

Description	Board of Park Commission October 15, 2008		
Date	10/15/2008	Location	Board of Park Commission
Time	Speaker	Note	
5:05:54 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Called to Order. Present were Members: Patrick Finnegan, Rick Fink, Carol Collins, Kelli Stanley, Jill Wilkinson, Deb Kane and Jack Clarkson (via conference call). Staff: Mike Harris Open Lands Coordinator and Recording Secretary Crystal Turner. Reminder we are streaming on the internet.	
5:06:12 PM		I. Public Comment There was no public comment on items not on the agenda.	
5:06:28 PM	Chairman Finnegan	II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 18th, August 20th, and October 3rd, 2008.	
5:06:37 PM		Carol Collins [inaudible] asked for copies of the minutes. Crystal Turner stated they were sent via email but she printed one set for herself and one set for viewing; the extra set was passed to Carol for comment.	
5:07:00 PM		Board discussion regarding the June 18th meeting minutes on the "River Rock fence issue." Rick made the motion stating, "I would like to make the motion that this board allow River Rock County Water & Sewer district to retain fences around its facility." He was later asked during that discussion (before the second to the motion) for a definition of what was meant by "facility." Rick responded the, "pump house as well as the holding tank." Patrick Finnegan asked that the verbatim script Ms. Howze typed up be attached to the June 18th minutes to be retained for the record. Also in the 6/18 minutes, another issue regarding the Sheriff's vehicle that was purchased: there was no previous motions or discussions about that issue that was on the minutes.	
5:09:08 PM		Carol Collins asked if the corrections to the June meeting have been incorporated in the minutes. Patrick Finnegan said they wouldn't need to be incorporated in the minutes, just attached to them.	
5:09:29 PM	Carol Collins	I'll move that we approve the June 18th meeting minutes with the transcript attached to them for clarification.	
5:09:44 PM	Rick Fink	Second	
5:09:51 PM		Motion passed unanimously.	
5:09:58 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Any discussion or motions on the August 20th and October 3rd minutes; can we combine those?	

5:10:17 PM	Carol Collins	I'll move approval of the August 20th and October 3rd meeting minutes as presented.
5:10:25 PM	Rick Fink	Second
5:10:38 PM		Motion passed unanimously.
5:10:50 PM	Chairman Finnegan	III. Action Item #1: Approval of County Park Logo
5:10:58 PM		Patrick Finnegan verified each board member has seen the logo. All stated they have seen it.
5:11:29 PM	Chairman Finnegan	So if there are no changes or anything like that, I would entertain a motion to approve the Conservation and Parks Logo.
5:11:42 PM	Carol Collins	So moved.
5:11:45 PM		Board comments regarding any other options. Kelly Stanley asked if there were other logo options to review. Mike Harris answered there were not at this time.
5:12:28 PM	Rick Fink	Second
5:12:46 PM		Motion passed unanimously.
5:12:54 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Action Item #2: Recognition of the Hyalite Heights Subdivision Preliminary Park Plan
5:13:13 PM	Mike Harris, Coordinator	(Confusion as to who has seen the plan. Executive Committee has seen the plan, but it was not scanned and emailed to the rest of the board.) Continue item until November meeting.
5:15:42 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Action Item #3: Clarification on the Vehicle Purchase / IV. Discussion Items: New Purchase Policy
5:15:51 PM		Patrick Finnegan commented that his understanding was this was simply a transfer of funds? [Mike Harris nodded that was correct.] Patrick wants it in the minutes that we have acquired assets. Please write up (or perhaps there is an existing one) a policy regarding when the Board needs to approve purchases. (Mike Harris will work on this action item.)
5:17:15 PM		Board discussion including Mike Harris. Mike stated this vehicle purchase was circulated by email and that there seemed to be a consensus from the Board to move forward. It was his oversight of not having this Board review/approve prior to taking it to the County Commission for action. Patrick Finnegan said that in the future when email discussions take place, we need to verify any action taken at the next meeting. Carol Collins asked if the Board had a minimum amount it is supposed to approve. Example: tools were \$500-600. Did we need to approve that? Mike said with the Open Lands Board,

