

City of Ashland
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Minutes
May 21, 2018

Present: Commissioners Heller, Landt, Lewis, Miller; Director Black; Interim Parks Superintendent McFarland; Recreation Superintendent Dials; Executive Assistant Dyssegard; Assistant Manuel

Absent: Commissioner Gardiner; City Council Liaison Mayor Stromberg

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Landt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street.

APPROVAL OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MINUTES

- Bee City USA Subcommittee, March 14, 2018—acknowledged
- Trail Master Plan Update Committee, April 20, 2018—acknowledged
- Trail Master Plan Update Committee, April 27, 2018—acknowledged

Regular Meeting April 23, 2018

Motion: Lewis moved to approve the Minutes of April 23, 2018 as presented. Heller seconded.
The vote was all yes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- *Open Forum*

Nancy Nelson of 149 Clear Creek Dr. Ashland, OR. was called forward.

Nelson noted that she often hiked the trails in and around Lithia Park and there were some areas of concern to report. She expressed distress about the condition of the women's restroom at the playground area in Lithia Park. She stated that it did not look like it had been cleaned for many years. She detailed the condition of the toilets, walls behind the toilets, doors, sinks and floors. Nelson stated that children used the restroom in bare feet and the unsanitary conditions could spread disease. She asked that the APRC custodial staff address the situation. She contrasted the children's restroom with the very clean APRC Administration office restroom.

Nelson also indicated that the brochures and posters in the Administration restroom area alerted hikers to the potential dangers of natural predators on the trails and in the forest. She described a poster that stated there had been a cougar sighting in the area and what to do if one were encountered. Nelson spoke about other brochures depicting bears as a daily occurrence as well as a brochure on urban deer. She requested that more be done to alert the public about these critters, the potential dangers and preventative actions that could be taken if necessary. She asked that all of the materials be distributed more widely to Ashland residents and park visitors, stating that human safety should be a priority.

Landt thanked Nelson for her comments. He noted that staff would look into the restroom conditions.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Pioneer Hall RFP Directive (Information/Action)

Dials reviewed the discussion initiated by the Ashland City Council on April 16, 2018, about the future of Pioneer Hall. At that meeting, Public Works Director Paula Brown presented three options for renovating the building and potentially changing its use. City Council directed City staff to prepare an RFP (Request for Proposal) calling for direction from the Ashland community regarding their preferences for Pioneer Hall and its use.

Dials stated that the Parks Commissioners also discussed the facility at their May 14 Study Session. Because APRC leased the building from the City of Ashland for public use, the focus at the meeting was an analysis of annual revenues and expenses for the building. User fees and the limited number of users for whom rental fees were waived were also discussed.

Dials requested permission to prepare an RFP in response to the City's request. She recommended that Pioneer Hall and the Community Center be retained as recreational assets, dependent upon the transfer of ownership of the buildings from the City of Ashland to APRC.

Discussion among Commissioners

Miller asked about the repairs needed and the financial responsibility for doing so.

Black explained that there was a long list of repairs with varying degrees of urgency. He highlighted the historic nature of the building and the amount of flexibility available for renovations that were in keeping with its use. Black indicated that some repairs would be beneficial and useful while others such as structural retrofitting for seismic safety might conflict with historical preservation. He stated that there was a potential donor interested in donating funds for aesthetically pleasing repairs.

Heller confirmed that the building would not be condemned if used for recreational purposes as it would be if it were used as a winter shelter for the homeless. Black replied that as long as the recreational use was retained then the historic nature of the building could be preserved. The City Council was considering a change of uses that included operating as an overnight shelter during the winter months - but structural requirements to bring the building up to code would be costly.

Heller asked whether the City of Ashland would transfer ownership to APRC as a donation rather than a property sale. Black replied that he would like direction from the Commissioners regarding that issue. He stated that it was his opinion that the City would like both the Community Center and Pioneer Hall to retain their use as community buildings and that APRC was well positioned to continue utilizing the buildings for that purpose whether money changed hands or not. Heller commented that he had concerns about APRC's tight budget with respect to this matter, particularly if there was work to be done on the buildings.

Lewis asked about the timing for the RFP. Dials stated that the City planned to release the RFP by mid-June or at the latest by month end. Lewis stated that APRC would take on the liabilities associated with the buildings - recommending that ownership should be transferred without an exchange of money.

Landt advocated for a proposal that would include both buildings. Heller agreed, stating that he valued both properties and APRC would be worthy stewards.

