In attendance: Commission Members Carol Hutchins, Craig Lapine, Cynthia Loebenstein, Diane Davison, Chair, Dory Waxman, Vice Chair, Jaime Parker, Meri Lowry, Michael Mertaugh, Nathan Robbins, Steve Morgenstein, and Councilor Belinda Ray. Portland Trails member: Kara City staff: Michael Goldman, Sally DeLuca, Ethan Hipple, and Alli Carroll.

Parks Commission Agenda

June 1, 2017

5 PM

City Hall ~ 389 Congress Street ~ Room 24

Diane called the meeting at 5:05 PM

I. General Citizen Comment Period

There isn't any citizen comment at this time.

II. Offset Policy (Michael Goldman)

Diane introduced Michael Goldman to the meeting and thanked him for coming. Michael G. said that he has looked at the proposed offset policy as well as Danielle. He says that the Commission needs two-thirds to change the bylaws and there should be a public notice with an agenda stating that the bylaws need to change. Based on the language in the ordinance the change of the bylaws should be procedural. Creating this additional policy in how the Commission makes recommendations is going beyond the ordinance. The one place where the notion can be supported is including an offset provision in the recommendation. Craig added that just including an offset provision in the recommendation could be a surprise. Is there a place where it could be known that it is a possible expectation? Michael G. replied that there are steps to go through to make the offset known. Jaime asked Craig if he is thinking in terms of developers. Craig said yes, so that they can be prepared before making a proposal. Meri reiterated that what Michael G. is saying is that they will go to staff first and that's a way to get the word to the developers. Michael G. added that there are steps to this process. First one would propose to staff, then Parks Commission, Land Bank and finally City Council. Councilor Ray asked for clarification, in order to pass something like this, we would need two-thirds of the Commission or two-thirds of people there to vote in favor? Michael stated that the language of the ordinance says that you need two-thirds of the members of the Commission not the members present. Cynthia mentioned that she was absent at the last meeting but she did get some feedback on this policy proposal and these people were disturbed. Michael G. added that it is inviting people to buy park land. Cynthia believes that it will cause a big problem. Meri said that not all Commissioners are in favor of the offset policy. Sally agreed with Michael G. and that this policy would be in fact inviting developers to buy park land. With Peppermint Park, for example, it was a home owner, so it was less likely. This offset policy should be something the Commission considers but doesn't write down. Jaime mentioned that he left the last meeting early and thought it was going down a road where it wouldn't be approved. It seemed like something that was considering quantity over quality and it should be the other way around. Individual projects have individual merits. Michael M. mentioned that he would like to add that his view in the last meeting was that it was a dangerous proposal because it suggests that they are open to trades. We are blessed to have the amount of land that we do. Michael M. agrees with Jaime that it should be quality over quantity. This policy could be a misleading. Councilor Ray thought it didn't pass according to the minutes. Diane and Sally said it was two-thirds in favor in the room. Michael G. said that it should be made known in both minutes that it was not approved.

Meri motioned that the Parks Commission is not establishing an offset policy and are retaining their discretion over all criteria over a case to case basis. Councilor Ray seconded on purpose to discuss.

Michael M. said that the slate has been cleared because Michael G. said that the condition of last meetings vote was not valid.

Meri withdrew the motion and Councilor Ray withdrew the second.

Diane said that it is like it never happened. Steve added that based on Michael G.'s presentation, the policy is not supported. Jaime said that the Commission doesn't have to change the bylaws but now we are more informed and know that this is in the back of our minds. Ethan added that it has to come to staff first, and now we have an idea of what the Commission wants to be able to make an informed decision.

Michael G. excuses himself from the meeting at 5:28pm.

III. Agenda Items

A. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes May 4, 2017

Diane motioned to accepted the meeting minutes of May 4, 2017. Meri seconded. Councilor Ray and Diane requested that the vote count be worded differently. Nathan suggested using either names or numbers but it should be known who was opposed and who was for. Councilor Ray mentioned that the Council uses numbers of who was for and then names opposed. Michael M. suggested "berthing" not "birthing." Diane wanted to make a correction under D.i. She wanted to make clear that it is not her criteria; it is the Parks Commission ordinance. Councilor Ray then asked, under section D. "Sally said they held the fort" what fort? Sally said the correction should be "held *down* the fort." Dory added that the minutes should say Corporation "Counsel" and they should reflect that the addition of the policy is contingent on approval from Corporation Counsel.

Diane asked all in favor of accepting minutes as amended. None descended.

Nathan added that he had brought corrections to Alli's attention prior to the meeting, apologized for sending them so close to the meeting time and thanked her for correcting them so quickly. Diane said that a different document than what was posted cannot be presented at the monthly meeting. Alli then suggested that if corrections are to be made, she would appreciate them being brought to her attention a respectable amount of time prior to the meeting and would make the edits known in the document presented by slashing and highlighting the sections to be changed. That way everyone can easily follow along when dissecting the monthly minutes at the meeting. Diane said that would be okay.

