

Agenda
Veneta Park Board
Wednesday, December 2, 2015 – 4:30 p.m.
Veneta City Hall

- I. **Public Comments**
Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes each. The Park Board will not engage in any discussion or make any decisions based on public comment at this time; however, they may take comments under advisement for discussion and action at a future Park Board meeting.
- II. **Approve Minutes for November 4, 2015 (pgs. 3-5)**
- III. **Old Business**
 - 1. **Update on Committee Assignments**
- IV. **Event Planning**
 - 1. **Tree Lighting**
 - 2. **Light Parade**
- V. **Other**
- VI. **Next Meeting – January 6, 2016**

Minutes of the Veneta Park Board

November 4, 2015

Board Members

Present: Stephanie Fuller; Matt Horowitz; Cathy Coulson-Keegan; Jodie Kenney; Robert McCarthy; Brad Renfro; Desiree Rhodes; and Craig Soderberg

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Kay Bork, Community Development Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Director; Victoria Hedenstrom, Council Liaison; Darci Henneman, City Recorder, Dennis Paronto, Pat Coy

- I. Chair Craig Soderberg reviewed the agenda and called the meeting to order 4:33 at p.m.
- II. Public Comment
None
- III. Approve Minutes for October 7, 2015
Stephanie motioned to approve the October 7, 2015 minutes. Jody seconded, all approved.
- IV. Old business
 1. Tree City Celebration Recap
Kay said the event went very well and the tree presentation and scavenger hunt were great. She said Craig and Ric made great food and Mayor Larson said she will try to help with getting more kids to next year's event. She said she will explain how she and Matt set up the scavenger hunt and suggested hosting hunts throughout the year.

Matt said the event continues to grow from year to year.

There was some discussion about laminating the display boards for the Tree City Celebration and the possibility of Kinko's sponsoring the event to cover the cost of the laminating. It was suggested that the event subcommittee look into that for next year's event.
- V. Event Planning
 1. Tree Lighting
 - a. Request to purchase Holiday Tree for the Tree Lighting ceremony
Ric said the tree will be purchased from the same tree farm as last year's tree.

Cathy motioned to approve the Tree Board purchase the holiday tree for the Tree Lighting Ceremony at an estimated cost of \$100. Matt seconded, all approved.

Craig said Veneta Elementary will incorporate a permanent plaza in the school remodel. He said the plaza will be used for community events, like the Tree Lighting. He said Veneta Elementary has included Ric in the discussions about the plaza design.

Dennis said this year's Tree Lighting will be on December 3rd, with Santa at 6:00 p.m. and the tree lighting will be at 6:30 p.m. He said it will be at the same place and a portion of the parking lot will be roped off to provide more room for the choirs and attendees.

Craig said in years past the Park Board helped with crowd control and handed out raffle tickets.

2. Light parade

Craig said the Kiwanis has asked the Park Board to chair the safety committee for the parade and assist with pedestrian traffic. He said all volunteers will be required to wear a reflective safety vest.

Dennis said the Kiwanis will have about six volunteers but they need 10 total. The parade starts at 7:00 p.m. He said the next committee meeting is at 4:00 p.m. on November 20th at City Hall and anyone wanting to volunteer should attend that meeting. Dennis said volunteers will help keep the parade moving and keep the floats from getting too far apart.

Craig said he will chair the Park Board parade subcommittee and he'll send out information about the subcommittee meetings. He asked everyone to please check your schedules to see if you can assist with that event.

3. Tree City Board Information

Kay provided copies of the Arbor Foundation Tree City information. She said she will bring the bulletins to the meetings as she receives them. She said they provide a lot of good information about trees. She said she will also provide links to modulars on fundraising, budgeting, events, etc.

VI. 1st Quarter Financials

Ric said there has been no activity in either Park Board fund because the Park Board didn't spend any funds in the last quarter. Ric said the Park Board oversees a fundraising fund which has a balance of \$5800 and the other fund comes from the City to support Park Board events and other expenses.

VII. Other

Craig said he would like to focus more on event subcommittees. He said he will send out a list of events and asked members to sign up for subcommittees to participate on. He said the Easter Egg Hunt and Earth Day events are right around the corner.

Robert provided sample paper Easter eggs that are made in the USA. He said he's not sure how biodegradable they are so he will experiment with a couple. He said they are eight cents each verses the plastic eggs at six and a half cents each. He said to use the biodegradable eggs would be an extra \$80.

Craig said Cathy is co-chairing that committee and the paper eggs verses plastic is a great idea to bring to the next meeting.

Ric said Dennis is involved with the Easter Egg Hunt as a Kiwanis representative. He suggested including Kiwanis in the decision to purchase the biodegradable eggs.

Cathy suggested trying to get a sponsor to cover the \$80. She said this would also be a positive step and a good article in the local paper.

Matt asked if the Park Board has a mission to be a greener community.

Craig said every year the Park Board reviews its mission statement. He asked if anyone wanted to propose something new, to please let him know.

Kyle provided a thorough overview of the history of the swimming pool. The original pool was built in 1958 as a way to address multiple youth drownings at Fern Ridge Reservoir. He said in 2006 to perform some routine maintenance, the pool was drawn down and in a heavy rain, the pool popped out of the ground. He said when the City Council approved constructing a new pool, the plans called for a kiddy pool but we were unable to build it due construction costs. However, the plumbing was installed for future inclusion of a kiddy pool. Current construction costs of a kiddy pool would be about \$325,000 which is not currently funded.

In response to a question from Matt, Kyle said most of the construction can take place after the pool closes in the fall.

Ric said the pool is seasonal with operating costs of about \$100,000 and revenue of about \$50,000. The original design included covering the pool in the future but a year round pool would be cost prohibitive for the City.

Kyle said in order to keep the grant funds we received, the pool cannot be covered for 20 years.

Pat Coy introduced himself and said he and his wife are avid users of the pool. He said by not having a kiddy pool, an entire demographic of people is not using the pool. He said we need to do what we can to make the pool useful to young families.

Ric said rebuilding the pool was citizen driven and Mr. Coy is trying to motivate our community and resurrect the pool committee to start working on funding a kiddy pool.

Pat said he would be happy to do his part to encourage this.

Ric said Mr. Coy would like to get a few community members interested in creating an exploratory committee to look into fundraising ideas for construction of the kiddy pool. He said staff would publish a press release in the paper to advertise the formation of the committee.

Craig suggested Pat Coy get the initial group together and then bring this item back to the Park Board after the first of the year.

In response to a question from Pat, Ric said the grant application process takes about 12 to 18 months.

Pat said he would like to resurrect the Pool Committee by mid-January 2016.

Ric said staff will make sure the Park Board is kept informed.

VIII. Next Meeting
December 2, 2015

IX. History of Veneta Community Center and tour of Veneta Community Swimming Pool to begin at 5:00 p.m.

Cathy motioned to adjourn the meeting, Brad seconded, all approved.
The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.