Lewis noted that the buildings had been built in the 1920s, emphasizing that APRC would be respectful of the historic integrity.

Landt talked about APRC's current recreational uses of Pioneer Hall. He stated that its function as a winter shelter significantly reduced public use for other purposes. Landt explained that limiting recreational uses in addition to the City's requirement for rental reimbursement (currently \$15,000 annually) resulted in a net loss for APRC each year. He suggested that if ownership of the building were transferred to APRC, the annual fee of \$15,000 could be retained and set aside for long-term maintenance. Landt recommended continued use of the building as a public gathering center and a transfer of building ownership to APRC without a transfer of funds.

Motion: Lewis moved to direct staff to submit a proposal for the City's RFP for continued public use of Pioneer Hall with the inclusion of the Ashland Community Center. He further moved to transfer ownership of both buildings to APRC without purchase. Miller seconded.

Discussion

Lewis stated that there seemed to be a consensus that the \$15,000 annually per building be retained by APRC and set aside for future maintenance costs. He suggested that public rental fees could be adjusted if necessary to achieve a break-even point.

Heller stated that he was in agreement as long as the \$15,000 per building could be used for renovation projects and maintenance.

Motion: Lewis moved to direct staff to submit a proposal for the City's RFP for continued public use of Pioneer Hall with the inclusion of the Ashland Community Center. He further moved to transfer ownership of both buildings to APRC without purchase. Miller seconded.

The vote was all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

a. ADP Seasonal Patrol Rollout (Information)

Black introduced Central Area Patrol (CAP) officers Matt Carpenter and Jason Billings. He noted that they worked closely with APRC and managed the seasonal Park Patrol program.

Carpenter stated that he had worked as a police officer for the Ashland Police Department for approximately 12 years. For the past three and a half years (3 ½) he had been a CAP officer.

Jason Billings noted his service as a police officer for seventeen (17) years. This would be his third season as a CAP officer.

Carpenter stated that the summer season had started – beginning with the hiring and training of seasonal cadets and Park Patrol who would assist in patrolling the downtown area as well as Lithia Park. For the 2018 season there would be six cadets.

Carpenter talked about the training that occurred the last three weekends in May to prepare the cadets for their duties. He commented that going from an ordinary citizen to an enforcement authority required preparation. Carpenter detailed the training specifics in the areas of implicit bias, procedural justice, police legitimacy and in the municipal codes that would be pertinent for their work in Lithia Park. He stated that APRC Chair Mike Gardiner led a tour of Lithia Park for the cadets to familiarize them with the area. Additional training included officer safety, tactical communications and defensive tactics.

Carpenter indicated that there would be 7-day-per-week coverage by mid-June. Hours were typically 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the exception of Thursdays when there were evening concerts at the bandshell that required an additional police presence.

Heller asked whether there was enough flexibility in the schedule to address illegal campers in the parks. Carpenter replied that the Ashland Police Department (APD) planned special details to look for camping violations – particularly in Lithia Park.

Lewis asked about the 7-days-per-week coverage. Carpenter highlighted the weekends during which staff patrolled in pairs. He also stated that there was a golf cart available for periodic bike checks and visits to parks that were further afield, such as Railroad Park.

Carpenter said he wanted to make the Commissioners aware that the Enders Shelter in Lithia Park was a potential trouble-spot. He stated that in the summer there were a number of groups bringing meals to the shelter. Some potential conflicts included unruly or off-leash dogs, smoking, alcohol consumption and other troublesome behaviors. He suggested working with staff on some environmental changes to ameliorate those issues. He said APD had fielded complaints about the meals in Lithia Park, noting social media commentary about dog fights that resulted in people fighting during the events.

Billings highlighted the spirit of cooperation between APRC staff and Park Patrol, which he said they would continue to build upon. He cited a remote camp that included several sites as an example, stating that APRC staff, APD and Park Patrol were able to clean up an extensive area. He was currently working with APRC staff on signage in the watershed and how to properly post the signs. Billings expressed thanks on behalf of APD for APRC's assistance. Carpenter added that Recreation Superintendent Dials had also helped out, finding a solution for a silent disco group. He stated that her work was also greatly appreciated.

Black stated that field staff really appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with the Park Patrol on common issues. He explained the juggling of priorities for custodial staff, noting that their absence [while helping APD] could create stress on the APRC system, leaving maintenance work unfinished. That said, Black indicated that APRC would continue to work with the Park Patrol to eradicate campsites whenever possible.

