

CITY OF YACHATS
PARKS AND COMMONS COMMISSION
December 15, 2016

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: Don Niskanen, Scott Gordon, John Moore, Lauralee Svenggaard, and Dean Shrock. Absent: Ruth Bass and Derek Ojeda. Audience: 2 (Dave Rieseck and Rose Valentine)

I. Minutes –November 17, 2016 – Commissioner Svenggaard asked if all of the electrical improvements were done in the picnic shelter and Chair Niskanen said they were all completed. Motion by Commissioner Shrock to approve the minutes. Aye –all. Nay--none.

II. Reports

A. Commons User Support Manager

Written report from Leon Sterner presented. He had a very busy weekend last weekend. There were two events on Saturday and one on Sunday. Commissioner Svenggaard asked if it makes sense to have Public Works take over some of the major maintenance aspects of the Commons because they've got more experience in dealing with plumbing and electrical and the contractors. Chair Niskanen said that we can discuss it with the City Administrator.

B. Year to Date: Revenue and Expenditures

Chair Niskanen said they didn't get the chart that shows the income for the Commons. It will be included next time. Commissioner Svenggaard asked about the budget line being 553% this early in the year. Chair Niskanen will check into it.

C. Yachats Trails Committee

The written report from Bob Langley is in the packet.

D. Public Works Report-

Rick McClung was not present so no report.

E. Friends of the Commons Report-

Rose Valentine reported that the Friends of the Commons didn't have a meeting this month. Chair Niskanen asked if the fundraising was going fairly well. Rose Valentine said it is going very well with the Giving Tree and the fundraising letter. That money goes towards the new carpet, for example.

III. Business

A. Project charter from the Friends

There is nothing further to report from the last meeting so no need to be on the Agenda.

B. Expiring Terms-December 31, 2016

Terms for Lauralee Svenggaard, Derek Ojeda, and Don Niskanen have expired. Chair Niskanen has already turned in his completed form to renew. He gave a form to Commissioner Svenggaard and will give one to Commissioner Ojeda.

1
2 **C. Dave Rieseck-Commons General Plan**

3 Chair Niskanen explained that while Dave Rieseck was on City Council, he was appointed Chair of a task
4 force to develop the general plan for the Commons. The dozen or so members of the task force met for
5 over about a year to discuss ways to improve the Commons. The task force accomplished building the
6 picnic shelter, the skate park, playground improvements. The City has provided some funds for the
7 projects, as have the Friends of the Yachats Commons Foundation. It has been on the budget for two
8 years now to replace the roof on the building and also for the main entry way on 5th Street.
9

10 Dave Rieseck gave a history of the formation of the task force.
11

12 Public Works needs to move their fence 10 feet because they need a different truck so they can
13 eliminate 10 hours each week of truck reloading time. They have a giant piece of property and there is
14 no other place this could work. This will encroach on the Library. It may only be 8 feet now, according
15 to the City Administrator. Dave met with one of the Commissioners and they were able to redesign the
16 plan a little and incorporate expansion for the Library for storage and book shelves and still get the
17 mural in and a mini plaza with a small labyrinth. Some of the things they've been pining for since before
18 the bank building was purchased. The plan just shows that we can incorporate some of the people's
19 wishes with actual projects and keep the continuity and long term growth strategies.
20

21 Chair Niskanen said the Trails Committee has been working on the Wetlands park which will be part of
22 the dedication grove.
23

24 Commissioner Moore said as part of the plan, there have been numerous discussions in several meetings
25 about the need for an outdoor restroom, especially in the spring and summer and fall when we have the
26 farmer's market and somebody has to sit on the building to make sure no vandalism happens. And there
27 are a number of practical reasons to have the outdoor restroom. Commissioner Svendsgaard was
28 concerned about acting on it without Dave Rieseck weighing in on it since this is his plan and any
29 location and type of facility would be important to make sure it fits in the plan.
30

31 Dave Rieseck said he talked to the City Administrator about this and they think they can work it into the
32 East entry. Earlier on, it wasn't thought to be a big drain on staff time, but obviously it is cumbersome
33 for the staff. Talk has happened about how the port-a-potty gets cleaned and the wind direction
34 because it can't be upstream of the YYFAP kids. Discussion has taken place about State Parks having
35 built a shelter around the facility for appearances and it does take a little more time getting it cleaned,
36 but it can be done. It gives us the opportunity to plan for now and for the future in case it needs to be
37 removed because there is an outdoor access to the building. Given the timing of the City Administrator
38 just having started and then the 42 inches of rain happening, there hasn't been an opportunity to revisit
39 the issue. Dave Rieseck will come back to do design for the outdoor restroom facility.
40

