



## **Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

### **Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Date: February 17, 2021**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Location: Virtual Meeting**

#### **In Attendance**

Committee Members: Ken Ratterree (Chair), Carl Nelson, Tricia Lance, Tiago Zuccari

Staff: Keith Watson (Community Programs Manager)

Board Liaison: Wendy Kroger

Absent: Nanda Siddaiah, Kristen Abele, Alaka Sarangdhar, Michael Reidel

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at: 6:05PM
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the January 2021 meeting were presented to the committee. Carl indicated a few missing topics in the goals section and that Tricia (not Carl) made the motion to retain committee roles for 2021. These edits were made, and the committee moved to approve the minutes.
- III. **Public Comment:** No public comments were received
- IV. **New Business**
  - Reopening Updates: Keith gave an update on the THPRD facility reopening schedule based on Washington County moving from the Extreme Risk category to the High-Risk category on February 12. Tricia asked if this would impact the use of BSD fields for sports and Keith indicated that THPRD still does not have use of fields on BSD property. He noted that he will continue checking in with Sports staff and provide an update when available. Carl also asked about the recent issues with the THPRD online payment system and Keith indicated this was an issue with our payment vendor and staff was working with them to remedy.
  - Goals of the Committee for 2021: The committee continued the conversation around goals for 2021.
    - The committee agreed that continuing efforts toward expanding off-leash areas for dogs would remain a goal. The dog agility concept was put on hold until the March meeting as Kristen was unable to attend the meeting and was going to provide her research on equipment.
    - Keith shared information he had received from Liana regarding community visioning and how she planned to engage the committee in 2021. This includes: maintaining the PFAC as a touch point during planning of each park (ie: input on developing a site theme and a site name, sharing and discussing technical aspects of each park, and review and input on the names catalog project). *(Keith shared the link to the Community Vision Action Plan on February 25 and will include discussion on the plan in future meetings).*
    - Keith presented the idea of looking at the Jenkins Estate Concept Plan for the group to evaluate whether there might be some options for goals. He mentioned a specific project related to sitting and gathering spaces that he thought might make a good goal for 2021. The group also mentioned perhaps improving signage around the demonstration garden and the Rhododendron and Azalea garden areas. Keith indicated he would share the plan with the committee via email for their review.

*(Keith shared the Jenkins Estate Concept Plan on February 25 for the group to review prior to the next meeting).*

- Tricia introduced the idea of working toward recognizing different interests around the district through multi-cultural outreach. She shared an idea about a cultural garden with dedicated spaces to represent different countries around the world. She also mentioned the sport of Cricket and how we have many community members who play and many who don't even know what it is. She suggested perhaps a Learn to Play Cricket event that could tie into the upcoming Olympics. Keith explained that the district is, in fact, engaged in multi-cultural outreach with several local groups and that perhaps a presentation from our outreach staff at an upcoming meeting would be a good way to continue the conversation. *(Keith shared a link with the committee on February 25 which details all of the work being done at THPRD aimed at inclusion and multi-cultural outreach)*
- Ken indicated that he would still be interested in pursuing installing outdoor workout equipment in a park. This would provide a free option for community members to work out in a local park. Keith will investigate the equipment cost and project scope at Vistabrook Park and report back to the group.
- Staff Presentation for 2021: Keith asked the committee if they would like to continue with staff presentations at the meetings as this seemed to be a popular agenda item in years past. Members indicated they liked the presentations to hear what staff are doing and learn more about the innerworkings of THPRD. Future presentation could include highlighting staff who are top performers, large capital projects, and eventually visiting sites for informational field trips. Keith indicated he would reach out to staff and try and get some key presentations on the agenda in 2021.

## **V. Old Business**

- Dog Run Site Review: Keith shared with the committee that he had met with Planning staff to review the dog run proposals at Ridgewood Park and AM Kennedy Park. He explained that Planning staff indicated the city approval process is rather lengthy and the costs are significantly more than anticipated. Keith apologized to the group as he thought the work that was done to update the city code for the Schiffler Park dog run could be applied to any new dog runs moving forward. But, the city requires the same process for any "new use" at individual parks. There was a discussion about "new use" and whether it was actually "new use" or if we were simply trying to manage existing use. Keith shared that we are committed to these two sites this year and that we will work with the city to encourage them to update their code. But, if we aren't successful, that any future dog park/run recommendations will be outside of the city in unincorporated county parks. The committee asked how they could help as this seems to be impacting members of the community and it is clear that additional spaces for dogs to play off leash are needed within city limits. The committee offered to submit a letter to the city in support of updating their code. Keith indicated he would check with the management team and report back to the committee.

## **VI. Wrap Up**

- Ken asked about the status of the historical sign project that the committee had worked on in 2019. Wendy indicated that the work was passed along to the Communications team as the district looked to expand upon historical research of indigenous populations in our area.

## **VII. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 6pm**

Meeting adjourned at: 8:10PM

Minutes submitted by,  
Keith Watson, THPRD staff