

City of Ashland  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
**Regular Meeting**  
Minutes  
December 10, 2018

**Present:** Commissioners Gardiner, Heller, Lewis, Miller; Director Black; Superintendent Dials; Superintendent Glatt; Superintendent Oxendine; Administrative Analyst Kiewel, Assistant Manuel

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Acknowledged:  
Pool Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting- November 7, 2018  
S-SAC Meeting – November 13, 2018

Regular Meeting 11-26-2018

**Motion:** Heller moved to approve the Minutes of November 26, 2018 as presented. Miller seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

**OPEN FORUM**

Speaker **Jennifer Margulis di Properzio** highlighted her family's daily use of Lincoln Park, advocating for continued use of the park as it is.

Speaker **Leone di Properzio** stated that Lincoln Park was one of the best parks in Ashland and she asked that no other uses be permitted.

Speaker **Ethan Ramsey** talked about the benefits of outdoor exercise at the park – stating that it provided an alternative to video games.

Speaker **Nina Egert** noted her background as an environmentalist, suggesting that a portion of the lawn be exchanged for pollinator friendly – bird friendly plantings. Alternately a labyrinth could provide an option as replacement for a portion of the grass currently in place. See attached information entitled Birdify your Yard! (attached)

Speaker **Casey Botts** stated that Lincoln park was a community park first and foremost. He proposed that a bike skills track be added to the site for additional recreational purposes. Botts reviewed statistics that demonstrated that interest in mountain biking in Ashland is very strong. Youth classes in Ashland are at capacity with a wait list. He stated that the Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association would assist APRC in establishing a pump track for Ashland bikers.

Botts noted that mountain biking was the second highest draw for tourists coming to Ashland.

Speaker **Chris Herbst** described the options for children who wish to ride bikes or learn bike skills in Ashland. He detailed the benefits for locating a bike skills area in Lincoln park – stating that a location close to downtown would be helpful.

Speaker **William Roussel** addressed the growing number of children who are interested in learning to ride. He asked that the Commissioner’s consider adding a pump track because it provided a provide a healthy recreational opportunity for the increasing numbers of children.

Speaker **Melissa Mitchell-Hooge** reported that 37 local businesses were providing support for Lincoln park. The Friends of Lincoln Park have raised funds to assist APRC with acquisition of the Park, which is currently owned by the Ashland School District. She detailed the steps taken to secure the property to date, stating that she was hopeful that an agreement could come to fruition. Mitchell-Hooge also noted her support for the pump track.

Speaker **Betsy DeGress** described uses that the park currently facilitates. She stated that the park provides a venue for dog-walkers as well as recreational activities - advocating for a variety of uses.

Speaker **Martin Stadmueller** focused on the popularity of the pump track, citing the Redmond Oregon track as an example. He noted that a bike track would provide training for children in preparation for adult rides in Ashland’s nearby mountains.

#### **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***a. American Legion Baseball Request for North Mountain Park (Information/Action)***

**Staff report:** Dials noted that the American Legion was requesting placement of sponsorship banners at North Mountain Park for the 2019 season. She reviewed information pertinent to the request and introduced American Legion Board member Jason Stranberg. The entity is charged a per season fee as well as a utility fee. Dials stated that there had been no previous complaints regarding the banners.

Stranberg noted that the sponsorship program was in its third year, providing options for youth outside of the high school season.

There followed a question and answer discussion that included an analysis of the effectiveness of the program and whether the renewal should come before the Commissioners annually or periodically.

**Motion:** Heller moved to approve the request for American Legion Baseball banners at North Mountain Park for a period of five years. Lewis seconded.

The vote was all yes.

Lewis asked that the American Legion update the Commissioners from time to time. Miller agreed, stating that staff could report feedback in the effectiveness of the program as well.

##### ***b. Quarterly Budget Update (Information/Action)***

Black introduced the quarterly report as presented by Administrative Service Director Mark Welch, highlighting the statement that “Parks has collected 23.7% of the budgeted revenue and only spent 21.7%” that ended in

September 2018. He stated that the previous year's audit had been "unqualified" i.e. there were no areas of concern.

Black discussed the year-to-date, financial status report – reported by Division. He talked about the Operations/Administrative budget (currently under budget), the Senior Services budget (slightly over-budget), noting that the Senior Services budget would level out once the program transition has been completed.

