



**Minutes of the Park Community Program Committee
Molalla City Hall
117 N Molalla Ave., Molalla, OR 97038
February 2, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jody Newland at 5:04pm.

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE

Councilor Crystal Robles, Councilor Jody Newland, Nicole Jung, Tina Teel, Emily Garland, Rae-Lynn Botsford

Absent: Doug Eaglebear

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Dan Huff, City Manager; Jamie Ward, Executive Administrative Assistant.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Gary Hopkins, Bear Creek Subdivision HOA President

Amy Lindley, Molalla Resident

Betty Martin, Molalla Resident

Trisha Pat, Molalla Resident

Ryan Pat, Molalla Resident

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT UPDATE

Strawberry Park: Dan presented committee with an update stating City Staff is in the final stages of park property design with our Engineer. Playground equipment has been ordered and is expected to be delivered sometime in March and with the help of a substantial donation from Molalla Communications Coop Grant. Fall protection will be added to areas under the new equipment, helping meet the ADA compliant aspect of the designs. Further detailed funding discussion will occur as updates come in.

The Cultural and Art Association is working on designing some Strawberry play structures, but they will come at a later day.

Fox Park: Park equipment has been ordered and Staff is expecting installation to be completed by March or April.

Construction for this project will be completed by NW Playground Equipment. They will also remove the old playground equipment. Mr. Huff wanted to remind committee members that not all equipment is going to be replaced, just the ones occupying the main area. Fall protection will be added under the new equipment as well.

Emily asked if there was a way to make the water that comes through the splash pad to recirculate water in the case of another Water Curtailment.

Mr. Huff explained that water recycling is constructed like a mini water treatment plant in the mechanisms. It is very expensive to maintain. Dan mentioned that Oregon City was removing their recirculation system due to the costs of running it. He did agree that there needs to be further discussion on different ways to handle that sort of situation if it does occur again.

Chief Yelkus Park: The City is waiting for the Grant Agreement from the State of Oregon for funding that has been provided through our work with our State Representative, Rick Lewis, and HB 5006. The City received information from

the State detailing what exactly the funds can and cannot be used for. The funds can be used for capital improvement projects such as the new Chief Yelkus Park but cannot be used for Molalla Forest Road improvements.

Dan brought up that committee needs to start planning a fundraising event and once that is in process there will be other avenues for interested parties to help donate more. The Ford Family Foundation and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde both have grant funding available but typically will not give funds to the city, it would be best to work with a local nonprofit and could open avenues for more funding.

Mr. Hopkins brought up that at the November 16, 2021, meeting Parks CPC mentioned putting blank Chief Yelkus parks maps online for residents to print off and submit with design suggestions. Mr. Hopkins could not find them on the **C**urrent or the cities Facebook page.

Mr. Huff stated that he would have them put up on the Molalla Current Parks CPC Project page, the cities Facebook page, as well as have some available at City Hall by the end of day on February 02, 2022.

Parks CPC recommended we put a March 11, 2022, deadline for those submissions so Parks CPC can go over them at the next meeting.

Molalla Forest River Road: Engineer is finalizing the design and it is expected to be complete by the end of February.

Mr. Hopkins raised his concerns regarding safety issues with opening Forest View Lane to park access and asked if the city was going to do a traffic impact study?

Mr. Huff stated that it was not in the plans but there are measures being put in place to help with safety issues such as reducing the speed limit from 25 mph to 20 mph and transitioning into a smaller width street going from 28 to 20 feet curb to curb.

Mr. Hopkins also asked about what was going to be placed in the “wetland” are of the park.

Mr. Huff stated that only one third of that side of the park and yes, the majority is wetland. Ideas are being contemplated regarding a green space area. As of now we are unsure what that area will be used for.

Skate Park: Resident Ryan Pat asked what was being done about remodeling or moving the skate park to another location. If nothing is being done, what would it take to get this project to move forward?

Mr. Huff responded that remodeling the park is there is not enough space at its current location and not enough funds for acquiring property that would be suitable. If there are residents that want to bring some legitimate fundraising or rehabbing ideas, they could bring them to the Parks CPC and they could make recommendations to City Council.

Summary of the concepts discussed: Strawberry Park; Playground Equipment Update; Fox Park; Playground Equipment Update, Natural/wooden play structures; Chief Yelkus Park; Design, Fundraising ideas; Traffic concerns/parking/bike/ped transitions; Safety/Law Enforcement; Skate Park; Rehab or Moving to Another Space.

Parks CPC changed the meeting time from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: March 15, 2022, 6:00 pm in the City Hall Conference Room. The group discussed setting a once-a-month meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at the Civic Center. They decided to set a meeting for March 15, 2022, 2022. Further discussion will need to be addressed at that meeting due to conflicts with Court being held on that same evening.

AGENDA ITEMS: Fundraising Suggestions, Chief Yelkus Resident Map Design Suggestions, Skate Park Discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the Park CPC meeting was adjourned at 6:24 pm.