

SWNI Parks Committee Meeting  
October 6<sup>th</sup> 2016  
MAC Room 4  
7688 SW Capitol Hwy  
Portland, OR 97219

Committee Chair: Fran Laird  
Ashcreek: Dave Manville  
Bridlemile: Steve Mullinax  
Collins View: Brendan McGillicuddy  
Hillsdale: Don Baack  
Homestead: Susan Egnor  
Maplewood: Jill Gaddis  
Markham: Michael Murphy

**Meeting called to order:**

**Approval of September minutes and October agenda:**

Don made motion to approve September minutes and October agenda, seconded by Dave. Vote taken, all in attendance approved minutes and agenda.

**Answers to questions raised from September meeting, Rachel Felice, PP&R email.**

**1. Gabriel Park off leash signage.**

No current progress on signs posting the PP&R Ranger number near dog off leash areas.

**2. Albert Kelly update by Steve,**

Plans are to replace the Whirly while currently there is no money to replace the slide. Individuals in the Neighborhood is interested in moving process forward, due to strong interest in having a functional playground in the community. Possible fundraising. Problem of playground equipment needing replaced due to lead paint issues is a city wide issue. Rachel Felice email stated that the cost of a new swing set would be \$20k and \$10k to fix, lead removal. Process of lead removal can possibly effect the structural integrity of equipment, could result in waste of money if equipment becomes unusable. PP&R has hired a certified risk assessor to go to each park and inventory equipment in need for replacement. Once all the data is collected, PP&R will evaluate overall need and ability of Dept. to address replacement needs. Due to shortages in funding for parks, it is possible for PP&R to reach out to NA for funding.

**Jill G.** in the past a company replaced just the slide portion of equipment.

**Fran L.** \$125k estimate to replace playground equipment in Marshal Park

**Steve M.** will be getting groups together to address the issue to playground equipment needing replaced, collaborating to find a alternative rout to addressing the issue to replacing playground equipment with lead paint. Pre 1980 equipment.

**Dave M.** park equipment replacement is a issue to address through the budget process  
Albert Kelly update, 150 ft of trail put in.

**3. Foley Ballmer Bridge,** Parks is preparing dismantled the bridge in addition to Marshal bridge, is included in a large list of maintenance backlog.

#### **4. Spring Garden Park Neighborhood Meeting update**

**Fran L.** provided handouts from meeting. Stated there was a good turnout where PP&R provided 3 options. The comment period expired on the 5<sup>th</sup>, the majority of the individuals in attendance were in support of the options provided.

Small-cemented slab for an amphitheater is intended to be a community space, while there are concerns of homeless issues related to it.

Commissioner and directors ruling will be available at the end of October.

Committee had questions on orientation of amphitheater, positioning at the top or bottom of the hill.

#### **5. April Hill Park Update**

Jill G. one of the trails has started, footing for a bridge and a boardwalk have been poured. Hydrologist report has been sent to neighborhood members  
Neighborhood interest in working parties to replant in the wetland and have sedges replaced. Not sure what to do about reed canary grass that became a issue about 9 years ago with the cutting down of trees. Contractor has removed sycamore maples. Ribbon Cutting ceremonies options favorable by NA in Feb, with inclusion of pancake breakfast, crafts, tribes drumming and other events while BES is interested in April date, concerns revolve around events such as soccer games in parks at that time. Interest in Parks Committee reviewing stewardship agreements.

Don is interested in check list on website.

#### **6. River View Natural Area ie Terwilligar Park**

**Brendan M.** since the development of bringing Mt bikers into the park, illegal activity still persists from multiple user groups, within the last 1.5 years NA has informed PP&R of Issues of homeless camping.

BES is performing ecological survey, Invasive species irradiation best practices.

Powers Marine Park, trash heaps and homeless camping has become a large issue.

Waiting to see what happens with stewardship agreement.

