

Kelso Parks & Recreation Department
1606 Tam O'Shanter Way
P.O. Box 819
Kelso, WA 98626 Ph: 360-577-7119 Fax: 360-425-8503



Park Board Meeting

June 17, 2010

Call to Order:

Scott DeRosier called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at City of Kelso City Hall Council Chambers, 203 S. Pacific Ave.

Those present were as follows:

Park Board Members

Scott DeRosier
Bob Smith
Jerry Phillips

Staff

Tim Mackin, Park Superintendent
Stephanie Helem, City of Kelso

Excused Absence: Pamela Jo Enbusk

Also in attendance:

Gary Schimmel, City of Kelso City Council Member

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Jerry Phillips made the motion, seconded by Bob Smith to approve the minutes of April 15, 2010. Motion carried, all in favor.

Business:

1. **New Park Board Member** – Park Board Position No. 1 is currently vacant as James Webb is now a City Council Member. There was a general discussion on the need to fill this position and suggestions on possible candidates. The position is currently being advertised.
2. **Metropolitan Parks District Proposal** – At the June 15, 2010 Council meeting there was a PowerPoint presentation by the Summit Parks Committee regarding the possibilities of a Metropolitan Park District. The Committee recommended:

“Formation of a Metropolitan Park District within Cowlitz County known as “Five Rivers Park District” and encourage all City Councils and County Commissioners to participate. The purpose for the formation is to provide sustainable revenue for the improvement and maintenance of parks. In addition, revenue should be set aside to fund regional parks and recreation capital projects through a grant process. Furthermore, we recommend that the Hybrid structure for the Metropolitan Park District be used. “

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The Parks Board had a lengthy discussion on the benefits and disadvantages of participating in the Metropolitan Park District. The Park Board believes the issue is that of timing. First, the area is in the midst of a serious economic recession. Second, the parks budget, while very tight, is not in critical circumstances.

MOTION: Jerry Phillips made the motion, seconded by Bob Smith: "Our recommendation to the council is that we do not participate in the Metropolitan Park District." Motion carried, all in favor.

3. Tam O'Shanter Park Updates – Tim Mackin
 - a. Willis Boys Senior Project Update – The Tam O'Shanter sign should be completed and placed by the end of the week.
 - b. J.H. Kelly annual picnic is in August.
 - c. Highlander Festival is in September.
 - d. 12-Year old Regional Tournament begins July 28th.
 - e. Softball – New fences on Field 2. Two new bullpens will be complete by next Tuesday.
 - f. Would like to add eight new picnic tables in next budget.
4. Rotary Skate Park Update – Tim Mackin. Skaters continue to do a great job in keeping the park clean and policing the area.
5. AT & T/Verizon Towers – Tim Mackin
 - a. AT & T completed a 40' x 40' asphalt pad today. Brief discussion followed on the AT & T Tower money received and currently being placed in the General Fund for Parks and Recreation. Looked at the possibility of establishing a grant fund that the City would double their money by getting user groups involved. This topic was discussed at a recent council meeting and Gary Schimmel interpretation is the revenue coming in from the Towers will be directed to the Parks Department. The 2011-2012 budget will be so devastating those funds will need to be used. This issue is not tabled, just on hold until economy is better.
 - b. Verizon Wireless tower waiting on contract negotiations.
6. Rotary Spray Park – Tim Mackin
 - a. Discussed Maddie Thornton monies for new play equipment for a small children's playground. Will meet with the Rotary club to discuss and possibly matching funds.
7. Lodge Tax – General discussion on changing lodge tax money to be used for infrastructure. Research legislature regarding lodge tax infrastructure and restrictions.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott DeRosier', written over a horizontal line.

Scott DeRosier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Mackin', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Mackin