



## **Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes August 16, 2023 6PM**

### **In Attendance**

**Committee Members:** Nisha George (Chair), James Terwilliger, Hilary Blum, Carolina Martins, Kate Nelson, Jane Leo, Jacqui Orenda-Weber

**Staff:** Keith Watson (Support Services Manager), Cameron Hall (Park Maintenance North Supervisor), Tim Bonnin (Senior Park Planner)

**Board Liaison:** Alfredo Moreno (outgoing), Miles Palacios (incoming)

**Absent:** Nanda Siddaiah (Secretary), Erica Soto

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - Keith called meeting to order at 6:05pm
2. **Approval of Minutes from July 2023**  
Jane moved to approve  
James seconded, Team agreed  
Approved as Published
3. **Public Comment**  
No public comment
4. **Introduction: Board of Directors Liaison: Miles Palacios**
  - a. New Board liaison - Miles Palacios (he/him) is excited to hear from the committee. Has a background in the state level in government, past work has been in equity and climate issues and students, lives in Beaverton.
  - b. Thank you to Alfredo Moreno for being the Board Liaison for the past 2 years. Wishing you well on the move to the Tualatin Hills Parks Foundation and congratulations on the acting President for the Board
5. **Member Check-in**
  - a. James - visited Lithia Park in Ashland is incredibly done (Jane said it was done with a lot of private money from Lithia motors)
  - b. Jackie - visited Lakeside Oregon, lots of seating options around parks have stood out as a nice amenity to her

## 6. New Business

### a. Committee Updates:

- i. 2024 Staff Liaison
  1. 2024 Committee Staff liaison: Cameron Hall (Park Maintenance North Supervisor) - Plan is to have a 3-year rotation in staff liaisons, Keith served for 4 years and Cameron is stepping in as the new Staff Liaison starting in Jan 2024. Has been with THPRD for 6 years and was previously with BLM. Excited to follow these next meetings as he gets ramped up.
- ii. 2024 new member recruitment update
  1. Five spots are opening up (Nisha, Jane, Jacqui, Nanda, Erica)
  2. If there is interest in staying on the committee, current members must reapply, but please contact Keith directly
  3. Recruitment starts in September, application window ends Oct. 23, interviews in early/mid-November, recommendations to the board at end of November, Board approves in December

### b. Shade and play surface guideline discussion (Tim Bonnin, Senior Park Planner)

- i. Topics to discuss: How do we do design in new parks for shade? What are guidelines for playground surfacing?
- ii. Developing Guidelines for Shade & Play Surfacing
- iii. Shade
  1. THPRD Properties - usually have many established trees
  2. New Developments - developers are building the sites and often will clear the whole site and then install some trees. It will take many years for trees to mature to provide shade
  3. Trying to find ways to provide shade in new development areas
    - a. Trees
    - b. Fabric structures (shade sail supports)
    - c. Prefabricated structures (picnic shelters)
  4. Preliminary Shade Study - Pio Pio Park
    - a. Contacted a vendor about what would be the options & costs for providing shade over play structures
      - shade sail structure would be \$180K
      - Shade structure would require design, get a consultant to figure out land use permit, contractor to install, maintenance costs
      - Manufacturers generally recommend fabric to be taken down in the winter but generally THPRD keeps them up all year round
    - b. Trees would be a lower upfront cost but take many decades to provide shade. They can also provide additional environmental benefits

- c. James: How much of park cost is paid for by the developer? What is the responsibility of the developer?
  - Tim: the developer has to provide open space. They have an option in the areas they are developing to set aside 2 acres for SDC. Tim can work with the developer to identify what to put on the land as far as park design
  - James: Is it easier to get grant funding to have a mixed-use design like a shade structure with solar?
  - Tim: this would be tricky because solar may not be seen as a direct benefit for the local community, which is usually a requirement for park grants
- d. Nisha: it needs to get changed at a land use code level to specify the quality of the land that gets set aside by developers
  - Tim: this is why pocket parks have been created, many times the land set aside is so small only pocket parks can be made with the land
- e. James: who is being surveyed for new park areas?
  - Tim: the NAC was contacted

#### iv. Play Surfacing

1. All surfacing has to meet the same attenuation (bounce), so it can withstand safety standard of head impact
  - a. EWF - engineered wood fiber - least expensive, takes moderate maintenance to rake back to be compliant leveling, needs to be replenished every year
  - b. Rubber tile
  - c. PIP - poured in place, poured rubber material
  - d. PEM - spaghetti plastic material that is laid out over bags of rubber tire chunks, it has a lot of give to it
  - e. Synthetic Turf - foam pad is installed underneath, sometimes pellet rubber is added on top to weigh down the field and add bounce
2. Jane - for a person that is in a wheelchair, it's very hard to move through loose material surfaces
3. Nisha: What are the standards around heat, off gassing and shedding?
  - a. Tim - will have to look into this
4. 12 years ago, most parks had engineered wood fiber, the past decade has had more experimentation with different materials
  - a. Turf doesn't hold up well on seams or rounded areas
  - b. PEM holds up pretty well with minimal maintenance
  - c. Rubber tile is difficult to install

5. Nisha: would love to see THPRD come up with a standard of % of shade that every park needs to have. What additional funding sources would helpful?
  - a. Tim: grants, bonds, looking at developing a standard about shade first and then will figure out what funding would work
  - b. Keith: private funding will have to balance equity for making sure parks in underserved areas are getting resources not just parks in high income areas
6. Jane: consider looking at how funding across the Portland Public Schools has gone as an example of what not to do. Are contractors required to install trees with a minimum diameter?
  - a. Tim: future park designs are doing better at defining standard of tree size

**c. John Quincy Adams Young House Grant funding**

- i. Keith: 17K grant funding + THPRD match of 17K (from previous grant) so foundational structure and vertical planks on the house can be replaced in the fall, hoping for completion this winter. District doesn't have funding to make significant remodeling
- ii. Kate - why is this house being preserved?
  1. Keith - it's currently one of the THPRD's building's asset list, district maintains the building and is partnering with the Friends group in their efforts to raise funds
- iii. Nisha - the Sept 24 Cedar Mill Cider Festival would be a good opportunity to share that message about why the building is being preserved

**7. Old Business**

**a. Challenge Grant progress update**

- iv. Nisha & Keith had a site visit at Cedar Hills Rec Center to replace the non-functioning gas cooktop with an induction cooktop
- v. Nisha to send out the draft proposal by the end of the month

**8. Wrap Up**

**a. Optional Field Trip: La Raiz Park**

- i. Date: August 23 at 6PM
- ii. Tim will lead the field trip. This park had significant input from the community on what amenities they wanted to see installed. Keith/Tim will send out a map and more details about the park

**b. Next Meeting September 20**

**9. Adjourn**

- a. Meeting adjourned @ 7:30pm