

**Parks Advisory Committee
September 8, 2003**

Members Present: Merle Bottge, John Rosselli, Johnny Medlin, and Janet Alexander

Members Absent: Damien Gilbert, Emily Schue, and Steve Davis

Staff Present: Rich Fay and Christine Johnson

Guests Present: Ollie Snowden, Public Works Director and Howard Schussler, Asst. Public Works Director

Merle Bottge, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. Announcements/Agenda Modifications

There were no announcements and three additions to the agenda regarding the slip fees at Fern Ridge Reservoir, a discussion of the PAC By-Laws, and Mushroom Show staffing. Also, item IV. regarding the Friends of Buford Park 2004 Grant Proposals was removed from the agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes – May 12, and August 11, 2003 Parks Advisory Committee Meetings

Bottge stated that the minutes from the May 12, and August 11, 2003 meetings stand as approved.

III. Public Comment (Maximum of 20 Minutes)

There was no public comment at this time.

IV. Picnic Reservation Policy Review

Fay distributed a copy of a Picnic Reservation Comparison Survey. Fay said that he received a request from a gentleman who wanted to reserve a picnic shelter for next year. Lane Code currently states that we begin taking reservations the second Monday in January for the current season only. The Comparison Survey shows that four out of the five agencies surveyed also take reservations for the current year only. The exception was Josephine County who use an 11- month rolling calendar. The pros and cons of this system were discussed including not having information on the number of reservations the other agencies process. Fay said that the County was working on on-line registrations/permits for all the departments and Parks is looking at including picnic and campsite reservations. Further discussion followed, including timing of any changes made, needing to be more flexible in the future, and that any changes made to the current process will need to go before the Board. Christine Johnson, who currently handles the picnic reservations, wished to make her wishes known. Christine likes the current system and would prefer not having to take reservations year round because as the season winds down near the end of August or first of September, she has time to start wrapping up the current season, take care of other work that couldn't be done during the summer, and then start getting ready for the next season. She would rather we wait until we have the on-line capability and then make all the necessary changes at once with time to inform past users and market all the new changes. Ollie Snowden stated that IS would probably not be ready to provide on-line services in time for next season, but should have a better time frame possibly by the next PAC meeting.

V. **Park Manager's Report (A written Park Manager's Report was distributed and briefly discussed.)**

- **Richardson Picnic Shelter:** Staff has set aside the next five weeks to work on installing the decking at the shelter.
- **Munsel Lake State Marine Board Grant:** The OSMB has awarded us a grant to install a CXT concrete toilet at Munsel Lake.
- **Perkins Peninsula SMB/ODFW Grant:** We also were awarded grants from both the OSMB and ODFW to replace the boat ramp and install accessible boarding and transient docks at Perkins Peninsula.
- **Seasonal Revenues:** Staff will be putting together some revenue figures for the next meeting.
- **FY 02-03 Budget:** The Parks Division realized a positive cash balance at the end of the fiscal year.
- **Herbicide Use at Blue Mt.:** Dan Green is currently collecting quotes for the spraying of herbicides in the timber area at Blue Mt.
- **Fern Ridge Dam Repair Update:** The Army Corps of Engineers announced that they have some interim measures for Fern Ridge and will be able to raise the water levels next year higher than anticipated – possibly 371'. Full pool is 375'. They will be holding a meeting on September 17, 2003 at Harris Hall to give out more information. Davis had e-mailed Fay regarding possibly altering how we rent moorage slips to accommodate this. It was suggested that we wait and see what happens this winter and spring with the weather. Medlin suggested that we find out when the water level will be at 371' as the Corps begins its annual fall draw down and take pictures for added perspective during future discussions.
- **Mushroom Show Staffing:** Loralyn Osborne asked for volunteers to help man the Parks Divisions booth at the annual Mushroom Show out at the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum on October 26, 2003. She was looking at two-hour shifts and the show runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. She will bring a sign up sheet to the next meeting.
- **PAC By-Laws:** Bottge pointed out that there are a couple of changes needed in our by-laws. Clarification on the number of terms each member can serve as well as rewording the part that tells the date and time of our meetings—possibly change it to be more general than specific. It will then need to be taken to the Board for approval. It was also decided to go back to the 5:30 p.m. meeting time for the next meeting, instead of the 6:30 p.m. meeting time we have been doing.

VI. **Good of the Order**

Rosselli had several questions: 1) The possibility of going out for another GO Bond. Fay said that it was pretty much on hold right now. 2) Where are we at on the two-acre parcel of land on the McKenzie near the Goodpasture Bridge. Ollie Snowden said that the appraised amount was not acceptable to the seller. Instructed Frank Simas to go back with another bid but have not heard back whether this amount is acceptable or not. May have to approach her and find out if she understands the new bid or if she's even willing to sell to us and what is her bottom line price. Then go back to the Board to see if they are willing to pay that amount. 3) Patio RV negotiations. Fay said that the owner has changed the conditions of the sale from his original proposition. Also the condition of the park is not good and would require a lot of changes/upgrades that we don't have the funds to do. The seller also has not provided enough information regarding his expenses and revenues. 4) Where are we at regarding the Ocean Woods property? Fay said that this is ongoing. He is planning a trip over to look at the property. The City of Florence is also looking at the other 160-acre parcel that the County owns as a possible location for their water wells.

Bottge asked where things are at with the Friends of Buford Park and the channel opening. Fay and Snowden said that things are held up in the permit process. They are working with Land

Management to acquire the greenway and floodplain permits and it could be the end of September or longer depending on the response from the public to this project. FBP will also be bringing some more grant requests to this Committee for consideration. Fay said that there will be some changes in the grant process to allow for Public Works to bid on any of their contracts.

Rosselli added that we will need to think about election of officers for the next year. It should be done at the December meeting. Also, it's time to think about the 2003 accomplishments and the goals for 2004. Fay said he would need time to put these together.

VII. Adjournment:

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by Christine Johnson, Secretary