

Park Commission Meeting
May 9, 2007

Present: Sue Cann, Mike Interbartolo, Bob Christiansen, John Mercer, Bill Gardiner, Phil Friel, Tom Friel, Mike Farrell, Nick Gove, Chuck Person and Joan Bell.

I. Signing of warrants

Warrants were reviewed and signed.

II. Approval of the minutes

Motion: By John Mercer to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 28, 2007.

Second: By Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 4, 2007.

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

III. Ell Pond Drainage Project

City Deputy Engineer, John Scenna, and CDM project Manager, Ralph Souppa came before the Park Commission to present the Ell Pond Drainage Project Scope of Work. The major component of this project is the installation of a second 52" outfall pipe from Ell Pond to the City's culvert on Grove Street. The pipe will run from Ell Pond through Ell Pond Park; through the Bank of America parking; turn right onto Emerson Street; turn left onto Myrtle Street; cut across the back of Mary Foley Park and connect to the culvert in the Larrabee Parking Lot. The project is being funded in part by FEMA.

In order to complete this work the DPW will need to cross through two park areas. John's intention is to show the Commission where the Project will cross park land and what improvements the city intends to make as a result of this work. Ralph Souppa, project manager took the Commission through the project. Construction will begin in July of 2007 and conclude in July of 2008. Ralph explained the details of the project; specifically how the City can control the level of the pond.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to approve the DPW to cross over two park areas to complete their flood relief project.

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

IV. Mt. Hood Park Association

Ralph Sarni, president of the Mt. Hood Park Association, came before the Commission to update them on the Association's upcoming events and initiatives including the July 4th Band Concert and the 2007 Good Neighbor Award application.

V. Public Participation

2007 Memberships: The Park Commission received letters and calls pertaining to the change in the cut off date for Junior Memberships. The deadline for 2007 Junior Memberships was April 13, 2007; the same date as all other memberships. Several parents and junior members were in attendance to explain why they did register before the deadline and request an extension. Mike Interbartolo stated why the Commission made the change along with the new rules and regulations that have been implemented for Junior Members in 2007.

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to allow the Jr. Members who have appealed to the Commission at this meeting or who have already addressed a letter to the Park Commission, grant them memberships for the 2007 golf season. With the understanding it is a one time allowance and each membership will receive a follow up letter stating this. In the future they are responsible to make sure their applications are in on time.

Second: Mike Interbartolo

Vote: Unanimous

Rich Kirby, on behalf of his father Jim McManus, is requesting a membership. Due to a move from Clifton Pk. to East Emerson St. his father did not receive his application and missed the April 13th deadline.

Brian Wallace stated he paid his membership through a bill payment service. Mass. Golf Mgmt. LLC stated they did not receive the payment however it may have been thrown out. Mr. Wallace has documentation stating the payment was sent on March 23, 2007.

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to allow Mr. McManus and Mr. Wallace memberships for the 2007 golf season.

Second: Bill Gardiner

Vote: Unanimous

Joan will type up a list to be placed in the pro shop of the names of the people who will be allowed to purchase junior memberships for the 2007 season.

Hesseltine Field Renovation Project: Nick and Sue attended the neighborhood meeting at the Horace Mann School on May 8. Both Nick and Sue reported positive feedback from the neighborhood. The main concern is parking. The neighbors would like some consideration when scheduling games.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to proceed with the Bid Documents as specified in the conceptual plan with additional parking as an Alternate to the Bid; and for Nick to seek approval from any and all City agencies including the School Department and or Board of Alderman and to keep the Park Commission informed of any progress.

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

VI. Mount Hood Report

A. Mount Hood Operations

1. Membership list for 2007 /outstanding gift certificates for Mount Hood
Approximately 258 including tonight's additions.

2. Monthly financial report on the golf course operations

The course is down around \$60K from last year at this time.

3. Marketing Report

Soft time promo goes into effect this week; advertisements in the North Shore Golf Review and the Boston Sports review.

4. Report on general operation of golf course

a. Report on staffing levels

There are presently 8 employees on staff.

b. Copy of maintenance log and monthly certifications

A copy was submitted and is on file in the Park Office

c. Report on request for rental of club house, league play tournaments.

Nick informed the Commission that a resident who lives off the second hole had a window broken by an errant golf ball. After looking at the site, Nick was unable to determine if the ball had gone through a hole in the protective netting as the resident claimed. she claims. Nick informed the resident about the procedure she must follow to replace the window. Nick believes it is in the City's best interest to replace the net in any event. Nick will have Mass. Golf Mgmt. repair the existing hole.

Sue wanted to inform the Commission about several issues she noticed while playing in the Monday night ladies league: Five-some on the golf course; group allowed to tee-off late; group was drinking throughout their round; and no ranger. Sue wants a letter sent to the league.

B. FY 07 Mt. Hood Budget

Budget was submitted and reviewed.

C. FY 08 Mt. Hood Budget

The FY 08 budget was approved May 7 by the Board of Alderman. The City Auditor has requested that the FY08 pilot payment be put on a warrant for June.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to not sign the warrant to pay the indirect cost until the City Auditor comes before the Park Commission to discuss in detail his rationale for the dollar figure given.

No second

D. Capital Improvements

Slayton Garage is complete. Nick will bring cost estimates for fence repairs to the June meeting.

E. Mount Hood RFP.

Sue spoke with City Solicitor, David Lucas, and City Auditor, Patrick Della Russo regarding the Mt. Hood RFP. Patrick intends to give the Park Commission procurement authority for the RFP.

Bill Gardiner sent out a letter to six law firms and has received three responses. The Commission set up a meeting for May 22, 2007 to interview the candidates.

Nick has been informed by the Conservation Commission that there is a four acre parcel of land for sale that abuts Mt. Hood. The Conservation Commission is interested in purchasing this property and would like the Park Commission to partner with them on the sale. The Commission would like Nick to research the matter further.

VII. Park Department Report

A. General Park Department Report

Spring clean-up is complete. Periodic maintenance commenced this week. Babe Ruth is requesting permission to put vending machines at Morelli Field as an alternative to running the concession stand.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to deny Babe Ruth's request to put vending machines at Morelli Field.

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to request the Park Superintendent to explore other options for users of the Morelli Field Concession Stand.

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

B. FY 07 Parks Dept. Budget

Nick stated he intends to expend almost all remaining funds by the end of the fiscal year.

C. FY 08 Parks Dept. Budget

The FY 08 budget was approved by the Board of Alderman.

VIII. Recreation Department Report

A. Recreation Dept. Revolving Fund

The School Dept. has relieved the Rec. Dept. of their \$13,000 FY 06 gym invoice.

B. 2007 Park Instructors

The Recreation Department received over 50 applications for 11 positions.

Motion: By Mike Interbartolo to adjourn

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous