

Brewington asked how many they would like to do the first time out and she stated they didn't know yet but it will probably depend on how much interest they will have. He thinks there should be a limited number the first year and take entries to paint them. Morten had talked about having a couple painted by groups and photographing them to use for promoting the event.

Petersen said if Public Works could clean and put primer on a couple of promotional cans and six or eight competition cans and deliver them that would be great. Also if any of the Commissioners know of any community groups who would be interested in painting a promotional can, let her know. Corsiglia stated it sounds like she has the blessing of the Parks Commission so they can move forward.

Kreutzer stated on a personal note, she wanted to thank the Parks Department for clearing the trails on the south side of the creek at McCormick and making them walkable in the winter. She really appreciates the hard work.

Campbell Park: Colleen Palmer and Misty Casey from St. Helens Women's Softball asked about the access fees for the park. Palmer asked what is being done to the fields for them for the fees they pay for the coming year such as dragging the fields like they do at McCormick. Houk stated the league pays them to drag at McCormick and he doesn't even know if we will be able to do that this year because he doesn't know if we will have summer help. Palmer stated one day last year some tree cutters came in on one of their days and left the limbs lying around. Houk stated that was the PUD and the Parks guys ran out as quickly as they could to pick them up.

NEW BUSINESS

Exclusive Use Permit: There is an Exclusive Use Permit for St. Helens Women's Softball for Campbell Park on June 18th for a one-day tournament. There are no scheduling conflicts. Mileti made a **motion** to approve the permit. Motion was seconded by Brewington and approved unanimously.

Splash Park: Goodman stated he had a meeting with Morten and Chad Olsen to discuss the splash park. The splash park people originally wanted to put it in the Plaza but that is not going to happen for a number of reasons so they approached the City about putting it in one of our parks. They are specifically interested in putting it in Columbia View Park. The first question is what do we want that park to be. Do we want it to be for everyone or do we want it to be for 13 Nights? There are another 352 days a year that it is not being used for 13 Nights so do we want it to be an attraction for other people. We are planning on putting playground equipment in there. Is that going to be a distraction for 13 Nights? Are we trying to put too much in there? He wanted to get the Parks Commission's opinions on these questions. They talked about integrating the splash park with Phase 3. The plan is to move the stage back along the promenade and they talked about making the splash park part of the stage.

Mileti stated as much time as he spends at McCormick, he sees a huge volume of children and in the heat of summer a lot of them play in the creek. If the splash park were considered for McCormick Park, it would serve a large body of local families versus Columbia View where you have a river on one side and buildings. It would be great to increase the traffic downtown to support the businesses but he doesn't think a splash park would be a huge draw for bringing money down here.

Brewington stated either park has its pluses and minuses. As far as 13 Nights goes, he doesn't think it is a distraction. As far as the playground equipment, kids will be off playing while the concert is going on and their parents are listening to music. He doesn't know where it would go in Columbia View. Goodman said what they were looking at is the next phase would join the sidewalk on the south edge of the park to a promenade which would go along the riverbank to the area by the top of the ramp. Phase 3 was to remove the gazebo and put a new stage in against the back of the promenade so there would be more seating space in front of the stage. They talked about instead of having a raised stage, making it flat concrete and using it as the splash park with the jets coming up through the stage. Nothing sticks up; it is just a hole a water jet comes out of and the water can be turned off during 13 Nights.

Houk stated he feels McCormick is the place to put it because they can clean it and take care of it. There are restrooms, showers, parking and they don't have to worry about running out in front of cars. Bundy stated as a parent, there is already so much stuff going on at McCormick, that it would be nice to have something downtown but she gets what Houk is saying too. Houk said at Columbia View, they would have to drag hose to clean it and disinfect it where at McCormick, if it was close to the restrooms, they could do it right there.

