City of Covington
Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

February 17, 2016
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER
Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

ROLL CALL
Chair Laura Morrissey, Vice Chair Bryan Higgins, Conni Elliott, George Tomalik, Lisa Knapton, Justin Reed, Troy McIntyre

EXCUSED

UNEXCUSED

CITY STAFF PRESENT
Ethan Newton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The Agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The minutes for January were unanimously approved as submitted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
NA

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Election of Parks & Recreation Commission Officers** – The Commission met our new member Justin Reed. He grew up in the Covington area, works in Issaquah, and has been a volunteer coach for Covington athletics. The Commission unanimously reelected Laura Morrissey as Commission Chair, Bryan Higgins as Vice-Chair, and Conni Elliott as Secretary.

2. **Earth Day/Arbor Day Planning** – April 22nd is the day that Angie will be doing the Earth/Arbor Day event at Jenkins Creek Elementary. She will be joined by a representative of Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and will plant trees in Jenkins Creek Park. The saplings will be purchased using a grant. Ethan will provide more details they emerge in the next 2 meetings.

3. **Covington Community Park Playground Planning** – CM Higgins brought up his thoughts about the Phase 2 inclusion of a playground in CCP. He wants the CM to begin thinking about the design of a playground and advised the size of the playground will be approximately 5-6 times the size of the council chambers. Ethan will check to see about what phase the proposed tot lot was designated for. The CM wanted background on the square footage of the area and the budget for the playground. CM Higgins will contact the playground manufacturers to schedule presentations for the March PR Commission meeting. The CM will tour parks on a day when the group is available.

4. **Revisiting the Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan** – Ethan suggested that the CM consider revising the PR Strategic Plan. He brought several copies of strategic plans; including the one that was adopted by the Council in 2006. The Strategic Plan is a tool for governance, public communication, and administration for day to day operation of the Parks & Recreation Department. Staff will start working on the revision and submit to CM for review and comment.

STAFF REPORT

- Aquatics—Ethan reviewed the Sweetheart Swim; there are extra swims, including over 500 visitors yesterday alone. The pool is closed for maintenance next week, February 22-26. We will be replacing the natatorium lighting with LED lighting sometime before summer. The room addition
project is moving forward, going through legal and staff review.

- Athletics – busy with basketball season.
- Arts Commission – they are preparing for the Student Art Show. They have almost 900 pieces of art that will be spread out across city locations.
- No Child Left Inside Grant – we submitted a proposal for a grant for a Teen Adventure Camp.
- Marketing Retreat – department staff are having a marketing retreat in March update the marketing plan.
- Gerry Crick Skate Park – Angie will be working with the local schools to solicit input on the remodel of the skate park.
- SoCo Park – Ethan and Angie are working on property acquisition.
- The PRePAC continues to meet; they will be providing a report to the Commission in June.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Laura asked about the WRPA conference agenda and any programs for Parks Commissioners. Ethan stated that there really isn’t any kind of session dedicated to CM, and no reduced fee for breakout sessions; a one day pass is $200.
- Troy asked about the status of purchasing the Seahorse sculpture at the Aquatic Center. Laura stated that there is a donation box at the Aquatic Center.
- Bryan stated that the park in Kent that he mentioned is at 116th Avenue SE and SE 216th Street.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Conni Elliott
Secretary, Parks and Recreation Commission