B. New Business

There isn't any new business at this time.

C. Communications/Updates

i. Portland Landing – Public Meeting Update

Ethan said that they had a public meeting at Ocean Gateway. Meri asked if this was Amethyst Lot? Ethan said yes, this new name is to reflect that there are many different landings there; water taxi, berthing, etc. Bill Needleman and Stantec presented. The public had great questions. Councilor Ray came. This presentation was basically general highlights of the site for those who hadn't seen it yet. The proposal includes the landings, promenade all along the water's edge, a naturalization of some of the shore line, and a raise in elevation to 14 feet. In addition to that there would be hills up to 21 feet for view and wave extenuation. It wouldn't prevent flooding but it would reduce wave damage. Last big thing is to expand Moontide Park. Cynthia asked if there be another meeting. Sally said there should be. Alli pulled the proposed plan up on the projector. There was a general question of how funds would be acquired. Sally said that a lot would be raised through fundraising and grants but asked everyone to keep in mind that they are still in the concept phase.

ii. Ethan – (*written report provided for review)*

- ***CIP priority requests for Friends & Community Partners (FCP)***

Jaime had questions regarding the Opportunity Group. He said that it is awesome that that is happening and that it was a pleasant surprise that trash was picked up. He asked if they were just working the peninsula and who was running it? Ethan mentioned that Matt Prior was the crew leader. Sally said he is a rockstar. Ethan said that in order to build the program they would need more funds. Sally mentioned the Department's new initiative to use Mobilecause for fundraising. The Opportunity Crew

will be the first cause they will use this program for. Cynthia asked if they have seen fewer panhandlers. Ethan and Sally said no.

There was a skatepark meeting at East End Community Center. About sixty skaters came. It was great feedback. They are trying to get a committee together to help raise money for future additions. Michael M. asked if the city holds any liability if someone is hurt. Sally said no, tort claims cover that. Nathan asked if is there a way that the Commission could support the Opportunity Crew since they are doing a lot of work towards our parks. Cynthia said that is a great thing to promote in our Finance Committee.

Ethan sent out CIP to friends groups for requests for priority projects but it's not due to the City Manager until November. He would like friends input by June 30th to stay on schedule and be prepared in November. Sally agreed and said that it is much more proactive. Meri thank Ethan.

Nathan asked how invasive species are doing. Ethan said it is being monitored. There are some that need to be treated. Nathan then asked about the park encroachment project. Ethan said he was glad he brought that up because staff is working on this. They have sent friendly letters to residents around Capisic Pond. It was very polite and we've gotten a good response.

D. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Diane began by stating that in the last meeting Dory was nominated to step in as Chair and Jaime to step in as Vice Chair with the acknowledgement that he terms out in a year. She then asked if there were any others. There weren't.
Councilor Ray moved to accept. Steve seconded. All in favor.

Diane motioned to elect Dory as Chair. Jaime moved and Councilor Ray seconded. All in favor.

Cynthia asked what Dory's term as Commissioner was. Dory replied that she was just up for 3 years. She then thanked everyone and mentioned that she hopes she does as well as Diane has these past many years. She said that Diane had brought the Commission to another level. The Commission has struggled over the years but because of the people that were here and the voices that are collectively shared, we have a voice. There will be some really exciting things that will happen in Portland. Dory hopes that all members feel able to come to her with new ideas and dreams. She said she may stumble but please bear with me. Dory then presented Diane and Steve with flowers and presents. Diane said that Steve, Jaime and herself had been with the Commission the longest. There have been many challenges. She remembers when she first was terming out and just thought "not now" because Parks and Recreation was back and it was an exciting time. Parks have gotten attention they deserve. It's an exciting time. Steve added that when he first got on the Parks Commission, it was a disaster. No one seemed to care about the parks. It was just like they were just putting band aids on problems. They had to fight for things like a full time Park Ranger, for example. They would go to meetings where they didn't have a quorum. Steve now feels like they are leaving the Parks Commission in a much better place.

E. Summer Schedule

Dory said that they needed to discuss the summer schedule. She asked if everyone was okay meeting July 6th. Everyone said that would be okay but Michael M. will be out of town. Dory said they will not be meeting in August and staff will be sending notes to remind everyone of the September meeting. Michael M. would like to telecommute to the meeting because he will be missing July and September and there isn't an August meeting. Ethan mentioned that CIP requests were supposed to be discussed at the August meeting but they will figure it out.

Dory motioned to adjourn. Councilor Ray moved, Jaime seconded. All in favor? Passed unanimously.