Brewington stated it is a little off the subject but he believes a stage should be elevated to a certain degree and he would hate to see a splash park under it. He would hate to see the stage moved too far back because you lose some of the intimacy and he thinks it would lose some attraction for weddings with it further from the seating. He doesn't know if there is a need for expanded seating right now.

Mileti asked if it would have a timer on the splash park for after hours. Goodman stated it would be on a timer so when kids come up, they press a button and it's functional for ten minutes or so and then cuts off. If kids are still there, they just press the button again. It would totally cut off so it can't be operated after sundown. The idea is to make it user-friendly and user-dependent. They discussed these things and there are benefits to having at McCormick and they do want to bring people downtown but it may not bring money downtown. People with kids in tow are not necessarily going to shop for antiques in one of the five antique stores we have downtown. There are not a lot of places downtown where people with small kids would go.

Corsiglia stated she has a concern with parking. There is a limited amount of space for parking during the weekdays. She has been a firm believer it should go to McCormick Park. She thinks it's too much for Columbia View. She wants to see how the playground works out before they start adding more.

Goodman asked if he could say there is a consensus among the Commissioners that Columbia View is not where they would like to see the splash park go. Corsiglia said that is her opinion but she can't speak for the others. Morten stated he hoped they would keep an open mind because the splash park people will probably come before this group and make their spiel and in the spirit of what they wanted to do putting it in front of the courthouse and selling bricks to raise money for it, they thought the best place would be Columbia View. They are also ready to pull the plug and walk away from it. They have temporarily halted installing the playground equipment and he isn't sure that was a good idea. He thinks they should go forward with what they originally had so that group isn't influencing the decisions that have already been made.

Brewington stated he is not opposed to Columbia View but there needs to be a lot of input about where it is located in the park. Goodman stated one of the things they should ask is what the cost is to maintain it. Mileti stated if it is handed off to the City, what is the City's responsibility for the Parks Department with the ever-shrinking budget. Goodman said it would be the City's responsibility for maintenance and upkeep.

OLD BUSINESS

Parks Master Plan: Goodman stated Chad is putting together a grant application to have the Master Plan done by a consultant. Houk asked how much that will cost and Goodman said we are trying to get grant funding and they usually have grants for this type of thing. A consultant could survey the community and get input that way. Morten stated if there is a sense of time, would this commission be ok with an emergency meeting to get together for an hour or so to discuss the Master Plan. Brewington said yes with 24 hours notice.

Dog Park: Corsiglia stated she and Houk went to the City Council public hearing. There was a lot of great public comment but she didn't stick around to find out what the Council decided. Goodman passed around a draft from the meeting and a couple of e-mails from citizens about support for the off-leash area. City/County Insurance provided them with a set of rules and best practices and he drafted a sign they could put up in the park. Some of these came from Washington County's dog park and he asked that they look them over and see what makes sense and what doesn't.

Corsiglia stated she got an e-mail from Jill Scholl and they are working on their dog park in Scappoose and trying to get fencing. Their dog park is in Veteran's Park. Goodman stated we did look into fencing in 2008 and National Fence gave us a quote of \$7574.00 for 717 feet. He also got some info from Bill Eagle for grants and both could be used for setting up dog parks. Corsiglia stated she would look at them and get back to Goodman. Morten stated several dog parks in Portland use the sheep fencing and t-bars which would be significantly cheaper.

Houk asked when the dog park would go into effect. Goodman said the Council has approved it but it has to go back to Council for a resolution so 30 days after that. He said he was asked if they just want to do one location for now to see how it goes. Grey Cliff Waterfront Park was also proposed as another site for an off-leash area. Brewington asked if the Millard Road property is park property. Houk stated they have issues with parking and access to the property.

Blumenthal asked if the off-leash area backed up to the stream and if anyone had brought up the issue of too many dogs going into the stream and bank erosion. A few dogs won't hurt it but if you get a lot of dogs, it could become a problem. Houk said people let their dogs run free in lower McCormick and it already is a problem so it would be better if they could isolate it to this one area.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Entrance Signage: Corsiglia stated she and Morten attended an ad-hoc meeting for signage for the entrance of St. Helens and something for the triangle where the volcano was. That is something Morten will continue to update us on.