		<p>he has \$2000 spending authority (they are an advisory board) that goes through the budget process. Less than \$500 are normally pretty safe. If the purchase is not in the actual budget it has to be approved by the Board. Board could set a minimum at any level they prefer. Discussion regarding the monthly credit card expense report. There was consensus among the Board members that this would suffice for a monthly review of the spending. Board would like any purchases over \$500 brought to it for approval prior to the action of any purchases.</p>
5:23:12 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Discussion Items: Update on Interconnect Meeting in West Yellowstone
5:23:20 PM	Mike Harris, Coordinator	Thought the meeting went well.
5:23:51 PM	Jack Clarkson	I think it also went well. Mike explained to the West Yellowstone Town Council what the plan/goal was. He is unsure how well they understand it entirely.
5:24:32 PM	Mike Harris, Coordinator	Unsure what they are going to do with individual parks on every city block. He asked Jack if the Town was going to convert then back to greenspace. Jack answered that those parks were set aside for snow removal storage. In the height of the winter they are stacked up very high with snow. Part of what West Yellowstone is doing with the Main Street Update Program, with funds received from Transportation Equity, we plan to have the parks on Canyon Street updated with paving and lighting.
5:26:27 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Will there be another Interconnect meeting with Big Sky? Mike answered that he has not set it up. He may wait until we have the needs assessment so that we could start taking input too instead of just having an introduction. Meeting should occur next month.
5:26:54 PM	Chairman Finnegan	V. Other: General Park/Subdivision Updates
5:27:01 PM	Mike Harris, Coordinator	<p>Bridge has been installed in Regional Park. One could bring own table, but we were unable to mount tables. It went in without any issues. Good press coverage on it. Almost out of mutt mitts. First summer went through our entire first purchase of them. (Refilled on average every 2 weeks; have to dump the garbage every week.)</p> <p>Dinosaur playground is creeping along. They are going through City trying to resolve issues with the parking lot. Working on Land and Water Conservation Grants and splitting land for 911 center. Trying to do this without having to subdivide. We looked at running in to the city sewer lines and other various newer technologies. You'll get a chance to approve the restrooms when that is worked out.</p>

		Reclamation will probably have one more stretch that will need to be reseeded. One instance of trespassing occurred: it was a herd of cows. Sheep have also been on the park land. Brought up the issue of grazing in parks to reduce fire danger/issues. Helena does this, Butte does, Colorado does. We do not have a policy for it yet though. We would need public input from the neighbors to move towards any policy. He received a call from the Wylie Creek Association that has park land that was dedicated to the HOA. They were interested in learning how to make that a public park and not pay property taxes while still maintaining it as parkland. Mike put them in contact with Ron McCowan to have a controlled burn, then reseed the land next year and get rid of the gophers. They may dedicate it to the public, or develop one lot on it and use the money to maintain it.
5:34:54 PM		Board questions if a parcel would have to be subdivided. Mike answered yes, but if it worked out you could to a boundary adjustment and make a small 12-acre park. This is still in the very preliminary discussion stage.
5:35:25 PM	Mike Harris	Continued update. Interconnect group is almost done with inventory. GIS tech received the last four townships yesterday. Still have to do a little more in West Yellowstone and Big Sky. Next step would be a phone survey that would begin asking questions to registered voters in Gallatin County three weeks after the election. Same survey will be followed up and given to user group meetings. Jill asked if the survey was automated. Mike said "no, it would be a live survey and be done by volunteers, or maybe MSU students, etc... Then we could find out what the "pie in the sky" idea would cost." We are aggressively persuing that.
5:38:13 PM	Carol Collins	Carol asked if the survey would include anything about funding? