

**IMPORTANT:** Any citizen may orally address the Parks Commission on non-agenda items during the Public Forum. Any citizen may submit written comments to the Commission on any item on the Agenda, unless it is the subject of a public hearing and the record is closed. Time permitting, the Presiding Officer may allow oral testimony. If you wish to speak, please out the Speaker Request Form located near the entrance to the Council Chambers. The chair will recognize you and inform you as to the amount of time allotted to you, if any. The time granted will be dependent to some extent on the nature of the item under discussion, the number of people who wish to speak, and the length of the agenda.



## **AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING**

### **ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION July 24, 2017 Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street**

**7:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - a. Study Session—June 19, 2017
  - b. Regular Meeting—June 26, 2017
- III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
  - a. Open Forum
- IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Tennis Court Discussion (Information)
  - b. CIP Update (Information)
- VII. SUBCOMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS
- VIII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS
- IX. UPCOMING MEETING DATES
  - a. Study Session—August 21, 2017
    - The Grove, 1195 E. Main—5:30 p.m.
  - b. Regular Meeting—August 28, 2017
    - Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street—7:00 p.m.
- X. ADJOURNMENT

City of Ashland  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
STUDY SESSION  
Minutes  
June 19, 2017

**ATTENDEES**

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

**Absent:** Commissioner Landt; City Council Liaison Mayor Stromberg

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gardiner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at The Grove 1195 E. Main.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

**WILDLIFE-PROOF TRASH CAN DISCUSSION (INFORMATION)**

McFarland displayed a photo of a park trash receptacle recently demolished by a bear. He said bears tended to hunt for food in Lithia Park on Sunday and Monday mornings after weekends when many people had visited the park. McFarland stated that bears were known to travel the entire length of Lithia Park – moving from trash can to trash can. He detailed efforts by the custodial crew to discourage bears, with mixed results. McFarland highlighted other areas where bears raided trash cans in the Parks system, including Siskiyou Mountain Park.

Dyssegard reported that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife responded to APRC's query regarding bear-proof trash containers and recommended models ranging in price from \$161 per can to \$1,800.

McFarland reviewed the findings and said a steel reinforced plastic can by Bear Saver at approximately \$300 would be ineffective. Higher end steel receptacles with a bear-proof upper and lower door manufactured by Bear Saver would cost approximately \$1,200. A steel receptacle with double doors from the Bear Saver CE Series would cost approximately \$893. McFarland explained that both doors were lined. The preferred receptacle had four reinforced plates that could be drilled and bolted into concrete anchors. A tie-down kit would include two large eye-bolts and a pole, raising the price to \$968 apiece plus freight. McFarland stated that the receptacle was ADA certified. Once authorized by the Commissioners, and with the number of units determined, an accurate quote could be obtained.

Black noted that there were currently 80 trash cans as well as a dumpster in Lithia Park: essentially a can every fifty feet. He stated that the close proximity of cans to one another helped to ensure that trash was picked up and discarded properly. Ultimately it would become a budget decision in terms of the number of cans to purchase.

Miller asked about the Lithia Park Master Plan and whether it would address the issue. Black stated that the Master Plan would look at traffic patterns and pedestrian counts – data that would be helpful in consolidating trash cans.

Heller noted that Bear Saver cans were designed to protect against Grizzly bears – a very different animal from Ashland's black bears. He suggested alternative solutions such as later trash collections by APRC personnel. There followed a brief discussion about the impact on the Parks Operations budget if staff hours were extended. Black contrasted expanded hours for increased custodial work versus a one-time capital outlay to purchase bear-proof containers.

Gardiner agreed, noting his experience with a bear raid in Lithia Park one Sunday morning in which several cans were damaged. He highlighted the finite number of custodial hours, stating that rebuilding the damaged cans would also take time. Gardiner suggested focusing on the number of bear-proof trash cans needed. He also advocated for speedy resolution given the negative impression made by unsightly trash strewn about in Ashland's premier park. McFarland supported bear-proof containers as well, noting the impact on the custodial crew should trash cleanup take time away from other duties.

