



Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting
Date: May 25, 2022; Time: 6:00 PM
Location: via Zoom

In Attendance

Committee Members: Carl Nelson (Chair), Nanda Siddaiah (Secretary), Nisha George, Jane Leo, Jacqui Orenda-Weber, Erica Soto

Staff: Keith Watson (Support Services Manager); Brenda Peterson, Office Tech

Board Liaison: Alfredo Moreno

Absent: Kristen Abele, Carla Fennel, Alaka Sarangdhar

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Carl Nelson at 6:00 pm.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the April 2022 meeting were emailed to the committee. Jane Leo moved to accept the minutes as written and seconded by Nanda Siddaiah. Approved unanimously.
- III. **Public Comment:** No public comment was received.
- IV. **Welcome/ Member Check-In**
 - ✓ Carl visited a park in the Hillsboro area.
 - ✓ Nisha said her park tour plan has been hijacked by her kids being sick. She commented on Mom what's next? <https://www.instagram.com/momwhatsnextpdx/> – posts reviews on Instagram about parks in the Portland metro area.
 - ✓ Jane was curious about how Foege is oddly split park. Keith noted that it may have been part of design of the park on one side and connecting trail along the roadway. She recommended visiting the ADA playground at Gabriel Park off of SW Vermont and SW 45th in SW Portland.
 - ✓ Keith attended a workshop at Hidden Creek new recreation facility in Hillsboro. It was a really beautiful space for meeting and recreating.
 - ✓ Alfredo visited Evelyn Schiffler Park yesterday with his daughter. In light of tragedy, he found peace in seeing elementary children play together.
 - ✓ Jacqui visited Commonwealth Lake Park for the first time; site was busy and watched fishing.
- V. **New Business**
 - A. ADA Transition Plan Update: Keith shared a presentation (previously presented at the last Board work session [and can be found in a recording on YouTube for recall if desired]).
 1. Questions/Comments
 - a. Erica commented on the good work and the wide range of barriers to address.
 - b. Jacqui agreed and added comments on going beyond the change and providing universal access to engage more visitors.
 - c. Nisha also agreed to the previous comments and noted that these updates also remove barriers for young children not only those with disabilities. She also asked about what goes into a creating a bond measure...Keith provided a broad description of what might happen...large community effort in building a package.
 - d. Jane asked if THPRD was part of the property tax compression restrictions for bond measures? Keith will find some information on the topic. Jane also asked about Metro's survey on transportation grants which might be available? Keith noted that THPRD does work with Metro on grants and will find out more about current

discussions and projects. He will try to schedule our grant specialist to attend one of our upcoming meetings.

- e. Nanda asked about sharing costs with the city on sidewalks [and curb cuts] to the parks. Keith noted that typically property owners are responsible for their sidewalks. If there is a park within the city boundaries, it's possible that there could be a shared project.

VI. Old Business:

A. Community Garden IGA

1. The District's Board of Directors approved the IGA with the City of Beaverton at their last meeting. The two sites will become part of the THPRD community garden inventory.

B. Tennis Presentation Follow Up

1. At the last meeting there was discussion about adding lighting to a couple of tennis courts in parks...to get power to the site ~\$50,000 and ~\$100,000+ to add the lights and structures (using general costs from Cedar Hills Park project). Private donors could be a possibility.
2. Next steps to identify possible sites on the south part of the district as there are already some courts with lights in the north part of the district. Keith will have Nanda work with staff in the sports department.
3. Carl asked if the monthly costs were known? And what about portable lighting to try for the summer?