In response to a question by Heller regarding the Community Center charges, Black explained that the encumbrance reported was only slightly over budget and was related to cleaning expenses incurred for the Community Center and Pioneer Hall.

Black noted that up-to-date results show that APRC is currently approximately 2% under budget. Revenues have slowed somewhat due to seasonality. Other questions related to the status of recreational programs due to the transfer of a portion of the recreational budget (10%) to Senior Services for programs there. Dials reported that programs are more streamlined but that adult programs and senior programs were expanding.

Commissioner analysis included questions about the revenue and the amount that is collected via fees for services. Black explained that there were tentative revenue sources for each item in the CIP that may or may not be expected. He noted that the CIP contained a potential bond for the pool rebuild, something that has not yet come to fruition.

**Motion:** Lewis moved to approve the Quarterly Financial Report as presented. Miller seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

### **c. Forest Lands Commission Report**

Miller provided an update, noting that the Forestlands Commission's goals were to protect the watershed, minimize fuels, and keep the forests healthy. He detailed objectives for a Community Outreach program and reported policy decisions with regard to trails, illegal camping and more. Lewis noted that the Forestlands Commission was also tasked with acting as a liaison between the City of Ashland and the National Forest Service. The Ashland Fire Department has jurisdiction over the Forest Lands Commission.

Gardiner asked that an article on the Forestlands Commission be placed in the Commission's "parking lot" as a reminder to add the topic to *Park Views* – a column hosted by APRC and published in the Ashland Daily Tidings.

### **d. 2019 APRC Meeting Calendar**

Black explained the process of scheduling APRC meetings which considers holidays and other potential conflicts. Commission Study Sessions and Regular Meetings are scheduled as close to the third and fourth Monday's of each month as possible.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Goal Setting would be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> or the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February.

**Motion:** Lewis moved to approve the APRC Meeting Calendar as presented. Heller seconded.  
The vote was all yes.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

Black reported that Toru Tanaka would be available later in the week to further discuss the proposed expansion of the Japanese Garden. Those Commissioners interested in participating were welcome.

The Pool Ad-hoc Committee is working on a series of public meetings and a survey to gather information from the community about the Daniel Meyer Pool rebuild. In addition, Gardiner announced that the December Park Views would be about the proposed pool. There followed further discussion about the steps taken to date and additional plans for public outreach. Gardiner noted that Jackie Bachman would be appointed as liaison between Senior Services and the Ad-hoc Pool Committee.

Black announced that the purchase of 5 acres. He presented kudos to realtors from Full Circle Real Estate who are on contract to APRC.

Oxendine noted that the camera was being installed at the Skate Park.

## **ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

There were none.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Manuel, Assistant

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.

# Birdify Your Yard!

## *Landscaping for Birds*

### What Birds Need For Successful Nesting and Survival:

- **Native Plants** — Birds rely on native plants for safe nesting and feeding habitat.
- **Habitat Structure** — Good bird habitat has a mixture of native plants growing at different heights to create habitat structure.
- **Healthy Understory** — Most songbirds nest on or near the ground among native forbs and shrubs.
- **Dead Trees** — Snags and dead trees provide woodpeckers and other cavity nesting birds with essential nesting habitat and insects to feed their young.
- **No Disturbance** — Mowing, brush clearing, and habitat restoration during the nesting season (mid-April-July) causes nests to fail.



American Robin on Nest © Diane Pierce



Lazuli Bunting Nest

### How You Can Create a Bird Habitat Garden:

- Plant native plants in mixed species clumps
- Create an understory using native grasses, shrubs, and forbs
- Leave dead or dying trees in your yard
- Avoid mowing, diking, spraying, brush clearing and building activities from mid-April-July in the Klamath-Siskiyou region.
- Reduce predators- keep cats indoors and eliminate outdoor sources of food which attract rats, opossums, skunks, foxes, and jays, all are nest predators eating eggs and young!
- Discourage non-native predators such as House Sparrows and European Starlings- take down nest boxes being used by these species (for more on safe nest boxes see our nest box handout)
- Leave brush piles and pruning debris through the winter to encourage quail and winter sparrows; Golden-crowned and Fox Sparrows.
- Use only selective bird feeders, those that exclude jays, cowbirds, starlings, and crows. For more information see our bird feeding handout.



