

Minutes of the Veneta Parks Board March 3, 2010

Board Members Present: Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Marie Pickett, Barbara Nelson, Gail Wilkie, Daphene Sampson, Savannah Church, and Robert Hladky

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Council liaison; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; and Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder

Chair, Gail Wilkie called the Veneta Parks Board meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. She amended the agenda to exclude item 4.b. Excused/Unexcused Meeting Absences will not be discussed at today's meeting.

I. Public Comments:
None

II. Approve Minutes for February 3, 2010:
Cathy Coulson-Keegan made a motion to approve the February 3, 2010 minutes. Barbara Nelson seconded the motion. All approved.

Because some Parks Board members did not receive the March 3rd agenda and February 3rd minutes for approval, Ric suggested that all members confirm receipt of emails from City staff.

III. Old Business:

a. Status of Subcommittee Reports

1. Easter Egg Hunt

Gail gave a quick overview of what the subcommittee has accomplished since the last meeting. She has yet to receive the signed facility report for the use of Veneta Elementary as the Hunt site from Fern Ridge School District 28J. Ric said he would follow up with Greg Baker of the School District.

Subcommittee members met with Dennis Poronto of the Kiwanis, Linda Boothe from the Rotary, and Heather from the Library who will be assisting with the disabled area as well as story time. BiMart donated a \$40 gift card toward the purchase of plastic eggs. Gift baskets will not be provided this year in an effort to cut costs but one large chocolate bunny per age group will be given away.

A walk through of the Hunt site at Veneta Elementary is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9th at 4:00 p.m. The Boy Scouts are on board to assist with stuffing eggs and set up. They will deliver and set up the straw bales the morning of the Hunt and also remove it afterwards. They have also paid for the helium tank rental for balloons.

Ric said he would work with Kyle from Public Works and Greg Baker from the School District about having the fire engine at Veneta Elementary. Gail said Tressa from Lane County Fire District No. 1 has agreed to be the Easter Bunny on the fire engine.

In response to a question from Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Gail said she would like to use the community center for stuffing eggs, and scheduled that for Saturday, March 27th.

Cathy said Heather from the Library will be providing spring story time, books for all ages and 39 plastic eggs will be stuffed with tokens to be redeemed for a new book. Also toothbrushes donated by Dr. Tracy Robinson in Veneta will be tied to balloons for the kids.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be advertised in the County Shopper and a Public Service Announcement will be provided to various radio and television stations, and to the Register Guard. Cathy will hang posters throughout the community and small handouts will be made available also.

2. Earth Day/Arbor Day

The Kiwanis will provide barbequed hamburgers for Earth Day volunteers. If we want another kind of food we need to provide it. Neighbors 4 Responsible Growth (N4RG) will not be attending Earth Day. Pony Gilbert will have a booth as well as EPUD, Country Transfer and Recycling and the Westside Garden Club. The Westside Garden Club will be meeting at the Library Saturday, March 6th to pot plants for Earth Day.

The subcommittee will be meeting Thursday, March 4th at City Hall with Ric and members of the Kiwanis committee to discuss the barbeque.

Robert McClelland is the Executive Director of Willamette Leadership Academy and he will be bringing the Pioneer Youth Corp. of Oregon, Inc. to assist with Earth Day.

Earth Day/Arbor Day will be advertised on the City utility billing statements, the bulletin board at City Hall, the City's website, reader boards at Lane County Fire District No. 1 and Dairy Queen, and in the County Shopper. Barb indicated she would be providing a Public Service Announcement to the Register Guard and various radio and television stations. Marie will contact the Lane County Fire District No. 1 and Dairy Queen. Initially she will outreach to Wintergreen Farms as well as five other local farmers and then proceed with a more global outreach.

Sharon Hobart-Hardin suggested we order more clip boards and give them to the Parks Board. Darci said she would order several inexpensive clipboards for registration.

In response to a question from Daphene, Barb said if any vendors or businesses from Eugene or other outlying areas would like to set up a booth and/or support Earth Day, they are more than welcome to do so.

The subcommittee has yet to find evergreen tree samplings to give to volunteers. Ric said the Oregon Dept. of Forestry usually donates the trees but this year they didn't have any carryover. Staff has been unsuccessful with finding a source to donate the trees. Ric said we may have to purchase them.

The Earth Day subcommittee will meet at 4:30 p.m. on March 11th at City Hall.

b. Review Budget Figures

Gail requested status of the Parks Board Funds. The majority of the funds in the Parks Board fund came from selling the Fern Ridgeopoly games. Gross sales totaled \$13,131.50 and expenses totaled \$8,771.32 leaving a balance of \$4,360.18. There was some confusion and the Parks Board asked for clarification if the \$4,360.18 can be used as seed money to support park projects.

In response to a question from Cathy, Ric said the \$2,050 originated in FY 2007-2008 as income from fundraising. The intent is for the Parks Board to not support events but to use these funds as seed money to enhance City parks.

Ric said he would get clarification from Jerri on the Parks Board budget.

The City budgeted \$1,607.00 for FY 2009-2010 to support Parks Board activities. Out of that \$680 has been spent (Holiday bazaar \$30.00; Easter egg Hunt \$500.00; and Earth Day \$150.00) leaving a balance of \$927.00. If these funds need to be used in FY 2009-2010 as they will not carry over into FY 2010-2011. It was the consensus of the Parks Board to use these fund this FY and also sell the remaining Fern Ridgeopoly games at Earth Day.

VI. New Business:

- a. Members Craig Soderberg and Cathy Coulson-Keegan Parks Board terms expire March 31, 2010. Staff indicated they have both turned in new applications for their positions. Mayor Hobart-Hardin will make the appointments at the March 22, 2010 City Council meeting.
- b. Excused/Unexcused Meeting Absences
Chair Gail Wilkie removed this item from the agenda.

V. Next Meeting:

The next Parks Board meeting will be April 7, 2010.

The Parks Board adjourned at 5:30 p.m.