Lewis commented that State parks along the western US coastline used bear-proof containers. He said the replacement process should begin soon, without waiting for a finalized Master Plan. He noted that once the Master Plan data was collected and reviewed, locations for bear-proof containers could be adjusted. Lewis highlighted the Belson design as the most familiar of the bear-proof units. He asked about the addition of recycling containers, given that current collection baskets seemed to be working well. Lewis indicated that 80 cans seemed like too many, particularly for bear-proof receptacles.

Black indicated that if so directed by the Commissioners, he could begin work on the logistics: timelines, funding and number of units. He stated that there was a concern for public safety given the number of recent bear sightings.

Lewis asked about trash cans in an undeveloped park. McFarland replied that cans are placed at trailheads and other areas where Woof Waste stations are appropriate.

McFarland said he researched local construction of bear-proof trash cans and discovered that manufacturing costs were roughly the same or slightly higher than the national brands. There followed a discussion focused on the number of cans needed, whether partnering with the City would be helpful and an acknowledgment of the impact on neighboring residential properties if access to food was eliminated in the park. Also discussed was a potential source of funding. Heller suggested signage for educational purposes if trash cans were replaced in an effort to discourage bears from entering the park.

### **BUDGET UPDATE (INFORMATION)**

Black reported that the Budget Committee had forwarded a recommendation to City Council for approval of the 2017-2019 APRC budget as presented. He stated that blanket cuts had been proposed for various City departments but they were not approved. Black explained that the budget process had been somewhat different from past years; however, the outcome was comparable.

In response to a question by Heller, Black noted that there had been very little concern about the proposed APRC budget – with just one question about the rebuilding of the Daniel Meyer Pool. He stated that the APRC budget was lean and would require diligence to stay within established boundaries.

There followed a discussion about the continued impact of the PERS shortfall. Black indicated that options to backfill some of the accrued losses were under review. He noted that APRC could not sustain another \$600,000 impact as experienced in 2017. Black stated that earnings projections by the PERS Board of Directors had been overstated.

### **FUTURE “PARK VIEWS” DISCUSSION (INFORMATION)**

Gardiner said the APRC articles featured in the Ashland Daily Tidings were a great way to get information out to the public. He stated that he would like to schedule future columns by soliciting additional ideas from the Commissioners and staff.

<b>Scheduled Columns:</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Commissioner Miller	June	Ashland Parks Foundation Grants
Commissioner Gardiner	July	Senior Center
Superintendent Dials	August (tentative until confirmed)	Alternative Sports in Ashland

Suggestions for additional topics included discussion of a second Dog Park, the new pool, pickleball, APRC's Integrated Pesticide Management policy, proposed uses for the Imperatrice Property, APRC volunteers, bear-proof trash cans and information about educational offerings at North Mountain Park Nature Center. Miller noted a myriad of topics about the Forest Lands Commission and their work. Gardiner proposed a discussion of collaborative partnerships such as those forged with the Ashland School District.

### **ACP / APPLGATE TRAIL MARKER RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY (ANNOUNCEMENT)**

Dyssegard extended an invitation for participation in an historic trail marker installation ceremony on Friday, June 23, at 11:30 a.m. at Ashland Creek Park located at 27 E. Hersey Street. The marker would pinpoint the area where Applegate Trail pioneers camped in 1846. Dyssegard stated that the Ashland Chamber of Commerce would attend, as would representatives from Trails West, the originators and manufacturers of the markers.

McFarland explained that the marker would be cemented in place at 11:00 a.m., with the ribbon-cutting ceremony beginning at 11:30.

### **STAFF UPDATES**

- ***YMCA Park***

Black highlighted the article in the Ashland Daily Tidings about the YMCA Park land disposition / transfer. He said he appreciated the quotes from the Y and was pleased with the coverage so far. He said he was scheduled to make a presentation at an upcoming City Council meeting about the property and the Y's disproportional use of the park land without compensation. Black reported that for the year 2016/2017, the Y exclusively used the property 281 days out of 365. This meant that the neighborhood park was closed for public use 77% of the year. It was anticipated that City Council would approve the sale of the property given those parameters.