Frisbee Golf: Houk stated he was approached a couple of people about putting up a frisbee golf course at McCormick. The problem is they want to put posts in concrete and he doesn't know what everyone thinks of that. One of the places they were talking about was on the other side of the creek alongside the trails. Houk told them to make a proposal and present it to the Parks Commission.

No Smoking Ordinance: Mileti stated he knew they made an ordinance for smoking in the park and he wanted to know if there was a timeline for posting signs. Goodman stated we don't have a timeline but we had better get some signs and get them put up. He will talk to Marc Knudsen about it.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Morten stated he thinks this group getting together with the Arts & Cultural Commission to collaborate on the trash can project is a meaningful thing. He thinks it is an effective outreach to the community and he thinks they will get some refreshing results. He also wanted to thank Mr. Blumenthal for adopting Knob Hill Park. He would like to see us do as much as possible

with the ball parks and soccer fields. The Knob Hill group has an infrastructure of people that step forward and take ownership in the parks and he would like to see an outreach of that for all the parks. He would like to see work parties and there is the St. Helens Community Foundation that can help with fundraising if you are friends of a park. He has read some dismal things about the budget and would like to change some of the priorities with the parks in terms of monetary and budget needs.

OTHER MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 18, 2011, at 4:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheri Ingram
Secretary

Approved by the Commission: _____
Date

Accepted by the City Council: _____
Date

2011 ATTENDANCE RECORD**P = PRESENT / A = ABSENT**

Meeting Date	John Brewington	Debi Corsiglia	Jacob Woodruff	Sari Swick	Bill Eagle	Janis Walters	David Mileti
1/24	A	P	P	P	Betty Bundy	A	P
2/28	P	P	P	P	P	VACANT	P
3/21	P	P	A	A	P		P
4/18							
5/16							
6/20							
7/18							
8/15							
9/19							
10/17							
11/21							
12/19							

City of St. Helens

Application for Appointment to City Boards & Commissions

PLEASE PRINT

Applicant Name: Patrick J. Birkle
Home Address: 254 S. 14th St.
City, Zip: St. Helens 97051
Phone: 503-397-1813
Email: pbirkle@colcenter.org
Mailing Address: see above
City, Zip: see above

I am interested in:
Arts & Cultural Committee
Bicycle/Safe Passages Comm.
Budget Committee
Library Board
Olde Towne Architectural Character Review Comm.
Parks Commission
Planning Commission
Tourism Committee
Waterfront Development



How long have you lived in St. Helens? 18 Years 8 Months

Civic Activities (offices held, honors, etc.): Member of St. Helens school board, 1997-2001. Former volunteer, director and board member for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). ShoeString Community Players performer and director. Miscellaneous volunteer activities.

List names, addresses and phone numbers of three references not related to you:

Harold Elder, 244 S. 14th St., St. Helens OR, 503-397-1052
Leo Franz, 32-858 Church Rd., Warren OR, 503-366-8025
Mary Freeman, 190 Allendale Dr., St. Helens OR, 503-397-6724

Briefly summarize educational background: I have one bachelor's and two master's degrees as well as other post-graduate course work.

Present Employer Name: Beaverton School District Phone: 503-591-1911

Present Employer Address: 16550 SW Merlo Rd., Beaverton OR 97006-5152

Title of Position Held: Teacher

Additional information you wish to include:

If appointed, do you prefer your mail sent to: Business Home

I hereby certify that this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Patrick J. Birkle Date: March 29, 2011

Please return to: City Administrator
City of St. Helens
P.O. Box 278
St. Helens, OR 97051