Billings invited the Commissioners to walk and talk about issues or concerns at any time. He stated that they were happy to work things out.

Landt thanked the officers for their presentation, stating appreciation for their work and looking forward to the end-of-season report.

b. *MIG Findings from Lithia Park Master Plan Survey (Information)*

Black introduced Lauren Schmitt – a principle with MIG – the consultants for the Lithia Park Master Plan. He stated that Schmitt's presentation would be about the results of the Mapita survey conducted by MIG.

Schmitt stated that in addition to sharing the preliminary results of the Mapita survey, she would present an overview of the Master Plan process for Lithia Park and the proposed schedule for Design Week.

Schmitt divided the Master Plan process into three phases. Phase I was the public outreach as a part of the project's initiation and preparation. This resulted with the creation of a Foundation Report – the first step in collecting data important for the Master Plan. Phase II was the development of a strategic analysis of the park – with Phase III resulting in a look forward into the future. The completion of the three phases would establish a plan for the next 100 years for Lithia Park.

The process began with a strategy for public involvement. This included many elements: a project webpage, stakeholder interviews, Listening Posts and an online questionnaire. Hash tags were developed with the help of

APRC's Dorinda Cottle. There were online interview questions and a focus group / workshop facilitated by stakeholder JoAnne Eggers. MIG also developed a youth engagement toolkit and a facilitator's guide.

A December Listening Post was well attended. People articulated what was important to them about the park and shared ideas about the history of Ashland in an informal setting. One-on-one interviews were also conducted with twenty or more people and, as a result, MIG began to see recurring themes.

The Mapita questionnaire was online from March 30, 2018, to May 14, 2018. APRC staff crafted a publicity blitz that included press releases, social media and direct mail. There were 260 respondents out of 476 visitors to the site. 1639 pins were positioned on the map - a strong response from local residents. The results of the initiative were somewhat atypical: 81.4% of the respondents were identified as local, 16% were from nearby communities and 2.7% were visitors.

Schmitt reported that there was a series of questions about Lithia Park. Patterns were aggregated from responses designed to determine public opinion about the heart of the park. Many respondents felt that the closer one was to town, the closer they were to the heart of the park – most likely because it was the busiest or most used place. Visits were frequent at the playground, the lower duck pond and the lawn that connects to the Calle. In response to another question, it was noted that the majority reported individual interactions with the parts of the park they considered special. For some it was about iconic features, for others it was natural areas such as the ponds or the swimming hole.

One discovery was the multiple points along the corridor where people entered the park. This element would be important in planning Lithia Park's future. In comparison to data collected in other parks, driving to the park was not primary. Of the respondents, 209 residents walked to the park, 43 biked and 190 traveled by vehicle.

A heat map was developed to ascertain where people traversed within the park. The "hottest areas" were various locations throughout the hillside. In response to a question about when people visit throughout the year, answers reflected consistent year-round use, with a small uptick in summer. According to the data, 676 people visited Lithia Park during the summer, 483 people visited in the winter and in spring and fall there were 612 and 602, respectively. Schmitt stated that this was not necessarily typical for similar parks where efforts are focused on enticing people to visit during the "shoulder" seasons.

Schmitt reported that the questionnaire enquired about barriers or hurdles that hinder experiencing the park as desired. 41 answered that places and features were not as well maintained as well as would be liked. 22 answered with accessibility concerns and 22 indicated constraints about dogs and bikes.

Schmitt stated that there was a series of questions related to the character of Lithia Park. Respondents were asked to choose a picture from a series of nine pictures that best represented the park. Another series of questions asked for a similar response to historic pictures of Lithia Park. She indicated that all of the pictures resonated for many people. A pattern emerged that the creek was the primary characteristic and the rustic bridges contributed to the ambience. The forest was also revered. In the historic pictures, creek water and still water remained important.

Respondent numbers were compared to the population of Ashland by percentage. There was a low response from people in Ashland who were under the age of 18 – in keeping with the statistics. The majority of responses came from people in the 35 to 44-year age bracket, a group that is typically difficult to capture. Open-ended comments at the end of the survey were weighted. Words like trails, walk, play and enjoyment were frequent. Dogs also rose to the top – both pro and con. Schmitt stated that there would be further analysis of the written comments in addition to the word search.