C. Challenge Grant Ideas (deadline for finalizing proposals is approximately September for FY2023 budget)

1. Erica proposed some additional all-inclusive play areas elements. Disc swing like at Harvest Playground ~\$9,000 and installation costs (possible \$9,000 too). And/or shade options would be a little more affordable, kite shading option. See attached document.
2. Nisha wondered about exclusive use with playground vendors and possible discounts. Keith said the district does work with repeat vendors and will follow up with other ideas. Nisha mentioned that Google maps show park use and will give an update at our next meeting.
3. Carl asked about identifying parks or if there were any current developing parks where we could add ADA or special elements like in the attached proposal idea. Keith will work with the park supervisors and working with design staff on options.
4. Jane wondered about putting elements like this in high use parks. Keith confirmed; we can also refer to Nisha's research on park use.
5. Carl reported that Kristin provided information on adding dog agility elements to our dog parks with grant dollars. Keith noted there might be some opportunities when Ridgewood's dog run is open.

VII. Wrap-up

- A. Jacqui asked about a response to the death of the student found near Barrows Park. Alfredo confirmed that there was a moment of silence at the Board meeting and Keith will follow up with the Communications department.
- B. Jane wanted to know if anyone monitors comments online about parks? Keith noted that direct comments to the THPRD website are always addressed, but it's sometimes hard to know where to look for other social media comments. Keith recommended that any comments seen can have a reply with the link to our website (Carl put the link in our chat). Keith will forward the comment regarding the swing height variations at Center Street Park to site staff.
- C. Carl mentioned that anyone interested; applications for the Audit Committee are due May 31st.
- D. Next meeting: June 14, 2022 (6pm)

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brenda Peterson, THPRD staff

THPRD Community Grant Proposal: prepared and submitted by Erica

The Problem:

"Most playgrounds aren't designed for everybody— especially kids and families experiencing disability, and that's a problem. Far too often, they leave these vital members of our communities on the sidelines. They're inaccessible to caregivers. They lack nature. They don't spark the imagination; even kids who can access them become quickly bored. Most of all, they don't allow everyone to play together."- Harper's Playground

The Opportunity:

Christy is a mom of three children. Her youngest, June, was born with a genetic disorder that limits her mobility. Because of this, she is wheelchair bound. She is also non-verbal, so communication is challenging for them sometimes. Recently, the family explored Harper's Playground and enjoyed the afternoon playing on the disc swing. It was the first time their entire family was able to share in the amenities of the park together. The entire family piled on to the disc swing with June right in the middle. June was all smiles and making happy noises the entire time. When Christy recounts this moment, she is teary eyed and hopeful that more parks will incorporate inclusive play elements into all of our local parks in the future so kids like June can play together with friends and family regardless of their ability.

Swings available on: <https://playgroundsandshade.com>



Inclusive Team Swing with Green Seat

\$8,407.65

Inclusive Team Swing with Green Seat



Bird's Nest Tripod Swing Multi-person Swing

\$4,998.75

The Bird's Nest Tripod Swing is a commercial grade playground solution offering some of the best play value for limited investment. The heavy-duty plastic seat connects to the top rail with commercial grade rope and fittings. Multiple children (up to four) will enjoy swinging, laying, or sitting on the Bird's Nest Tripod Swing. The standard yoke color is red.

Shade coverings available on: <https://playgroundsandshade.com>



Square Hip Shade, Steel Frame Shade Structures

16x16 10' Height -SURFACE MOUNT - WITH GLIDE- SQUARE

\$5,472.85



2-BAY W/SHADE Swing with Shade - Integrated Shade - Swings with built-in Shade

\$6,338.28

Consider adding a shaded swing set to your play area in order to increase participation and overall patron experience. All swing seats and chains sold separately.

*Quotes are for cost of products only. Installation fees not included in listed pricing.

Hello team,

As a follow up to our conversation yesterday regarding inclusive parks and upcoming THPRD initiatives, I thought this resource might be a great way to more deeply engage in this important conversation:

<https://www.harpersplaygroundhowtoworkshop.org>

Harper's Playgrounds is hosting this great workshop in the fall to learn more regarding planning "radically inclusive" playgrounds. I am considering attending. This would be a great opportunity to also have others attend from our committee, the board or any THPRD staff who would be overseeing these types of initiatives. Since it's so close to home, it's convenient and more affordable. Would others also be interested in attending?

Thanks, Erica