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CITY OF YACHATS
PARKS AND COMMONS COMMISSION
Civic Meeting Room – Yachats Commons
June 21, 2012

The regular meeting of the Parks and Commons Commission was called to order by Chair Don Niskanen at 3:00 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room of the Yachats Commons. Members present: Niskanen, Mari Irvin, Lauralee Svendsgaard, Fran Morse, and Larry Newman.

I. Minutes – May 17, 2012

Motion to adopt the minutes, Aye – 5, No – 0.

II. Reports

A. Friends of the Yachats Commons

1. Commons User Support Manager – Attached in writing.

Niskanen reported on the status of the storage room construction project. Niskanen said that the State Contractors Board was in town to investigate the contractor's method of dealing with the lead abatement in the project area because they had received a complaint.

When the investigator had completed his review and conversations he said that he was satisfied that the contractor had taken all the proper steps, including notifications to the YYFAP staff.

Svendsgaard said that she wants it on file that the City appreciates the way that the contractor, Steven Lippincott has dealt with the lead abatement issue.

B. Year to Date: Revenue and Expenditures

It was noted that the rental revenue would fall short of the budgeted amount by the end of the year, but not by much.

C. Yachats Trails Committee – Svendsgaard reported:

- There has been a drop in volunteer participation in the past several months, but the group has still been able to do some good work.
- Black plastic has been put down around the rock wall at the Whale Tail Park to keep the ivy down. Bark chips will be added to keep the plastic in place.
- This time of year, weeds are a problem in the established trails.
- The National Trails Day was on June 2. Under the leadership of U.S. Forest Service's Siuslaw National Forest staff, volunteers from the Yachats Trails Committee and others hosted numerous trail related activities centered at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center. The trails celebration culminated at the Amanda Grotto with performances from several Native American flutists, drummers and singers; and a blessing at the Amanda Statue to commemorate this year's theme -- *"Amanda' Trail: A walk to remember our cultural past & better navigate our future."*

- 1 • Plans for the Gerdemann Garden Connection Trail are still being discussed. The City has
2 not yet received the permission from the Forest Service yet so no work can be started.
- 3 • July 4, Wednesday – The Trails Committee will be participating in the La-De-Da!
4 Parade.
- 5 • July 6, Friday at 9:00 a.m. - *The Annual Overleaf Lodge Ivy Pull*. Volunteers will help
6 restore native habitat along the 804 Trail. Following the pull, SOLV and Overleaf Lodge
7 will provide beverages, hamburgers and bratwurst.
- 8 • July 14, Saturday at 10:00 a.m. -- Trails Crew to meet at the Prospect Garden.
- 9 • July 21, Saturday at 10:00 a.m. -- YIPS Work Event.
- 10 • July 22, Sunday -- The Yachats Trails Committee's annual picnic at Bear Wind Mountain
11 (Joanne's) from 2pm to 6pm. Details will be sent via email to the Trails Committee's
12 contact list.

13 **III. Business**

14 **A. Discussion: Possible Dog Park Area in Community Park**

15 Betty Johnston submitted a request that a dog park be included as part of the Community Park.
16

17 Niskanen said that he talked with Councilor Rieseck about adding it and Rieseck said that he saw
18 no reason why it could not be done, if the right area is selected. Rieseck suggested that it be in
19 the area near the community garden or along either side of the backstop.
20

21 Svendsgaard said that she thinks it is appropriate for the City to have a dog park. Dogs need
22 more exercise than what most owners are able to provide, and dogs encourage owners to exercise
23 more as well.
24

25 Svendsgaard said that sometimes there are problems with aggressive dogs or owners that do not
26 pick up after their animals, but those situations can be dealt with by park users self-enforcing the
27 rules.
28

29 Motion to support the concept, and will continue the discussion when Johnston has completed
30 her research and is able to provide more information including the costs, Aye – 5, No – 0.
31

32 **B. Discussion: Key Policy and Locking Policy**

33 Niskanen said that the current Commons Policy has a Key Policy but there is nothing in the
34 Policy about locking the doors. Niskanen said that he has found the doors open on many
35 occasions.
36

37 Svendsgaard said that she thinks renters should also be responsible to make sure that all the
38 doors are locked, not just the one that they have unlocked. Since the room keys may not be used
39 to lock other doors, they could call the posted number if they find a door that is unlocked that
40 they are not able to lock.
41
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43

1 **IV. Other Business**

2 **A. From the Commission**

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4 Svendsgaard said that she thinks the landscaping around the Commons is improving.

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6 **B. From the Staff** – None.

7
8 **C From the Floor** – None.

9
10 The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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13 _____
14 Don Niskanen, Chair

15
16
17 Attest:
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19
20 _____
21 Nancy Batchelder, City Recorder