Klamath Bird Observatory  
PO Box 758, Ashland, OR 97520  
541-201-0866

**Additional Resources:** Klamath Bird Observatory [www.klamathbird.org](http://www.klamathbird.org), Plant Oregon [www.plantoregon.com](http://www.plantoregon.com), Oregon Native Plant Society [www.npsoregon.org](http://www.npsoregon.org), Rogue Valley Audubon Society [www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org), North Mountain Park Nature Center <http://www.northmountainpark.org/>, National Wildlife Federation [www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)

# Native Plants For Birds—

## *In the Klamath-Siskiyou*

When choosing to landscape for birds and other wildlife, look around your neighborhood and try to re-create the habitats in the surrounding open spaces.

The plants listed here are examples of native plants by habitat type of the common habitat types in the Klamath-Siskiyou region.

### Additional Resources:

Klamath Bird Observatroy  
[www.klamathbird.org](http://www.klamathbird.org),  
 Plant Oregon  
[www.plantoregon.com](http://www.plantoregon.com),  
 Oregon Native Plant Society  
[www.npsoregon.org](http://www.npsoregon.org),  
 Rogue Valley Audubon Society  
[www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org),  
 North Mountain Park Nature Center  
[www.northmountainpark.org/](http://www.northmountainpark.org/)  
 National Wildlife Federation  
[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)



Klamath Bird Observatory  
 PO Box 758, Ashland, OR  
 97520 541-201-0866

### Oak Savannah

#### Grasses

*Elymus glaucus* blue wildrye  
*Elymus elymoides* squirreltail  
*Festuca idahoensis* Idaho fescue  
*Koeleria macrantha* junegrass  
*Pseudoregnaria spicata* bluebunch wheatgrass

#### Herbs

*Achillea millefolium* yarrow  
*Amsinckia meniesii* fiddleneck  
*Camassia quamash* camas  
*Cynoglossum grande* hounds tongue  
*Castilleja spp.* paintbrush  
*Clarkia purpurea* farewell spring  
*Delphinium menziesii* larkspur  
*Lomatium utriculatum* desert parsley  
*Lupinus bicolor* miniature lupine  
*Plagiobothrys spp* popcorn flower  
*Wyethia angustifolia* mule's ears

#### Trees

*Quercus garriana* OR white oak  
*Quercus kelloggii* CA black oak

### Riparian

#### Shrubs

*Prunus virginiana* chokecherry  
*Ribes spp.* wild currant  
*Rosa californica* CA wild rose  
*Rubus spp.* thimbelberry, salmonberry  
*Sambucus spp.* elderberry  
*Symphocarpus spp.* snowberry

#### Trees

*Cercocarpus betuloides* birch leaf mtn. mohogany  
*Populus trichocarpa* black cottonwood  
*Salix spp.* willows

### Pine-Oak-Madrone/Mixed Conifer

#### Herbs

*Aquilegia formosa* columbine  
*Iris chrysophylla* yellow iris  
*Iris innominata* Siskiyou iris  
*Lilium columbianum* tiger lily  
*Phlox adsurgens* woodland phlox  
*Polystichum munitum* sword fern  
*Trillium ovatum* trillium

#### Shrubs

*Amalankier utahensis* serviceberry  
*Berberus aquifolium* Oregon grape  
*Ceanothus spp.* wild lilac  
*Holodiscus discolor* oceanspray  
*Kalmiopsis Leachiana* kalmiopsis  
*Lonicera ciliosa* honeysuckle  
*Philadelphus lewisii* mock orange  
*Ribes sanguineum* flowering currant  
*Sambucus mexicana* blue elderberry  
*Symphoricarpus alba* snowberry

#### Trees

*Acer glabrum* Douglas maple  
*Arbutus menziesii* madrone  
*Calocedrus decurrens* incense cedar  
*Lithocarpus desiflorus* tan oak  
*Pinus ponderosa* ponderosa pine  
*Pseudosuga menziesii* Douglas Fir  
*Quercus kelloggii* CA black oak  
*Umbellularia californica* CA bay laurel

### Chaparral

See Oak Savannah grasses and herbs  
Shrubs and Trees

*Amelanchier utahensis* serviceberry  
*Arctostaphylos spp.* manzanita  
*Ceanothus cuneatus* buckbrush  
*Cercis occidentalis* redbud  
*Cercocarpus betuloides* mtn. mohogany  
*Rhamus californica* CA coffeberry