41 Commissioner Shrock asked as far as budgeting, what happens next? Commissioner Svendsgaard
42 explained the entrance is on the Capital Improvement Plan list that was sent to the Council four months
43 ago. It takes elements of this plan and includes it in the master list. Commissioner Shrock then asked
44 what the greatest priority is? Dave Rieseck said short term, in his opinion, they probably need to get
45 the outdoor restroom designed, since summer is going to come and we need it done. Dave is in town so
46 can schedule a meeting via email quickly and easily and get a design exercise done. Then they can get
47 the solstice and the little amphitheater and the interpreter stuff and the trellis out there that connects it
48 all together. We tried to put a little budget together for each of the projects. An update to the plan in
49 the next year would probably make sense, with the change in City staff. It gives everyone a chance to
50 think about the need to assign people to paint the pump stations using the right color paint so it all
51 works together. Someone will take a paint chip up to get paint.

1 Commissioner Moore agrees that the public restroom is a priority, but is it a priority over the East
2 entrance? Commissioner Svensgaard said it needs to be incorporated in the design with the entrance.
3 Chair Niskanen said it needs to go before the Council for approval.
4

5 Dave Rieseck will commit to doing the design that incorporates it with the East entrance. Then they can
6 go to the City Administrator and the Public Works crew to see what fits in for their work. They might be
7 able to work on it or not. Commissioner Svensgaard said it's important to realize that it's not just a port-
8 a-potty, it's also part of the continuity.
9

10 Commissioner Shrock said he understands that but a decision must be made about the actual location
11 and whether or not it's part of the entryway, or adjacent to or contiguous to the picnic shelter, and the
12 fence around the playground. Maybe it doesn't have to be part of the entryway. It has to be part of
13 having it thought out to make sure it works in the plan. He's not clear in his mind where the placement
14 will be, but it needs to all work together.
15

16 Dave Rieseck said they've talked with YYFAP about their rules with age groups and fence heights, and
17 Public Works needs to weigh in on what works for them, which might boot it out of the East entry. With
18 the Hwy 101 project and the Engineer, they did locate some pipelines and storm drains and outlets and
19 such that they didn't know existed.
20

21 Commissioner Gordon made the point that they don't even know the sewer lines are located.
22 Commissioner Svensgaard said they aren't needed for a port-a-potty. That's just further down the road.
23 Commissioner Shrock said he was thinking something more permanent. Commissioner Svensgaard said
24 they drive it on the property, take it off of the truck and come back every couple of weeks to clean it.
25 Dave Rieseck said one thing to keep in mind is that it's \$79 per month and they come once a week.
26 Commissioner Svensgaard asked if they were handicapped accessible. Dave Rieseck said that they have
27 to build the shelter. Commissioner Svensgaard made the point that size wise, they need to know that, to
28 build the shelter.
29

30 Commissioner Shrock asked if the discussion had taken place about the \$79 per month, versus a
31 permanent facility. Commissioner Svensgaard said she has proposed it when it's come up. She met with
32 Dave Rieseck and he talked about doing an enclosure. Commissioner Gordon said the wall is in front so
33 you have to turn a corner to get to it and it's not visible. Commissioner Gordon asked if the shelter
34 needed an open back for cleaning, and it does not.
35

36 **IV. Other Business**

37

38 **A. From the Commission**

39 Commissioner Svensgaard mentioned that volunteers are still needed for the Peace Hike and Yachats
40 Indigenous People's Day, on January 1 at 10:00am. They are doing the alternative trail to Ya 'Xaik with
41 the fire outside and the ceremony inside the Commons. Chair Niskanen asked if the Trails report
42 interpretive signage is part of a grant and Commissioner Svensgaard said that is something Joanne Kittel
43 has been working on for the last six months and she is working with the tribes in putting that together.
44 It is also involves the Ben Christianson Memorial Fund. Chair Niskanen asked if the signs were ready to
45 go to the artist, and Commissioner Svensgaard said that was her understanding.
46

47 **B. From the Floor**

48

49 Commission meets the third Thursday of each month.
50

51 Next meeting: Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 3pm

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2 The meeting was adjourned.
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5 _____
6 Don Niskanen, Chair

7 Attest:
8
9

10
11 _____
12 Sheila Voge, City Clerk III