

FRIENDS OF THE PARKS COMMISSION

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Public Services

55 Portland Street

5:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Commission Members: Kirk Goodhue, Steven Morgenstein, Jaime Parker, Diane Davison, Dory Richards Waxman

Friends of Deering Oaks Park: Barbara Hager

Land Bank: Roger Berle

Riverton International Gardens: Caroline Wagner, Chip Edgar

City Staff: Mike Bobinsky, Tom Civiello, Rick Knowland, Melissa Graffam

The meeting was called to order at 5:13 p.m.

Since Kirk Goodhue has already been the chairperson for this Commission, he asked if there was anyone else who would like to do this. Jaime Parker was nominated and Diane Davison seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

The Commission had a quorum and was able to accept the meeting minutes from December 2008, January and February 2009.

Along with accepting the minutes the Commission was able make a recommendation for the Land Bank Commission to acquire the property adjacent to the Pine Grove Park and include it in the park. Roger Berle stated that he would like to bring this item to the Council in June. Kirk Goodhue made the motion to recommend this; was seconded by Steve Morgenstein; everyone was in favor.

The Friends of the Parks Commission also made the recommendation for allowing the Deering Center Community Garden to be placed on land at the Evergreen Cemetery. Diane Davison made the motion to recommend; was seconded by Kirk Goodhue; everyone was in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

Caroline Wagner noted that if we are going to be having the FOP meetings here at Public Services, we need to make sure that the front door is unlocked. She knocked like the notice on the door said, but no one heard her for awhile. Mike Bobinsky noted that we will have the front doors open during the meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Riverton Community Garden

Caroline Wagner passed out a handout to everyone outlining the goal, location, organizers, community support, promotional tools, funding and resources of their proposal for a Riverton International Garden.

Once approved they will be starting up the garden with fees, grants and donations. They did ask if the City could donate mulch for the garden.

They are proposing that the garden be in front of the tennis courts. Fees will be \$35 per plot. They still are looking into different water sources and the area will be fenced in.

The Friends of the Parks Commission made the recommendation for the Riverton Community Garden. Steve Morgenstein made the motion to recommend; was seconded by Diane Davison; everyone was in favor.

Bayside Trail

Rick Knowland gave the Commission some information regarding the Bayside Trail. The ten-year effort will start construction this summer. At this time there is no funding for the aerial crosswalk. The paths will be 16 feet wide; with 12 feet paved and 2 feet trail dust on both sides.

On March 24, 2009 there will be a Planning Workshop and a goal of having a public hearing in April.

OTHER BUSINESS

Continuing Discussion about Reorganizing the Membership of the Friends of the Park Commission

The Commission continued discussions regarding this and will be meeting again to work out even more details.

The next meeting of Friends of the Parks is Thursday, April 9, 2009 at Portland Public Services at 55 Portland Street at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Graffam
Executive Assistant