



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**  
**Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 5:00 PM**  
**Lacamas Lodge, 227 NE Lake Road**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Staff: Jerry Acheson and Susan Newlove

City Council Liaison: Deanna Rousch

Present: Eunice Abrahamsen, David Gast, Chair Randy Curtis, Steve Lorenz,  
Cassi Marshall, Dareena Stepanyuk and Katy Daane

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Approve minutes of meeting held on March 28, 2018

 [Parks Commission Minutes of March 28, 2018](#)

A motion was made by Marshall, seconded by Lorenz, and carried to accept the Parks Commission minutes of March 28, 2018 as written.

**This Minutes was approved.**

**III. MEETING ITEMS**

- A. Parks and Recreation Growth Assessment Recommendation

Curtis stated that the Park and Recreation Growth Assessment (PRGA) committee was formed in 2017 to explore funding options for the Camas parks and recreation system. After researching multiple potential funding options, the PRGA Committee has decided that a Metropolitan Park District (MPD) is the only tool identified that can commit new operating resources to the long-term support of the parks and recreation system.

Curtis stated that it's important that City Council fully understand this recommendation made by the PRGA Committee and pointed out some key considerations for them to consider. The main issue is how to continue to fund and maintain the current open space, parks and recreation programs. Currently, A significant subsidy is being funded annually by the general fund for the Parks and Recreation department. Curtis added that the operation and maintenance of parks, recreation and open space is top priority for the MPD, but additional funds can be used for capital projects.

Lorenz inquired about the funding aspect and whether there is room for negotiating. In response to Marshall, Acheson stated that the all MPD funds go

solely to Parks and Recreation. Curtis stated that capital projects have not yet been prioritized and if City Council is supportive of an MPD, they will want to know the costs associated with these projects. Curtis stated that election timing for proposing an MPD is important to success. Curtis displayed a Camas Levy rates table, showing how taxes are broken out for Camas residents. With a proposed drop in tax rates in 2019, Curtis stated that they are proposing that the ideal time to propose an MPD is April 2019.

Curtis again expressed the importance of support of the MPD from City Council. Discussion ensued on informing voters about what they are getting with an MPD. In response to Rousch, Curtis stated that staff will present the final report of the PRGA recommendation to City Council in the next couple of months.

A motion was made by Lorenz, seconded by Marshall, and carried to move to take all recommendations made by the PRGA committee on the MPD and to move this forward to City council.

**This Action Item was approved.**

B. Heritage Park

Curtis displayed a photo of a busy day at the Heritage Park parking lot. He discussed signage at the park and suggested relocating the park rules sign to make it more easily visible to the public. He suggested some alterations to the parking lot to help with parking issues.

Acheson stated that we are having a parking lot monitor enforce parking rules and suggest other swimming locations. Discussion ensued on charging fees for parking and/or boating. Gast suggested charging parking fees on weekends only. Curtis suggested putting these issues on hold until they get feedback from the parking lot monitor.

#### IV. PROJECT UPDATES

Annual Report - Curtis represented the Annual Report to City Council and thanked the Commission members for attending the meeting. Curtis focused on three specific issues at the Council workshop; MPD, Visioning of the Mill Property and discussion about the pool replacement. Curtis stated that people want to move forward with a pool but he didn't get much feedback from City Council on the progress of the pool. Rousch stated that she has interest in this topic and suggested forming an ad hoc committee on this issue. Gast stated that if a Council Member takes leadership on this issue, then others will follow.

Crown Park Master Plan - Curtis stated that the committee met recently and gave consultants direction to move forward with the plan without a pool. The consultants will be making minor changes to the current plan. Acheson stated that they will have an open house at the June parks commission meeting, they will get feedback from the meeting and Camas Days and move forward to City

Council in the fall with a Crown Park Master Plan.

## **V. OTHER ITEMS**

Lending libraries - The Rotary Club of Camas/Washougal would like to place three lending libraries at three locations: Louis Bloch Park, Heritage Park and the Camas Community Center. The Parks Commission is very supportive of this project.

Camas Cemetery Grant - Stephanie Hite in the Finance Department will apply for a grant for the Camas Cemetery to help fund a fence/gate along the front of the cemetery to reduce vandalism and break-ins.

A motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Lorenz, and carried to bring back plans for review once the grant is received for the Camas Cemetery.

Ad Hoc Sub Committee - Marshall stated that they hiked with Scott Taylor through the Summit Terrace subdivision and they are very pleased with the trail. The concerns that were brought forward by the Parks Commission were addressed along the trail.

3rd Avenue trailhead - The Water/Sewer Department is putting in a pump station at the 3rd Avenue trailhead and, in return, they will improve the parking lot and put in restrooms.

Clark County Trail Meeting - Acheson thanked Stepanyuk and Daane for showing up to the Clark County trail meeting in April.

Camas Skate Park - Rousch is working with Tim to move things along with the skate park project. She stated that Riverside Bowl is getting a lot of support through their Facebook page.

Goot Park - Stepanyuk discussed some issues in Goot Park and is wanting to help by attending assemblies in schools to discuss these issues. She feels that the educational aspect will help and Acheson suggested connecting with a student resource officer to work with them on this project.

Camas Cemetery work party - Abrahamsen stated that they had seven people attend the work party to help maintain the cemetery for Memorial Day weekend.

Ivy league - Marshall stated that they had another successful Ivy League event in May, they did not receive the grant from the Parks Foundation of Clark County.

Urban Trees Committee - Marshall stated that they have been working with the Planning commission on tree fines for taking down a tree without permission. Residents can be fined up to \$1,000 per tree.

**This was approved.**

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**If you will not be able to attend, please contact Susan Newlove at 834- 5307. Thank you.**