- ***Daniel Meyer Pool***

Black relayed meeting with the pool manufacturer that would likely be selected to build the expanded facility. He stated that he also met with Anderson Pool Works, a Portland-based pool installation company. He said a survey of the areas had yet to be completed but there appeared to be few site-specific constraints.

Black noted that illustrations would be prepared and new bids readied based on re-routing of the underground power and storm drain. He emphasized that the project would continue to move forward once a maintenance and operations compensation commitment was made by Ashland School District. He noted that he would be outlining the plans and presenting a proposed contract at the School District's Facilities Management Subcommittee meeting on July 5 and to the Ashland School Board on July 15.

- ***Lithia Park Master Plan***

Black stated that APRC received three substantial responses to the Lithia Park Master Plan RFP. He described the applicants as offering a "broad brush" of talents combined with an emphasis on team orientation. Black noted that the applications would be reviewed by the Master Plan Subcommittee, with a subsequent recommendation prepared for Commissioners' approval.

- **Save Our Schools and Playgrounds**

In response to a question by Lewis, Black stated that at the June 26 APRC Regular meeting, Commissioners would be asked for a statement of support for the efforts that Save Our Schools and Playgrounds was making to preserve the Briscoe and Lincoln School playgrounds and ballfields. He affirmed that the grounds were labeled in the City's Comprehensive Plan as open space; however, the Ashland School District, as property owners, had final say as to use of the properties.

Black said he was working with the School District to find a solution that would preserve the lands as neighborhood parks. He explained that although APRC did not list the acquisition of the properties as a current goal, retaining the properties as neighborhood parks was considered a high priority for APRC.

- **Daniel Meyer Pool Renovation**

Miller asked about the size of the pool and other pertinent details. Black noted that two tanks were under consideration to mitigate filtration issues inherent in one large pool. The overall measurement would be 25 meters by 25 ft. with one small and one large tank. He stated that based on the manufacturer's review of the space, all equipment, including filtration apparatus and pumps, would fit in the space currently used for that purpose at the existing pool.

Black stressed the importance of securing a commitment from the Ashland School District prior to seeking a bond and beginning construction. He noted that the timing of the APRC bond for the pool, as compared with the Ashland School District's bond for schools, had yet to be worked out. He stated that the School District had asked that Black become a member of the School District's Bond Committee and he agreed to serve.

- **Ashland Creek Park Shade Area**

Gardiner asked for a timeline for construction of the shade area at Ashland Creek Park. McFarland replied that there was still some finishing work to be completed at Garfield Park. Once completed, the project manager would begin working on the shade structure.

- **Ashland Senior Center Survey**

Black noted that funds were available through the Ashland Parks Foundation [earmarked for the Senior Program] that could be used to fund a Citywide survey about Senior Program services in Ashland. He said there was a group in Ashland, Source Research Center at SOU, that could serve as a useful resource for survey building.

- **Daniel Meyer Pool Swim Class Registration**

Dials noted that the Daniel Meyer Pool opened to the public on June 15 and swim class registrations were currently underway.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Manuel, Assistant

*These Minutes are not a verbatim record. The narrative has been summarized to reflect the discussions made. Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Study Sessions, Special Meetings and Regular Meetings are digitally recorded and available upon request.*

City of Ashland  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
June 26, 2017

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

**Absent:** City Council Liaison Mayor Stromberg

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Special Meeting—May 3, 2017

**Motion:** Lewis moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2017. Landt seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

Study Session—May 15, 2017

**Motion:** Landt moved to approve the Study Session Minutes of May 15, 2017. Lewis seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

Regular Meeting—May 22, 2017

**Motion:** Landt moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2017. Lewis seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MINUTES**

Trail Master Plan Update Committee Meeting—June 2, 2017

The previously approved Minutes were acknowledged by the Commissioners.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

• *Open Forum*

**Dennis Miller** of Ashland was called forward.

Miller noted that he had sustained recent injuries – one on concrete and one on grass. He compared the two, noting that the fall on concrete resulted in a broken bone while the fall on grass did not.