Heller said he understood that the word search was neither negative or positive. Schmitt agreed but noted an anomaly for the word “wonderful” – heard more often than in other surveys.

Landt asked about the heat map and the lack of distinction between dissimilar areas such as the playground, the duck pond and the Japanese garden. Schmitt agreed, noting that the map expert was looking into that to determine its accuracy. One reason might be that the areas were targeted accidentally, with pins inadvertently dropped.

Landt also commented that the counts for numbers of people in spring and fall could be misleading. He explained that low sample numbers might be reflecting local people visiting regardless of the season. Landt noted that there was a verifiable decrease in the number of people visiting the park in the off-season. Schmitt agreed but emphasized that there was a strong user base year-round. For planning purposes, this meant downtime for periodic maintenance and repairs would be less prevalent.

Schmitt talked about the focus group that JoAnne Eggers spearheaded in February 2018. She noted that themes emerged that were reiterated in the one-on-one interviews. People were interested in the creek, the ponds, the trails, the plant communities and the forest. People also suggested that a transportation plan for the park was needed, given rapid changes such as autonomous vehicles. Pertinent issues included climate change and energy independence.

Respondents indicated that quiet spaces within the park were as important as social spaces. Solutions for managing wildlife and supporting nature play were discussed. Written comments with suggestions about deer-proof plantings and the eradication of invasive species were collected. Concerns included water quality and the preservation of historic elements.

Schmitt highlighted objective 6.2 – the identification of a theme for the park - as one of the objectives MIG was tasked with. She stated that the recurring themes gathered in all of the data collected to date would shape the vision for how the park evolved over time. Water in all of its forms and Ashland Creek in particular was emerging as a strong theme that people connected with. Nature – the forests, the rocks, the flora and fauna -- provided refuge and respite from the everyday world. There was also a health theme, beginning with the health benefits that mineral waters were purported to provide at the park’s inception to today’s focus on the health of the ecosystem.

Black stated that he appreciated the various themes identified by the data as well as the emphasis on the personal relationship people developed with the park. He stated that 6.2 should probably be restated to say ‘identify *themes*’ rather than *theme*. Schmitt indicated that a change was not necessary as long as there was agreement on the outcome. She commented that the objectives given to MIG were a nicely organized set of challenges that would define the Master Plan project.

Schmitt described the “Design Week” activities spanning June 12 through June 15, 2018.

- Tuesday June 12, 2018—Japanese Garden Coordination meeting and a presentation to the Ashland Historic Commission Meeting. In the evening, a public visioning meeting held to set the vision elements.
- Wednesday, June 13, 2018—All-day work session in the Community Center and a Master Plan Subcommittee meeting. An informal Listening Post would be conducted from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the park at the Bandshell, weather permitting.
- Thursday June 14, 2018—Sork session and open studio followed by a public workshop to further identify preferences for the future direction of Lithia Park.
- Friday June 15, 2018—Final meeting of the Master Plan Subcommittee, reflecting on the public comments of the night before and developing specifics.

Schmitt summarized the week, beginning with a public visioning session that would begin with an overview of the Master Plan process and end with facilitated small work groups. By the end of the week, ideas would be shared and the public would be able to respond with their preferences. The Subcommittee would then review the data and assist with directives for the park's future.

Commissioner Discussion

Heller inquired about publicity for Design Week. Schmitt replied that APRC staff had begun an intensive publicity effort beginning with a press release and Facebook promotions. She suggested that the Commissioners provide information about the Master Plan process and Design Week public participation opportunities within their own networks.

Landt asked about the revised Foundation Report. Schmitt said the report was under final review and should be available by the week's end.

Landt called for written guidelines for Parks Commissioners who would like to attend Design Week. He stated that a quorum could attend the public meetings under certain circumstances. Black added that the law was not supposed to prevent the Commissioners from attending public meetings – rather the law was designed to present a quorum from attending *unpublicized* meetings.

Landt encouraged the Commissioners to attend as many opportunities as possible during Design Week. He stated that the week's activities were critical for planning the future of Lithia Park.

Lewis suggested that that Nancy Nelson bring her concerns and insights regarding the park's infrastructure to Design Week as well.

SUBCOMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

- ***Annual IPM Policy Review (Information / Possible Action)***

McFarland announced that he would include a policy update as well as the annual review. He explained that the previous year, the Commissioners had asked that policy revisions and exceptions be incorporated into the body of the policy. McFarland noted that the policy had been re-formatted as well. He thanked Susan Dyssegard for her extensive work on the project.