Inventoried city properties- to ascertain how they would accommodate Mt biking, ie forest park and Riverview has become natural areas of concern. The process of putting trails in would require a type II and III review. Riverview consist of 146 acres. A no ivy day 29<sup>th</sup>

**Michel M.** Paulette Bierzychudek Prof PSU performing studies over in Mitten, Riverview cemetery portion of the property looking at comparative study of ivy growth

**Brendan M.** NA did not receive grant from Metro, Parks would have stopped grand if it was received due to not following PP&R process and going through PP&R Grant person.

#### **New Business: Budget Advisory Committee, Steve Mullinax**

PP&R budget process coming up, December and January meetings with public outreach possibly including surveys. Possibly meeting four times, BAC will not review the whole Park Budget with Mayors Guidelines to find items to be added and cut from the Parks Budget and prioritizing items. Budget review to be grounded in priorities and parks system plan.

***Orientation will provide BAC with Bureaus mission of:***

-Sustaining a health parks and recreational system

- Make Portland a great place to live, work and play
- Safe places and facilities that promote physical mental and social activity
- Getting kids outside active and connected to the community
- Increase wellness and livability of the city
- Establishing and safeguarding parks natural resources and urban forests
- Developing and maintaining excellent facilities and places for public recreation
- Providing dynamic programs and services
- Partnerships with community

***Parks strategic plan focus on near term***

- Addressing existing maintenance needs and park infrastructure
- Closing service level gap so all Portlanders have access to parks and facilities

Last years budget, 268 m needed for major maintenance needs vs budget. Budget down 20% over the last couple of years. Major labor settlement and PERS will have impact on budget

Items on Parks replacement bonds will be allocated towards park maintenance - 68m  
 In comparison to overall need would be a small impact on maintenance needs.  
 Strategic plan contributing elements: health, recreation, services, trails, access and equity, asset management, and sustainability

**Budget Values, PP&R is committed to:**

- Provide equitable services and programs, and welcome all members of our community, including those who are underserved due to ethnicity, income, age or ability.
  - Protect our ability to provide a safe environment, facilities and programs for our community and employees.
  - Maintain our ability to implement our Strategic Plan and Parks 2020 Vision.
  - Maximize our ability to provide service through leveraging partnerships and revenue generation, so that limited General Funds can help meet other values.
  - Take care of our buildings, parks and natural areas before they require major investment or replacement.
  - Preserve our ability to provide basic levels of service in our most core programs by making the difficult decisions to reduce or eliminate less core activities.
  - Support programs that foster volunteerism and build relationships that help build community, expand program offerings and maintain natural areas and parks
- Concerns over private investment ie branding and charging of fees for use- revenue generation.

Question raised on how core priorities and values are established. No definite answer.

BAC discussing and prioritizing lists of packages

Examples of past years

1. budget committee prioritizes packages
2. parks staff- evaluate and provide recommendation of priorities
3. BAC writes letter to council and Mayor.

Committee expressed appreciation of timely fashion/ allowed time to prepare list of priorities by community members

**List of values to address with BAC:** additions and cuts, including rational.

-Lack of use of available volunteers

-Interest in the creation of a coalition of parks, OHSU, PBOT, BES to address Urban Trail 1 Whittaker from Barbur and Terwilliger for the construction of a functional trail meeting ADA requirements up to OHSU. Views it as an issue of accessibility or lack of.

### **Neighborhood Report**

**Steve M** issues with trees at Hillsdale Park. Suggestions of contacting forestry dept.

**Jill G** budget issue, need for sanitation/ restroom facilities at all parks year round.

-Committee expressed interest in benchmark data sets on comparable cities in relation to PP&R budget.

**Susan E** Whittaker St trail, no ivy day, Parke Diem

**Don B.** Albert Kelly Park, ask for ADA access over the stream (day lighted) along with bridge in Folly Ballmer and Marshal Park. Budget issue, utilizing volunteers.

**Brendan M.** Interest in further information on PP&R criteria for prioritization.

**Dave M.** Interested in utilization of Google Docs as a index of documents. Encourages Committee to look at the friends list, and

**Michael M:** need for the utilization of volunteers

**Meeting Adjourned:**

**Next Meeting:**

November 3<sup>rd</sup>

MAC