

**Park Commission Meeting
May 11, 2009 (amended)**

Present: Bob Christiansen, Mike Interbartolo, John Mercer, Joan Bell, Frank Olivieri, Cindy Brickley, Mike Farrell, Phil Friel and Tom Friel

I SIGNING OF WARRANTS

Warrants were reviewed and signed.

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to go to Public Participation

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Myron Dittmer, 93 Altamont Rd., Mt Hood Association President, presented the commission with an a outline of the Association's plans:

1. July 4th concert on Mt Hood Lawn. Thank you to GMC for giving the time. The mayor and former mayor are invited to be introduced at 6:45pm. The program starts at 7:00pm. It will last about 1 ½ hours and end at 8:30pm. Myron is assuming the snack bar will be open.
2. Home for the Holidays at Mt Hood is at the beginning of December.
3. Myron is working with Frank and Joan on an event for kids in September or October, eg skate and ski swap or something like that.
4. Myron is looking forward to working with Frank on a winter carnival event also.

B. Joe Sullivan, 10 Birch Hill Rd., Melrose Mirror (online publication) Reporter, is going to write a story about Mt Hood. Specifically he is looking for information about the feasibility study that is going to be done on Mt Hood and about the general financials of 2009. Joe gave Mike I. a list of information he would like to get from Joan B. Mike I. did say that the funds were encumbered 2 years ago for the feasibility study and that Joe should meet with Joan after she has a chance to get the information that he wants together.

Motion: By John Mercer to close Public Participation

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

III. RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Status Report on Revolving Fund Account FY09

Frank added a column on his budget report for scholarships as requested. Recreation has given out 13 scholarships, for a total of \$1200, since Frank has been here. The City has agreed to pay the recreation director's benefits for FY09, hence, recreation is in the black approximately \$1600.

B. General Recreation Department Report

A thank you was put in the paper for a donation received. "Assault on Mt Hood" road race is also donating \$750. Frank has not received the check yet. Appears that total expenses so far have been \$248,000 and revenue is \$242,000. Mike I. commented that the Board of Aldermen was very impressed that the new recreation director has done so well.

C. Travel Evaluations

Frank summed up the travel evaluations. Some things to work on were: all teams should use the same uniform, tryouts should be better explained, practices should only be between 7pm and 9:30pm, practices might have to be only 1hr 15 mins and not 1hr 30mins, would like to practice in the Marcoux, more games in the Middle school gym for travel, and too many kids on a team. This past season no financial aid was available for travel players. Frank would like to make financial aid available to them next year. Mike I. told Frank to write up a proposal and bring it before the Park Commission.

Mike I. requested that Frank make sure the price and practice times are specified when advertising for travel basketball.

D. MBA Evaluations

Frank's ideas for next year include advertising MBA in September, waiting until high school tryouts are over before making teams and extend MBA registration until after the travel teams are chosen. The uniforms will stay the same (reversible tank top), each team will have 10 kids per team, and the deadline for CORIs will be 30 days before the program's start date. Recreation will not have to buy all new basketballs again, which will save money. They may only use 1 official per older kid's game to save money. Playoffs may be held for the 7th and 8th grade levels as well as the H.S. level next year.

E. Summer Interviews

There have been over 70 applications for recreation summer jobs. Frank established a few more positions (5) than last summer to enable him to hire a few more kids. He Created an "Event Staff", that would set up and run events that take place at night mostly, like Neighborhood in the Parks and Class of 2022 kindergarten night. Frank has not had any applications for the head referee job. He feels this will not be a problem. Mike I. is concerned that hiring a park director that is an adult will bump a college kid from a position. Frank explained he needs someone mature in this position.

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to accept Frank's packet of summer employees and descriptions.

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

F. Tennis Program

James Renier, and the #1 tennis player at Franklin Pierce will be pairing up to run the Summer tennis program, called Quickstart. Mike I. mentioned that the tennis position James Renier was hired for should be added to Frank's packet and that is should have been voted on.

