



**In attendance:** Commission Members : Chair Dory Waxman, Vice Chair Nathan Robbins, Meri Lowry, Michael Mertaugh, Zack Anchors, Amy Segal, Ana Lagunez and Marie Gray. Staff members: Sally DeLuca, Matt Coleman, Alli Carroll, Ethan Hipple, Nelle Donaldson. Members of the Public: Members of the Friends of Western Promenade.

**Parks Commission Minutes**

**January 03, 2019**

**5:00 PM**

**Portland City Hall**

**389 Congress Street, Council Chambers**

**Meeting began at 5:10 PM.**

**I. General Citizen Comment Period**

Members of the public were not present at this time to comment.

**II. Agenda Items (*public comment taken on action items only*)**

**a. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes**

**i. Acceptance of October Meeting Minutes**

Marie motioned to accept the meeting minutes of October 4, 2018. Nathan seconded. Nathan suggested changing "Nathan agreed and said that there are much bigger issues involved that the Parks Commission can handle and wants to make sure that the Commission focuses on how they can effectively help." of page two, paragraph seven to "Nathan agreed and said that there are much bigger issues involved that the Parks Commission can't handle and wants to make sure that the Commission focuses on how they can effectively help." The Commission agreed in this change. Nathan moved to accept the October 4, 2018 minutes as amended. Zack seconded. Motion passed with six in favor. Meri and Marie abstained.

**ii. Acceptance of November Meeting Minutes**

This will be brought to the February 7, 2019 Parks Commission meeting as there are not enough members present tonight for the motion to pass.

**b. New Business**

**i. Impact Fees**

Nelle Donaldson of Planning presented a powerpoint regarding the City of Portland's recent impact fees implementation. The City Council voted unanimously to adopt an impact fee ordinance in November of 2018. As of December 19, 2018, the impact fee ordinance will be affecting all building permit applications in the City of Portland to fund the cost of providing municipal facilities that serve the development. Those exempt from this ordinance would be those who have their site plans approved prior to this effective date. She continued to explain that there will be three impact fees; one for parks/recreation, transportation, and wastewater. Parks/recreation and transportation fees will be under the same schedule. The ordinance speaks generally about revisiting the schedules so that the prices stay with the growth of population and employment in the City. The Commission thanked Nelle and City staff for their hard work through this process and for bringing it to their attention this evening. They said that this ordinance is overdue but very welcome.

**ii. Hadlock Field Update**

The City of Portland violated the terms of a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant about thirty years ago when Hadlock Field became the home to the Portland Sea Dogs minor league baseball team rather than keeping the land an open space. In order to fix this mistake, the City would like to transfer the protections given by the grant to the City owned property on Warren Avenue behind the Riverton Community Center. This is a 45 acre piece of land that is mostly wetland. The Parks Division would love to be able to use this space for trails, specifically an ADA sensory trail. The City has submitted a letter to the state outlining their plan to preserve the area. They are waiting for a response back and if they approve, the City will begin the conversion process.



**iii. Friends of Western Promenade**

Members of the newly formed Friends of Western Promenade came to the Commission to share their story. Currently, they are looking to expand their board. Their 501c3 application has been submitted and review and approval are pending. They are working with the Historic Preservation Office to obtain a grant to put towards the Master Plan. They also shared that the hospital has committed to giving a large sum to surrounding neighborhoods. They are expecting a portion of that. The Master Plan is expected to be completed the summer of 2019. There will be opportunity for public input throughout the process. They assured the Commission that there will be a large emphasis on historical content.

**c. Communications/Updates**

**i. Subcommittee Updates**

Outreach Subcommittee: The Commission worked through some ideas regarding the Green Space Gathering and it's theme: Living with Homelessness. They would like it to be an open dialog between those attending and panelists. Ideally, the Commission would like to provide solutions to how parks can be part of the solution. They are open to panelist suggestions. Amy will document all ideas and prepare it for the next meeting.

Finance Subcommittee: Michael and Alli shared their work on the future electronic gift catalog. It is about 75% complete at this point. Work still needs to be done on to finalize the content.

**ii. Parks Division Updates**

Matt shared a report handed out to the Commission members regarding park projects. Items include: Deering Oaks Playground Improvements: Net climber and wood chip safety surfacing installed. Boring samples have been collected and waiting for review and design/install recommendations for zip line.

Payson Park: Musco lighting equipment and softball dugouts have been delivered to the softball field. Monitoring ground conditions to determine if poles can be installed this winter. Confident project will be complete before April 1 deadline.

Recent efforts have been made to remove invasive plants and conduct brush mowing that has between the Loring Memorial and mid slope trail.

Skatepark Expansion Committee: Next meeting will focus on fundraising strategies. We are looking to get a fundraising professional to come give a training to help the group get going in the right direction. To date we have raised just over \$15,000. Their goal is to reach \$100,000.

Winter Recreation in Parks: As temperatures drop and the snow flies, we are setting up all winter recreation sites. Payson Park and Eastern Prom sledding areas are ready to go. Ice skating areas are monitored and condition for all activities are continuously updated on our website.

Sidewalk Plowing Operations: We continue to make adjustments to our sidewalk plowing map. The first few snowstorms have allowed us to make changes to current routes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.