

**CITY OF SUTHERLIN
PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM – 7PM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2017**

Committee Members: Seth Vincent, , Craig Hoobler, Vicki Holland and Jake Masterfield

Excused: Tim Bradley, Rick Murphy, and Zada Wright

Absent: None

City Staff: Community Development Director, Brian Elliott and Community Development Specialist, Kristi Gilbert

Introduction of Media: None

Audience: Michelle McMullion, Jim Hall, Sandra Cowan, Mary Murphy, Pam Proctor, Silvia Monas, Larry Spielbusch, Amber Merifield, Judy Rosset, Holly Kathay, Gale Peterson, Jim and Beth Houseman, Teri and Sam Riggs, Bruce and Suzy Fritz, Allen Peterson, Pamela Semas, Pam Cameron, Michael Bowden, Scott Bebeau, Bob Pruitt, Linda Pruitt, Bruce Little, Ron McMullin, June McClellan and Valerie Johnson

Meeting called to order by Chair Vincent at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Vicki Holland to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2017 meeting; second made by Jake Masterfield.

In favor: Vincent, Hoobler, Masterfield and Holland.

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

HARTLEY PARK DISCUSSION

Brian Elliott, Community Development Director began the discussion with the official name of the Dog Park. It was confirmed that the official name is "Sutherlin Dog Park." He then briefly discussed concerns and issues that have been brought to his attention regarding Hartley Park and Sutherlin Dog Park. He indicated that Hartley Park is eight acres with two acres dedicated to Sutherlin Dog Park. Some concerns and requests such as potable water, water fountain, restrooms, improvements to the fenced dog park area to help address ADA issues, drainage concerns/French drains, etc. Addressing additional concerns, Mr. Elliott then indicated that removal of decaying trees, sign replacement have taken place.

Gale Petersen, stepped forward and stated that she was the secretary of the Sutherlin Dog Park Advisory Board. She indicated that the City does not help with the park and began discussing her concerns beginning with drainage. Mrs. Petersen stated that the dog park gets pretty muddy in the winter. Several committee members installed a French drain, but additional work needs to be done with the southern portion of the property in order for the drainage to be effective. She continued to express concerns with repairs needed to Maple Street, since the dog park gets lots of traffic. She inquired if the City could obtain a trip count for additional data to see how much traffic the dog park generates. Mrs. Petersen stated that the Dog Park Committee is on the lookout for playground equipment for the dogs to play on, such as culverts or other equipment for the dogs to climb on or run through. Mrs. Petersen indicated that the dog park signage that was located on Central Avenue and Comstock was removed during construction and has not been replaced at this time. She then requested additional signage as well as opportunities for additional visibility, such as additional signage along Sixth Avenue. Continued maintenance of the overgrown shrubs along Maple Street need tended to. Mrs. Petersen then discussed the ADA compliance concerns and requested the City put some grindings from the Central Avenue project at the entry of the dog park with some asphalt over the grindings

making an ADA path from the entrance to the benches. Mrs. Petersen identified that the city pays for a trash can up at the park; however, the public fills it up with their trash. There have been mattresses, electronics, etc dumped at the dog park. It also was identified that there had been a homeless camp built on the east side of the park, which the police department was looking into.

Discussion ensued regarding options for restricting the garbage usage to park users. A couple suggestions were a track can with a restricted opening, locating the trash can within the fenced area, locking the trash can, etc.

Mrs. Petersen discussed the advertisement that the Advisory Board has done, such as distributing brochures to various Visitor Centers which included Reedsport, Eugene, Sutherlin, North Bend, and other outside areas. They have also advertised on Yelp. It was noted that there are a lot of people who come from out of the area, specifically to visit Sutherlin's Dog Park. To keep the tourism, the Sutherlin Dog Park Advisory Board felt adding water service to the park would benefit the tourism. It was noted that Oakland's Dog Park already has water.

Discussion ensued regarding the terms of the agreement that was established between the City and the Sutherlin Dog Park.

Funding opportunities were discussed, including grant opportunities through the Transient Room Tax. Another suggestion was a donation box with informational signage

Picnic tables and benches throughout the park were discussed, noting that the City has provided picnic tables under the shelter. It was suggested that the Dog Park Advisory Committee reach out to the Wolf Creek Job Corp regarding the potential of the concrete benches.

Amber Merrifield, Vice President of Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce and Woof Stock, stepped forward and stated that she was the Vice-President of the Sutherlin Chamber of Commerce and Woof Stock. She stated that the Sutherlin Dog Park is a jewel to Douglas County. It is the finest dog park in the Community.

Judy Rossett, stepped forward and stated that the dog park is not just for dogs, it's a community gathering place.

Pamela Semas, Executive Director of Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce, stepped forward and stated that she loves the dog park. Her dog has friends from years ago, when she resided in Sutherlin. Ms. Semas then indicated that she has flyers in the Chamber and that the Chamber may have funding opportunities available to partner with the Sutherlin Dog Park Advisory Board on for the dog park. Whenever someone stops in at the chamber, she sends them to the dog park.

Chair Vincent stated that Sutherlin is a gem and with utilizing the library as an example of the community coming together, he felt the dog park was another great situation of the community uniting for improvements.

Silvia Monas, stepped forward and stated that the City donated the land, garbage and porta-potty, but the members of the dog park have done the rest. The park has been cost free to the City.

Discussion ensued regarding options for improvements to the Sutherlin Dog Park, that both the City and Sutherlin Dog Park Advisory Committee could participate with. Mr. Elliott indicated that he would generate a list from this meeting and discuss it with Public Works. He will then reach out to Mrs. Petersen. Mr. Elliott then requested pictures from the Sutherlin Dog Park to add to the city website.

Public Comment – None.

Committee Comments – None.

Adjournment: With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kristi Gilbert

Seth Vincent

Kristi Gilbert
Community Development Specialist

Chair Seth Vincent

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON THIS *30th* DAY OF *November*, 2017