

**Depoe Bay Parks Commission Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2013 - 5:00 p.m.
Depoe Bay City Hall**

PRESENT: Chair B. Spores, B. Hickerson, D. Metz, V. Thomas (arr 5:10 pm), K. White

ABSENT: C. Bond, J. Hayes

STAFF: City Recorder P. Murray

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman B. Spores called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 5:04 p.m.

II. APPROVE MINUTES – February 20, 2013

MOTION: Hickerson moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2013 meeting. White seconded.

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: White, Hickerson, Spores, Metz

III. PUBLIC INPUT – Skip Hoitink, speaking as a concerned citizen, presented his concerns relating to the City Park Bridge Replacement Project, including that the easement is for sewer lines, not for fire trucks; the bridge is located on silt; the bridge alignment will have to be skewed for fire truck access; upgrading the design to accommodate fire trucks increases the project cost which results in the project being over-budget. He added that at the City Council meeting last night the Council discussed adding more length and width and galvanizing to the new bridge. He suggests putting the project on hold to re-think the upgrade for vehicle access. Murray noted the grant for the project expires June 30th, but an extension to December 31st has been requested. Brief discussion ensued regarding an alternate route for emergency use. Kate Weiner and her son Matt, who are vacationing here at Bella Beach, said they were at the meeting this evening as part of classroom work for Matt.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - Owings' report (copy attached to the original of these minutes) provided information on the City Park Bridge Project, the Nature Trail Project, and the gazebo drainage work.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Selection of Commission Secretary – Meeting Minutes – Thomas said she cannot commit at this time due to her work schedule.

B. Bridge at Dam – City Park - Discussed under Public Input.

C. Nature Trail Project Report – Spores suggested holding a re-dedication event once the project is completed, which he'd like to discuss at the next meeting.

D. Signs – Stone Sign – Scenic Park – Spores reported that Hayes was not able to be here this evening due to back problems, but provided a photo of the completed stone sign (copy attached to the original of these minutes). The Old Stoners will assist with the installation when the city crew (Pogo) is scheduled to do so.

Signs - Scenic View Area (SVA) and Trail Signs – Thomas said that Bond has not contacted her for assistance on this project so she has nothing to report.

Signs - Harbor Historical Sign – White reported he has spoken with Fred Robison, who likes the idea and offered to look through his photos and review the draft narrative. He plans to meet again with Fred. Spores noted that the Commission would prepare a presentation with recommendation to the City Council for this project. It was agreed that White, Spores and Hickerson will meet with Fred to follow up.

Metz suggested using natural cedar posts cut from blow-down trees in the park for the SVA and trail signs. The trees could be cut flat to mount the signs, and could be 3 or 4 feet high once installed. Spores will speak with Owings about using downed trees in the park.

E. Memorial Bench Sites – Thomas said that a big piece of concrete has been installed by her memorial bench which is not pleasing to the eye, it is not under the bench or at ground level, you have to step up. If she had known it was going to be there she'd have gotten a plaque and put it into the concrete. She is unhappy with it and recommends the city not do that anymore. Spores said there are 3 sites left and asked if the Commission wants to

add more sites for future memorial bench purchases. Discussion followed, including: 1) let a person ordering a bench request a (any) site at the time of purchase, which then would require site approval at the Council level; 2) don't promote the memorial bench program, but consider requests for anything; 3) don't add any more sites until the existing approved sites are filled; 4) there are enough benches in town; 5) could use more benches downtown, but would need ODOT approval to place in the highway right-of-way. It was agreed to not recommend more memorial bench sites to the Council for approval at this time, and that staff will re-do the information handout for persons placing orders.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget Requests FY 2013-14 – Spores suggested including in the upcoming budget year additional benches (not memorial) downtown, surveying and improvements of SVA's (Master Plan Implementation). White suggested filling & grading in the City Park, and the harbor history interpretive sign. Thomas suggested cleaning up around the harbor (old Sea Trollers site), and park maintenance. It was clarified that the Parks Commission does not have jurisdiction over the harbor, but can go on record that cleanup is supported. Metz suggested sand for the City Park playground. It was agreed to discuss budget items further at the April meeting. Matt Weiner asked if park expansion is ongoing. Kate Weiner said she'd hiked the City Park Nature trail and thought it was beautiful.

VII. PARK COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS

Spores noted the Oregon Coast Trail Project is underway, with two sections in Depoe Bay included. Murray reported the City Council's action in sending a letter to the State voicing safety concerns regarding the trail proposed to be on Coast Avenue. Hoitink questioned if the picnic table (portable table) at Whale Park is ADA.

VIII. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Bill Spores, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder