

# *Kelso Parks & Recreation Department*

*1606 Tam O'Shanter Way*

*P.O. Box 819*

*Kelso, WA 98626*

*Ph: 360-577-7119 Fax: 360-425-8503*



## **Park Board Meeting**

April 15, 2010

### **Call to Order:**

Scott DeRosier called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at City of Kelso City Hall Council Chambers, 203 S. Pacific Ave.

### **Those present were as follows:**

#### **Park Board Members**

Scott DeRosier

Pamela Jo Enbusk

Jerry Phillips

James Webb

#### **Staff**

Tim Mackin, Park Superintendent

Stephanie Helem, City of Kelso

Excused Absence: Bob Smith

### **Also in attendance:**

Gary Schimmel, City of Kelso City Council Member

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Jerry Phillips made the motion, seconded by Pamela Jo Enbusk to approve the minutes of January 21, 2010. Motion carried, all in favor.

The September 17, 2009 meeting minutes were approved at the January 21, 2010 Park Board Meeting.

### **Business:**

1. Introduction of Gary Schimmel, City of Kelso Council Member, the new liaison between City Council and the Parks Department.
2. Introduction of Stephanie Helem, City of Kelso employee, who will be recording minutes for the Parks Board.
3. Tam O'Shanter Park Upgrades
  - a. Scott DeRosier led discussion on Youth Baseball – Rookie field fencing has been raised to 10 feet tall making it a regulation field for Regionals. Kelso to host 12 year old Regionals July 28 through August 1, with potentially nine visiting teams from Alberta, British Columbia, Montana, Idaho, Northern and Southern Washington, Northern and Southern

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Oregon and Wyoming. Usually 12 year old level goes onto the World Series. Hoping Kelso gets good attendance from out of town teams. New flag pole to be installed. New turf has been placed on Youth Baseball's three fields.

- b. Upgraded fencing on major field by bumping fence back a few feet to light poles and raised fence to six feet. New signs have been placed on fences on major and minor fields. New Kelso blue "batter's eyes" (tarps you see in center field) for all three fields. Trying to get things cleaned up and presentable in time for Regionals.
  - c. Tim Mackin led discussion on Girls Softball – RD Olson put in a new front gate that says Heerensperger Field. Decorative fencing remains to be complete between masonry free standing block work. 20 ft of fencing to be placed above backstop. Dugouts are complete. All fencing should be complete within the next few weeks. New bleachers in Kelso blue are complete, seats 250 people and have received several positive comments. 14 year old Girls State tournament to be held in July.
  - d. May 8<sup>th</sup> Opening Ceremony - Dave Heerensperger will dedicate field with bronze statue of his late mother and himself. Dave and his wife donated the original \$150,000. Friends and relatives have also donated over \$20,000 to participate in the statue and plaque dedication.
4. Rotary Skate Park Update – Tim Mackin led discussion on recent incident of graffiti/vandalism reported in paper. Tim reported that there was some paint sprayed in the bowl, which washed right off. Really no major problems. The skaters are doing a great job of cleaning up and policing the area. James Webb suggested Tim contact the paper and let them know the positives.
5. Willis Boys Senior Project Update – Tim Mackin led discussion on new Tam O'Shanter sign. Old sign has been taken down. Temporary fencing is up. Landscaping should be done this coming up weekend, depending on weather. Not sure on the time frame for placement of new sign. Project has received several generous donations.
6. Rister Parking Lot Small Island Ideas – One small island left by the minor field, approximately 40-50 sq.ft. to be completed. Tim Mackin is looking for suggestions on any club that may be interested in taking this on as a project. Scott DeRosier suggested the possibility of getting an Eagle Scout involved. Boy Scouts completed two of the islands. Kelso Babe Ruth is working on one island and would like to grass it in and place a picnic table.

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7. Tim Mackin led discussion regarding picnic tables possibly being donated from the owner of Brookhollow Mobile Home Park. They would need to be fixed up and then could be placed around Tam O'Shanter Park.
8. Tim Mackin gave an update on benches recently replaced along the running path on the dike from Dairy Queen to Talley Way.
9. AT & T/Verizon Towers – Tim Mackin met with contractor. Com line installation will cause open ditch. Work has been scheduled to start in August after ball season is complete. Work will take approximately one month to complete.
10. Park Board Grant Funds – Lengthy discussion followed regarding a letter received from Dennis Richards, City of Kelso City Manager, and his response to not provide grant funds directly to the Park Board. Jerry Phillips and Scott DeRosier gave brief descriptions of how Longview's Park Grant Fund had been used in the past. A percentage of Longview's Real Estate Excise Tax Revenue is used to fund the \$25,000 Parks Grant. Service group would not receive grant monies until the project was complete.

The Park Board realizes City of Kelso monies that are already earmarked are hard to obtain. The Park Board has looked at the Verizon/AT & T project as "found" money. This money would be used to enhance any of the City Parks. Per a discussion between Tim Mackin and Dennis Richards this money will be placed in the General Fund for Parks and Recreation. Gary Schimmel discussed the possibility of establishing this fund with revenue from the AT & T/Verizon towers. Tim Mackin believed the approximate revenue would be \$2200.00 per month. Jerry Phillips feels this fund/program would be a great opportunity for more community involvement with the City of Kelso parks. Scott DeRosier believes by establishing this grant the City would double their money by getting user groups involved using this matching fund grant. Scott DeRosier will provide Gary Schimmel documents used in research and sent to the City Manager regarding this fund. Gary Schimmel will discuss this fund at the next Council Meeting.

11. New Parks 9 Month Employee. Jim Wells started Monday. The screening process was done through Employer's Overload and three candidates were interviewed. Interview Board included two union members, two management, and Tim Mackin.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott DeRosier", written over a horizontal line.

Scott DeRosier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Mackin", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Mackin