McFarland explained that the first part of the policy described the Oregon Statutes that define an Integrated Pest Management program. (IPM). He stated that there had been no changes to the statutes or to most of Ashland's existing policy. Differences between synthetic pesticides and non-synthetic pesticides have been refined. Organic pesticides (as approved by the Organic Materials Review Institute) are permitted throughout the nearly 800-acre APRC system.

A general statement regarding Ashland's pesticide-free parks was amended to include percentages as a measurement tool to adequately describe use. Specifically, what was formerly described in the policy as "mostly pesticide free" was now being reported as "APRC lands are 99.25% synthetic -pesticide free."

McFarland indicated that the narrative now included the list of exceptions granted by the Commissioners since inception of the policy in 2010. They were as follows:

- Hornets and wasps in all areas—for safety, as a last resort
- Median strips at the north entry of Ashland—for safety

- For control of Poison Oak along trails—for safety
- For emergency situations—with Commissioner approval, case-by-case
- Throughout the Oak Knoll Golf Course—within IPM guidelines

Posting for synthetic pesticide use must be displayed 48 hours prior to application. Non-synthetic pesticide signage can be posted at the time of application. Oversight, training, reporting and review remains unchanged in the updated policy. Synthetic pesticide use is not permitted from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Organics are acceptable year-round.

Commissioner Discussion

Heller asked about the distinction between synthetics and synthetics containing neonicotinoids. McFarland replied that neonicotinoid pesticides were not used.

Landt stated that he would like to work with staff to address additional changes to the policy.

Black suggested further review of emergency situations where the use of synthetic pesticides was approved by the Commissioners. Lewis commented that in his mind an emergency situation would involve wasps or hornets – insects rather than plants. Landt recommended elimination of the exception and postponement of approval of the IPM policy.

Black asked about recording the revisions, noting that all of the revisions were listed at the beginning of page 1 and also at the end of the policy. He advocated for listing the previous revisions and dates only at the end. Landt stated that in his opinion, the historic record of the revisions since policy inception were important but that only the last revision was needed on the opening page of the document.

Lewis commented that the negative effects of glyphosates were becoming more apparent each year and he was grateful that APRC had managed those chemicals early-on.

Landt reported that there had been some significant growth of noxious weeds that would have to be managed differently. He highlighted the North Mountain median strip at North Mountain Park as a case in point. He stated that it provided an example of areas where evergreen trees had moderated the growth of weeds. In areas where vegetation was sparse, the weeds were more difficult to restrain. He noted that there was an opportunity to adopt maintenance and design guidelines that would further alleviate the growth of noxious weeds.

Landt asked that the revised IPM policy return for a vote of the Commissioners at the next regularly scheduled business meeting. He indicated that highlighting the changes and amended verbiage and resubmitting the revised policy prior to the meeting would be sufficient.

Black emphasized that the IPM policy was in the process of reorganization and it was not undergoing a substantive revision. He characterized the process as a reformatting of the existing policy.

Nancy Nelson of 149 Clear Creek Dr. Ashland, OR. was called forward.

Nelson spoke about the two categories of poisonous materials often used in pesticides and herbicides. She stated that the World Health Organization had classified glyphosates as a level 4 carcinogen. In California, there are requirements that any herbicide that contains glyphosates must be labeled as a carcinogen. Nelson suggested that signs announcing the chemical sprays include the information that glyphosates are known carcinogens.

Nelson spoke about the chemical's potential effects, stating that it was an endocrine disrupter. She told a story about uses of the parks – such as lying on the grass or playing in the playgrounds – and asked that the parks be poison free [[Nelson public input](#)].

- ***IPM Annual Review***

McFarland noted that no glyphosates were used in Lithia Park, nor on the vegetation bordering APRC trails. He stated that APRC staff removed poison oak by hand even though it was a challenge because of its prolific growth.

McFarland stated that new signage was now displayed in the new pollinator gardens, at Ashland Pond and Ashland Creek Park. Monarch Waystations were established with help from a partnership with Lomakatsi Restoration Project. He highlighted new pesticide-free areas such as the extended Riverwalk Property and at the Briscoe School property. Of the 772.8 acres in the APRC system, there were only 5.71 acres in which synthetic pesticides were permitted.

McFarland noted that noxious weeds at the Oak Knoll Golf Course included difficult-to-control broadleaf weeds and moss. He described the efforts staff took to keep the course in good condition.

