



# Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

## Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: June 23, 2021

Time: 6PM

Location: Virtual Meeting

### In Attendance

Committee Members: Carl Nelson, Tricia Lance, Nanda Siddaiah

Staff: Keith Watson (Community Programs Manager), Gery Keck (Design & Development Manager)

Board Liaison: New board liaison not yet assigned

Guests: N/A

Absent: Ken Ratterree (Chair), Michael Reidel, Alaka Sarangdhar, Tiago Zuccari, Kristen Abele

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at: 6:05 PM
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the May 2021 meeting were presented to the committee and approved as written.
- III. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment
- IV. **New Business**
  - Wishcamper Development Park System Update (Gery Keck, Design & Development Manager): Gery provided a presentation to the committee on the development plans for parks in the South Cooper Mountain area around Mountainside High School. Gery shared concept plans for three parks within Blackbird Farms, a 32-acre urban neighborhood site. While Main Street Park was a review of an already approved plan, concepts for Park A and Park B were shared for feedback by the committee.

**Park A:** Gery shared the concept for this park and highlighted an open lawn area, play equipment, shelter, and future trail head access. At about .5 acres, Gery noted that the design was size appropriate and allows for multiple uses. The committee members reviewed this concept and, after a brief discussion, gave their approval of the design.

**Park B:** Gery shared the design provided by the developer and expressed that our internal design team felt it was too similar to Park A. This prompted his team to develop three alternate site concepts for which he was seeking feedback from the committee. The three concepts took high-ranking ideas/priorities from THPRD's visioning effort and tried to incorporate them into the park amenities. Details below:

#### Nature Play:

- Nature theme option with play areas composed of natural materials like boulders and logs or manufactured play elements – requires fall zone protection.
- On-ground areas where kids can use their imagination to build things with sticks and limbs. Includes drinking fountain, trash can, seating.
- ALL play areas would have an accessible path.
- Highlights: Reduce water consumption and grass maintenance, natural setting in highly urban area, ½ day camps.

### Dog Run:

- Dog Run option with a fenced dog run area that is approx. 50' x 180', just under 10,000 SF.
- Divided into two spaces for large and small dogs. Bark mulch surface, pet/people drinking fountain and possible shelter.
- Would include some grass and seating outside the fence.
- Highlights: Reduce water consumption and grass maintenance, a dog run in highly urban area, complements Park "A" which is designed for families and kids.
- Gleaning garden concept included.

### Fitness Park:

- Fitness Park option that could be composed of a fitness course and individual fitness stations surrounded by bark mulch, trees and modest grass area.
- Includes drinking fountain, trash receptacle, seating.
- Highlights: Reduce water consumption and grass maintenance, a fitness amenity in highly urban area, close to senior housing. Gleaning garden concept would be appropriate for this park.

Committee members reviewed all three concepts and discussed pros/cons of each design. The dog run and fitness designs garnered the most support. Members felt with the Winkleman dog park nearby that a dog run may not be the top priority. They liked the idea of a park dedicated to fitness and supported the gleaning garden concept. Following discussion, the committee supported the fitness design as their top choice. Gery thanked the committee for their feedback and noted that the concept would be refined and taken to the Board of Directors this summer/fall for approval.

- Park Tour Ideas: The committee discussed options for park tours and agreed to focus on three sites for the summer: Pio Pio Park, Somerset West Park, and Unity Park. Gery offered to have a Design & Development staff member join the tour to talk about the design and construction of each site. Keith noted that he would work with Gery to schedule. The committee agreed on a weekday evening timeframe and thought we could visit all three sites in one tour. Keith indicated he would develop some potential dates for the group to consider. July or August would be the target months.
- Challenge Grant Discussion: Keith brought an idea to the group to consider partnering with a scout volunteer to assist with the installation of seating areas/benches within our two newest dog runs (Schiffler Park and Jackie Husen Park). The idea would be to recruit a scout who is working on their Eagle Scout project, have the scout work with the committee on project details at a future meeting, draft a funding request to the Joint Advisory Committee for Challenge Grant funds to purchase the benches, and then have the scout work with our maintenance team on the logistics and installation. The scout would then provide a wrap-up presentation to the committee. Carl questioned whether the project would qualify, as typically the scout needs to fundraise for their projects and recruit family or volunteers to help. Keith thought there were aspects of the project that would still qualify and that he would check with our Volunteer Service Specialist. **\*\*Follow up** - Keith checked with staff and they indicated this project would qualify as there could still be a fundraising and leadership component... and the scout could recruit labor for the installation work. Keith will follow up with committee in July with more details.

## **V. Old Business**

- There was no discussion on old business

## **VI. Wrap Up**

- Tricia inquired about THPRD's offering of cricket programs and suggested THPRD offer a "learn to play" event... possibly as a part of a summer event. Keith indicated he would pass this information along to our

Sports department and explained that we do have two affiliated cricket groups at THPRD who would be good to partner with on this type of event.

- Carl inquired whether THPRD provided pickleball nets at Cedar Hills Park. Keith said he would follow up with our Sports department and get this information for Carl.

**VII. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 21, 6pm (Joint Advisory Committee Meeting)

Meeting adjourned at: 7:05PM

Minutes submitted by,

Keith Watson, THPRD staff