

**Parks Advisory Committee  
January 12, 2004**

Members Present: Merle Bottge, Janet Alexander, Damien Gilbert, Emily Schue, John Rosselli, Steve Davis, and Johnny Medlin

Staff Present: Todd Winter, Loralyn Osborne and Christine Johnson

Guests Present: Howard Schussler, Asst. Public Works Director

Merle Bottge, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**I. Announcements/Agenda Modifications**

There were no announcements and one agenda modification: Bottge added election of officers to the agenda.

**II. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2003 Parks Advisory Committee Meetings**

Bottge asked that the minutes from the December 8, 2003 meeting be approved. Davis so moved, Schue seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**III. Public Comment (Maximum of 20 Minutes)**

There was no public comment at this time.

**IV. Election of Officers**

**Motion:** Schue moved that we continue with the current officers for another year (Merle Bottge as Chair, and Janet Alexander as Vice-Chair). Davis seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Winter wanted to add his compliments to the Chair and Vice-Chair for their service this past year.

**V. 2004 Marketing Plan – Loralyn Osborne:**

Loralyn Osborne distributed copies of her marketing highlights for 2003 and briefly went over them. Some of the highlights included selling season passes at two more locations this past season – at REI and Mt. Pisgah Arboretum; obtained first full color brochure for Harbor Vista Campground by Southeast Publication; and, created new pamphlet on how Lane County Parks are funded, which we try to get out to as many people as possible. Rosselli asked if there were grants available for printing brochures. Osborne said she was working on getting the Road & Rec. map reprinted either by applying for Tourism Grant funds, soliciting donations from local agencies, etc. It was suggested that she call Monaco and Marathon Coach.

Osborne next distributed copies of highlights for her 2004 marketing goals. Some of these included selling season passes on line at the Parks website. Bottge asked if we had put together statistics on how the fee collection went at Mt. Pisgah this past season. Todd stated that we hadn't put that information together yet, but felt that we probably broke even as far as revenues vs. costs incurred in implementing fee collection at this site. Bottge felt that the Board would like to see a report on this. Osborne stated that sales of Season Passes this past year were at an

all time high. Osborne said that some other marketing goals for 2004 would be to get Southeast Publications to produce a full color brochure for Baker Bay Park; creating a new handout that shows how Lane County Park revenues are spent; and develop a program to show residents and visitors how they can donate to Lane County Parks. Discussion followed regarding having a mechanism in place to track donations, including cost of maintenance and installation for certain donated items, etc. This committee felt that this was a good idea with lots of potential.

#### **VI. 2003 Accomplishments, 2004 Goals**

Winter asked if there was any additions or changes to the list of Accomplishments for 2003. Gilbert stated that we should reword item 7. regarding “secured funding” to something more appropriate. Winter moved on to Goals for 2004. Under item 2. regarding a park tour – the Committee decided they would like to tour parks in the Eugene/Springfield and surrounding areas this year. After briefly going over the rest of the goals, it was decided to add two items, one regarding supporting efforts to fund a new Parks Master Plan and two, support efforts for funding the printing of the updated Lane County Road and Rec. Map.

**Motion:** Schue moved that this Committee endorse the list of goals for 2004 as discussed. Davis seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

#### **VII. Park Manager’s Report – Todd Winter, Interim**

- **Oceanwoods Board Order -- Update:** Winter reminded everyone that we will be taking the Oceanwoods Board Order to the Board on January 21, 2004. Everyone should have received a copy of it in the mail. Christine will send copies of the Order to Roxie Cuellar with the Home Builders Assoc. as well as Kari Westlund with CVALCO. And Schue will see that the League of Women Voters get a copy. Both Bottge and Schue plan to be at the meeting to show their support and encourage anyone who can’t make, to e-mail the Commissioners regarding your support.

- **Fern Ridge Dam Repairs – Update:** Winter stated that the official word from the Corps is still keeping the water levels at 371’ for this year and next, then in 2006, draining the reservoir to do their repairs. However, rumor has it that any needed repairs can be accomplished at full pool, and draining the reservoir will not be necessary. Based on this rumor, the Board has directed us not to proceed with our participation in the private repair methodology initiated by Branch Engineering as previously instructed. Winter said that we should have an official update from the Corps by the first part of February.

- **Park Manager Interview Process/Time Frames:** The candidates for the Park Manager position will be given a brief tour of some of our parks as well as a PowerPoint presentation on Thursday, January 29, 2004. They will then be interviewed on January 30. There will also be a lunch held in the Goodson Room at Public Works from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on January 30, which will provide an opportunity for everyone to meet the candidates and ask them questions. Please let Osborne know whether or not you will be attending so we can get an accurate count for lunch.

#### **VIII. Good of the Order**

Christine reported on a slow start for our picnic reservations, which began this morning – the slowest start we have had since she started to work for parks eight years ago. She also reported that the occupancy rate at Harbor Vista Campground was at an all time high this past year at 50.5%. However the occupancy rate at Richardson was down several percentage points to 41.6% from the previous seasons 46.4%.

Rosselli had a question regarding the sewage lagoons at Fern Ridge and where they were on our repair list. He felt that the repair of this system should be at the top of our list. Winter assured him that it was and that they monitor it every day. They had been having a problem with ground water infiltration of the system and so they shut down the line from the Caretakers residence, which will save over 100,000 gallons a month from going into the lagoons.

**IV. Adjournment:**

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by Christine Johnson, Secretary