McFarland reviewed the records detailing the number of glyphosate ounces used in 2017. He explained that wasp spray was the predominate spray because of the potential for life-threatening situations. Glyphosate use compared favorably to the amount used in 2016.

McFarland also displayed records detailing soil tests periodically conducted. McFarland indicated that soil tests at the North Mountain sports fields were good, with nitrogen being a little low. He noted that the tests were taken just before the scheduled application of fertilizer containing nitrogen.

McFarland extended appreciation for the work of Volunteer Coordinator Lori Ainsworth who recruits and organizes park and trail volunteers. He stated that in 2016, APRC recorded 5929 volunteer hours compared to 7588.25 hours in 2017. He emphasized the successful Adopt-A-Park Program established and coordinated by Ainsworth.

McFarland concluded by noting that APRC uses safe practices wherever possible. APRC staff continues to look for new organic products and new methods of weed control. He talked about the innovative techniques used by officials in Irvine, California, that included a steam machine designed to take the place of synthetic pesticides. McFarland displayed a draft of signage that would educate the public about Ashland's pesticide-free parks.

- ***Annual Bee City USA Report (Information)***

Dials introduced Kristina Lefever – Chair of the Bee City USA Ashland Subcommittee.

Lefever noted that the Bee City USA program started in North Carolina in 2012. It was modeled after the Tree City program, providing protocols for municipal governments to ensure the welfare of pollinators. Ashland was currently the fifth Bee City affiliate out of 67 Bee City USA affiliates across the country.

Lefever thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to conduct the Bee City Subcommittee quarterly meetings at the North Mountain Nature Center. She also noted her appreciation for Nature Center Manager Libby VanWyhe and Commissioner Heller, who served as staff / commissioner liaisons, for their support.

Lefever stated that there were two major goals for the previous year: to create pollinator-friendly landscapes and To educate the public about pollinator conservation. She highlighted activities that focused on substantiating those goals, with the approved pollinator garden program initiated in 2016 as a crowning achievement. Lefever stated that

thirty-eight (38) gardens had accomplished the criteria for approval. She noted that ten of the gardens belonged to Ashland Garden Club members and seven were non-residential.

Lefever announced that the second annual Pollinator Garden Tour would be held on Sunday, July 15, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The tour would be a self-guided visit to sixteen gardens. Tickets were available at the Nature Center or at The Grove Recreation Office and were \$10.00 each. She thanked Carolyn Hunsaker for her assistance with a ticket / booklet that described the gardens and detailed the locations. Lefever presented the Commissioners with tickets to the event.

Lefever thanked the Ashland Parks Foundation for awarding a grant to purchase pollinator plants for APRC's pollinator garden. She thanked APRC staff for their assistance with moving in soil and chips and working on the irrigation.

Heller acknowledged Kristina's work on the Subcommittee, which he described as a good idea but a great deal of work.

Lewis noted that the *Oregonian* dated May 21, 2018, featured an article about the drastic reduction of Monarch butterflies, thereby reminding those present that butterflies were pollinators too.

- ***Ashland World Music Festival***

Dials reported that the annual Festival was exceptional this year. APRC staff ensured that the event was successful by checking in periodically to keep things flowing. Dials noted that it was a great family party with lots of dancing and fun.

Dials reported partnering with Rogue World Music to raise funds for next year's event. She stated that over \$9000 in sponsorships had been raised for the 2018 event.

- ***Lifeguard Training***

Dials indicated that a two-day lifeguard certification training had been completed, with twelve trainees attending. She stated that the Ashland Parks Foundation had sponsored several attendees, granting them partial scholarships that allowed for their involvement.

Dials said most of the season's swim staff were hired and open lap swim would be available starting at noon on June 4, 2018.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- Signs, Plaques, and Memorials Subcommittee, May 24, 2018 @ the Parks Office, 340 S. Pioneer - 2:30 p.m.
- Trails Master Plan Update Committee, May 25, 2018 @ 51 Winburn Way -10:00 a.m.
- Study Session, June 18, 2018 @ The Grove 1195 E. Main - 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Meeting, June 25, 2018 @ Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main - 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Manuel, Assistant
Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission

These Minutes are not a verbatim record. The narrative has been condensed and paraphrased at times to reflect the discussions and decisions made. Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Study Sessions and Regular meetings are digitally recorded and available upon request.