RECEIVED
MAR 29 2011
CITY OF ST. HELENS

Application for Appointment to City Boards & Commissions

JAN 18 2010

CITY OF ST. HELENS

PLEASE PRINT

Applicant Name: Rachel L. Newcomb
Home Address: 280 N. Vernonia Rd.
City, Zip: St Helens 97051
Phone: 503-410-8937
Email: RNUKEM2@MSN.COM
Mailing Address: Same AS Above
City, Zip:

I am interested in:
Arts & Cultural Committee
Bicycle & Pedestrian Comm.
Budget Committee
Historic Landmarks Comm.
Library Board
Olde Towne Architectural
Character Review Comm.
Parks Commission
Planning Commission
Tourism Committee
Waterfront Development



How long have you lived in St. Helens? 4 Years 10 Months

Civic Activities (offices held, honors, etc.): Treasurer - St Helens Girls Softball Assoc. July 2009 - current.

St Helens Kiwanis Group - June 2009 - Current

Holiday Hope Basket Project - CO-Chair 2010

List names, addresses and phone numbers of three references not related to you:

Evelyn Hudson - 34101 Quail Ln. Scappoose, OR 97056 503-329-3967

Dave Mileti - 60400 Crosby Rd. St Helens, OR 97051 503-789-8405

George Dunkel - PO Box 141 Scappoose, OR 97056 503-987-1162

Briefly summarize educational background: I attended high school @ Rex Putnam in Milwaukie, OR. I earned my GED from Clatsop Comm. College in Spring 1998. I attended Clatsop Comm College from 02-'04 and earned my Associates degree in June 2004.

Present Employer Name: Wawa Federal Credit Union Phone: 503-543-5633

Present Employer Address: 52381 S. Columbia River Hwy Scappoose, OR 97056

Title of Position Held: Loan Officer

Additional information you wish to include: I've been involved in Softball my whole life. I have a strong work ethic and a strong desire to be involved in my community

If appointed, do you prefer your mail sent to: Business Home

I hereby certify that this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]


Date: 01-18-10

Please return to: Kathy Payne, City Recorder
City of St. Helens
P.O. Box 278
St. Helens, OR 97051

City of St. Helens
Application for Appointment to City Boards & Commissions

PLEASE PRINT

Applicant Name: Perk Carter
 Home Address: 2615 Columbia Blvd.
 City, Zip: Saint Helens, 97051
 Phone: 503 329-6810
 Email: perkcarter13@ms10.com
 Mailing Address: same
 City, Zip: _____

RECEIVED	
I am interested in:	_____ Arts & Cultural Committee
JAN 10 2010	_____ Bicycle/Safe Passages Comm.
CITY OF ST. HELENS	_____ Budget Committee
	_____ Library Board
	_____ Olde Towne Architectural
	_____ Character Review Comm.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Parks Commission
	_____ Planning Commission
	_____ Tourism Committee
	_____ Waterfront Development

How long have you lived in St. Helens? 60 Years _____ Months

Civic Activities (offices held, honors, etc.): I went to grade and high school here in Saint Helens, then work and operated SEA going bugs. I have been involved with youth sports for the last 40 years.

List names, addresses and phone numbers of three references not related to you:

Mindy SASS 34732 Achilles Warren Dr. 97053 503 306-3880
Cathy Carpenter 2625 Columbia Blvd. Saint Helens 503 397-5422
Will Derby 2624 Columbia Blvd Saint Helens 503 971-678-4068

Briefly summarize educational background: Pres. Saint Helens Girls Softball
Pres. Columbia County East Pitch Softball, Director Oregon ASA
Special Olympic Softball Site on the advisory board for
Port of Saint Helens Marina at Scappoose Bay

Present Employer Name: Retired Phone: 503 329-6810

Present Employer Address: _____

Title of Position Held: _____

Additional information you wish to include: _____

If appointed, do you prefer your mail sent to: _____ Business Home

I hereby certify that this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Perk Carter Date: 1-8-11

Please return to: City Administrator
 City of St. Helens
 P.O. Box 278
 St. Helens, OR 97051