Miller talked about the Oak Knoll Golf Course, noting that there were some gopher holes on the grounds. He suggested that the uneven terrain could result in injuries and APRC might wish to improve the course with additional landscape maintenance.

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- ***Save Our Schools and Playgrounds Discussion (Action)***

Black summarized previous discussions relating to APRC and efforts made by the group known as Save Our Schools and Playgrounds to retain the Briscoe and Lincoln Elementary School playing fields and playgrounds. He said the properties are owned by the Ashland School District and their disposition is currently under consideration.

Black noted that the playing fields and playgrounds are considered “parks” under the Open Space Plan. He called for a motion of support for continued public access and use of the properties as neighborhood parks.

### **Public Comment**

**Len Eisenberg** of 233 Granite St. in Ashland was called forward.

Eisenberg said he is a member of the Save Our Schools and Playgrounds Subcommittee. He relayed that APRC maintains the Briscoe Geology Park as part of an agreement when the park was developed. He advocated for the official designation of the Briscoe Geology Park as an Ashland City park.

Eisenberg noted that the current status of the Geology Park was not clear. He said signage honored APRC volunteers, yet the park was not listed in the City’s directory of parks. He reviewed the educational materials sponsored by the APRC Nature Center, highlighting the school programs offered by the Nature Center and the value of the Geology Park as a community resource.

**Hazel Chlebowski** of 399 Beach in Ashland was called forward.

Miss Chlebowski told her story as a neighborhood child who plays on the playground and open spaces of Lincoln Elementary School. She said playing there makes her happy.

**Motion:** Landt moved to approve an action whereby APRC would continue to work with the Ashland School District to ensure that the fields and playgrounds of Lincoln and Briscoe schools function as neighborhood parks and remain permanently under public ownership, based on the approved 2002 City of Ashland Open Space Plan that includes Lincoln and Briscoe playgrounds and fields as designated neighborhood parks and on the City’s approved Comprehensive Plan that states a goal of providing a park within a quarter mile of every resident. Lewis seconded.

The vote was all yes

### **Discussion**

**Melissa Mitchell-Hooge** of 271 High Street in Ashland was called forward.

Mitchell-Hooge thanked the Commissioners for their vote of support to preserve Briscoe & Lincoln playgrounds and playing fields as official “dedicated” City parks.

Mitchell-Hooge described efforts by others to seek improved maintenance of the grounds at Lincoln School, noting that the playing fields are deteriorating due to a lack of grounds care. She detailed many uses for both Lincoln and Briscoe grounds, stressing multi-generational activities. Mitchell-Hooge discussed The Nature Fix by Florence Williams that highlights the beneficial efforts of green space and the value of setting aside neighborhood spaces.

Mitchell-Hooge invited the Commissioners to a final Briscoe Community Forum to be held on June 28, 2017, at the Ashland High School Library at 7:00 p.m.

- **Amendments to the City's Ethics Code (Information)**

City Attorney **Dave Lohman** was called forward.

In response to a question by Lewis, Lohman stated that the City of Ashland had revised the City's Ethics Ordinance to align the Code more closely with the Ethics Code for the State of Oregon. He noted that the State's Code focuses on conflicts of interest that are financial in nature, while the City of Ashland requires disclosure of all actual or potential conflicts of interest, both financial and non-financial. Lohman stated that public officials must individually decide if their judgment or actions would be impaired. If the individual feels that his or her judgment might be impaired, disclosure is warranted. Once disclosed, the official may continue to participate in the deliberation and vote. If the conflict of interest is actual and would impair judgment, then disclosure is mandatory and participation in the deliberation and vote is not permitted.