IV. MOUNT HOOD REPORT

A. Mount Hood

1. Report on membership list for 2009

Currently there are 189 members. Last year the total was 224. They are 23 juniors less than last year. This is the main reason for the drop in membership. More members may still join. The cutoff date for applications was extended until reaches 300 members.

2. Outstanding Gift Certificates

Total is \$29,000 currently, about the same as last month.

3. Monthly Financial Report on Golf Course

Golf revenue is down about \$32,000. \$25,000 of that is memberships. Food and Beverage is approx. \$98,000 this year, \$88,000 last year and \$100,000 two years ago. The weather was a little worse this year than last. Last year the function hall underwent renovations. Weekends have been straight out. And the twilight rate (after 3pm) has helped.

2009 Total Revenues:

MTD \$180,418.53

YTD \$298,704.24

4. Marketing Plan Update

No email blast has been done for Mt Hood yet. GMC did an email blast, but, it did not include Mt Hood. GMC has advertisement on WEEI for MT Hood. They have 10 – 30second spots. They also have 80 spots on internet radio and have a new website look.

5. Report on General Operations of Golf Course

a. Report on staffing

There is currently 8 staff on hand.

b. Copy of Maintenance Log and Current Certification

A copy was submitted and is on file.

c. Update on 2nd hole tree planting

Trees were planted Last Wednesday morning.

d. Update on Aeration of First Pond

Joan got 3 proposals for a fountain to help aerate and rid First Pond of algae. Malden confirmed they use the same fountain that Joan proposed to use. Malden has had theirs for 2 ½ years. They use a 5 horsepower one. Mike Ford suggests a 3 horsepower one. The cost was under the amount approved on May 1, 2009. It has been ordered. Mike I. asked about a service contract for the fountain. Joan said she will call and ask about one. Some chemicals come with the fountain. It should be received at the end of this week and up and running in the next couple of weeks.

e. Update on Feasibility Study

A kick off meeting with Beals and Thomas was held last Friday. The scope of work was discussed. The boundaries of the golf course, the compost area and Trimount were all discussed. Beals and Thomas sent minutes after the meeting to review. The next meeting will be May 22.

Beals and Thomas will come with reports. They may want to set up public meetings at the June meeting.

The main concerns that Beals and Thomas have are the traffic flow the pedestrian flow, and the golf traffic.

Mike I. believes that Beals and Thomas should also be looking to improve the golf too, so far no golfing activities have been discussed.

Phil F. asked if building improvements come under this feasibility study.

Mike I. responded that he would like to see the scope to involve everything at Mt Hood. Maybe \$50,000 of the next 3 year's \$150,000 (capital improvement money) would go towards it.

B. Report on requests for rentals of clubhouse, league play, golf tournaments

George Rogers Tournament hasn't been discussed yet.

Danny Williams Tournament is Friday August 21, 7:00am

C. FY09 Budget

No discussion

D. FY10 Budget

Last Thursday at the Board of Aldermen meeting Mike I. defended the beverage cart.

V. PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. General Park Dept. Report

Susan Murphy (conservation) is applying for grant money to do water quality testing on Ell Pond. She is looking for a letter from the Park Commission to support her.

Joan wrote a letter and showed it to DPW.

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to approve the letter written for Susan Murphy/Conservation.

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

The mosaic tiles that were voted in are going in next week. A picture was handed out They will be adjacent to the cement benches in the Knoll parking lot.

Lebanon Street Park was dedicated last Saturday to 2 Farr brothers that died at an early age.

B. Update Mowing and Maintenance Contract

The contract needs to get signed tonight. Roy and Joan have been very happy with their performance, but, need them to be a little quicker. They now have a schedule and a list of users to work with.

C. Turf Management Contract

PTS was hired.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to approve the minutes of the meeting 4/13/09 as amended.

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: By John Mercer to approve the minutes of the meeting 5/1/09.

Second: Bob Christiansen

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: By Bob Christiansen to adjourn

Second: John Mercer

Vote: Unanimous