

Weston Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2013

The first order of business was to read the January 21st minutes. The minutes were accepted with no changes. The Commission had a final opportunity to offer input on the bylaws and no changes were made. Sheldon Delph moved to adopt the bylaws and the motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The bylaws are now ready for Council approval.

Then Commission then turned its attention to discussing funding opportunities for the three main projects under discussion right now – planting new trees, carving the old trees, and putting together a Parks Master Plan. The Commission decided to approach the County Commissioners for a small amount of funding – about \$500 or so – to purchase a few new trees to be planted this spring. The Commission will also look into the Tribal nursery to find out more information about how they might be able to help either by growing native trees for Weston, or through potential financial support in this project.

The Commission will reconsider planting more trees this fall. Other fundraising opportunities such as putting together a donation account, asking for local donations, and providing naming opportunities were all discussed and will be considered for future projects.

For dealing with the dead trees, the Commission discussed the idea of making benches from the wood of the old trees. The Commission will look into a cost comparison for building benches versus carving the trees, then put out a survey to the community asking for input. The Commission would like to pursue a grant through the National Endowment for the Arts to pay for this project.

Lastly, the Commission recognizes that the City needs a Parks Master Plan in place to guide any further parks improvement projects and to secure money for the projects from the State. To that end, the Commission would like to apply to the State for a grant to complete a Parks Master Plan.

The Commission will meet again on Wednesday, March 6th at 6 PM in the Elliott Memorial Park to do a walk-through. The Commission will then head back to Memorial Hall at 6:30 and the bulk of March's meeting will be short-term goal setting. We invite anyone interested in the Parks and Recreation Commission to attend the next meeting.

*Requested actions by the Council:

1. We request the Council to approve the adopted bylaws
2. We request permission to apply for the National Endowment for the Arts (Due May 1st) to pay for tree carving/bench building as determined by the community. There is no match requirement and Sheldon Delph will write the grant application at no charge to the City.

3. We request permission to apply to the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department for a grant (Due June 14th) to pay for the Parks Master Plan. The cash match that we would need is \$1,000, however we feel confident that we can raise the \$1,000 through other sources and at no cost to the City. Laura Prado will write the grant application at no cost to the City.