Heller asked whether disclosure was appropriate if an individual had a significant interest in an issue or activity and advocated for it in their role as a public official. Lohman replied that the decision would be based upon independence of judgment. If the individual felt that their vote would be fair and impartial, then participation would be appropriate after disclosure of the potential conflict. If the official felt that a vote would be biased, then the individual needed to request recusal.

Landt indicated that the process for addressing conflicts of interest seemed to be based upon an honor system. Lohman agreed, noting that the State had sanctions in place should it become apparent that a financial conflict of interest was not properly disclosed. An investigation would ensue, undertaken by the State Ethics Commission. Lohman noted that Ashland City Council would conduct the investigation if the apparent conflict was identified as non-financial in nature. He added that a non-financial issue would be more complex, in part because APRC Commissioners were elected. Because there were no specific provisions for elected officials, there would be no specific sanctions.

Black asked about best practices concerning ethical procedures or processes that apply to official business communications such as emails. Lohman differentiated between *broadcasting information* (considered a one-way communication) and *serial conversations* (considered two-way communications). Public meeting laws dictated that public business be conducted with a quorum present. Lohman noted that sanctions for public business discussions conducted in a non-public manner could be consequential.

Landt noted that the issue with emails had to do with the ability to "*reply all*" to a communication. Lohman relayed that expressing an opinion to all those in receipt of the initial communication could potentially violate public meeting laws. He recommended against using the "*reply-all*" function.

Lohman highlighted portions of City of Ashland Ethics rules. He noted that Ashland officials could not give a constituent special consideration that would not be available to any other citizen. No public actions could result in personal financial gain or loss for a public official or his / her relatives. Officials should not accept gifts from a source with a legislative or administrative interest in public duties. Confidential information should not be disclosed or used for personal gain. When disclosing a potential or actual conflict of interest, the specifics should be described.

Lohman shared a script that would assist officials in disclosing a potential or actual conflict of interest. He recommended over-disclosing and advised against discussing official matters in a social setting. Lohman stressed

that no gathering of officials would be considered as a proper meeting unless a quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

There followed a brief discussion about public meeting laws and the difficulties inherent in meeting protocols. Lohman indicated that the rules might be subject to changes by the Oregon Supreme Court given the level of difficulty in adhering to public meeting rules. Ex parte communication was also questioned. Lohman referred to Oregon's land-use laws, noting that ex parte contacts were specific for land-use actions – something that APRC would not normally be involved in.

- ***RVTV Contract Renewal***

Black said RVTV, a division of Southern Oregon University, televised APRC's monthly business meetings as well as any special meetings the Commissioners might request on a case-by-case basis. RVTV's biennial contracts outlined costs for services provided, including charges for off-site video services. He recommended approval of the 2017-19 RVTV contract, noting that although the contract was within his authority for approval, traditionally it was approved by the Commissioners.

Black initiated a discussion about the approval process, stating that he would continue to bring the contracts to the Commissioners for approval if so directed. In response to a question by Heller, Black noted that the cost of the service was \$5,550 for the biennium, payable over two years. He detailed the costs for other types of services such as the cost per view for the video and extraordinary costs such as recording off-site. He stated that expenses related to those services would most likely not exceed \$7,500.

Landt asked about other contracts approved by Black that were typically approved without an action by the Commissioners. Black replied that there were contracts for surveys, engineering and other project-related agreements, all considered administratively routine. Landt noted that the RVTV contract was similar to a utility bill. He compared the payment for RVTV services to those such as telephone services. He stated that in his opinion, it was not necessary to obtain the Commissioners' approval for the biennial contract.

Black noted that he would inform the Commissioners of any changes possibly impacting the service such as a change in taping schedule. In reply to a question by Gardiner, Black stated that he expected the occasional incremental increase in costs for the service.

**Motion:** Landt moved to approve the 2017-19 RVTV contract as presented for the period spanning July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019. Heller seconded.

The vote was all yes.

- ***Lithia Park Master Plan RFP Update***

Black stated that three qualified applications were received in response to APRC's Request for Proposals (RFP). He outlined the process, noting that the Lithia Park Master Plan Subcommittee would rate and review the proposals and prepare a recommendation for Commissioner approval.

Black explained that the approval process was a qualification-based process in that proposals were rated based on the applicant's qualifications, performance on previous projects and references. Once the applicant with the highest rating was selected, costs for providing the service were negotiated.

In response to a question by Heller, Black stated that \$250,000 had been budgeted for the Lithia Park Master Plan. If the qualified applicant submitted a bid that was more than the amount budgeted and no agreement could be reached, the process would begin again with a second applicant.

Black expressed hope that the recommended proposal could be brought to the Commissioners for a vote in July.

- ***Budget Wrap-up (Information)***

Black reported that the City Council had approved APRC's budget for the 2017-2019 biennium. He stated that Council had scheduled one additional meeting to potentially amend the City's budget. Black noted that other City services were under scrutiny but APRC's budget would not be affected.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

- ***ACP / Applegate Trail Marker Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Report***

McFarland said a ribbon-cutting ceremony was conducted on Friday, June 23, at 11:30 a.m. at Ashland Creek Park. The event honored the placement of an historical marker at the precise location of a campsite on the original Applegate Trail. Commissioner Lewis spoke about the history and significance of the event. Also in attendance were Bob Black, Director of Trails West, along with the Vogel family (former property owners of ACP) and members of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce. McFarland relayed that a comment from a pioneer journal noted that the Applegate Trail party camped at the site on October 11, 1846, and indicated it was one of the best campsites they experienced.

- ***July Events***

Dials highlighted the *4<sup>th</sup> of July Run* slated for Tuesday, July 4, 2017, and said registration was available online. Additionally, a first annual *Pollinator Garden Tour* would be held on Sunday, July 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A commemorative booklet detailing Ashland's pollinator gardens would be made available for participants.

Dials further reported that the annual *Island Night* at Daniel Meyer Pool would be held on Saturday, July 22, 2017. Festivities would include a hula dance performance, hula workshop and night swim. Also on July 22 would be the annual *Up and Down Bike Ride* to and from Emigrant Lake in celebration of the Cascade/Siskiyou Scenic Bikeway, with proceeds benefiting the Bear Creek Greenway Foundation.

## **ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS**

Gardiner reminded Commissioners that Park View articles for September through December had yet to be scheduled.

## **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

Study Session—July 17, 2017 @ The Grove, 1195 E. Main—5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting—July 24, 2017 @ Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main—7:00 p.m.

Gardiner noted that Lewis would be absent for both July meetings. He reminded Commissioners to continue notifying Administration in advance about meeting absences so that quorums could be established or confirmed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was 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 are available upon online.

# ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Mike Gardiner  
Joel Heller  
Rick Landt  
Jim Lewis  
Matt Miller



Michael A. Black, AICP  
Director

541.488.5340  
AshlandParksandRec.org  
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

## PARKS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners  
**FROM:** Michael Black, APRC Director  
**DATE:** July 19, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** July 24, 2017 APRC Business Meeting

---

The July Business Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2017, at 7:00 pm at City Council Chambers. We will not have any action items on the agenda for the 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will mainly focus on two informational items: 1) Tennis Court Discussion and 2) CIP Update.

### **Tennis Court Discussion:**

This is really about alternative uses of the tennis courts. Pickleball in particular has become more prevalent in Ashland and requires more space to accommodate the growing number of users. Currently, Pickleball is limited to Lithia Park (one court) and Helman School tennis courts. The Lithia Park courts are being used so much that there are lines for PB on the designated court while the adjacent court—retained for traditional tennis players—is off-limits to PB'ers.

This item was placed on the agenda to discuss the merits of allowing PB to be played on all tennis courts, when those tennis courts are not already in use by tennis players. Functionally, this would become a first come, first served situation where PB'ers would be just as able to use the courts as tennis folks.

Of course, I am not making a recommendation. This is an item that deserves some discussion among Commissioners prior to any action being proposed.

### **CIP Update:**

Jeff McFarland will provide a detailed update on the current status of the Capital Improvement Plan.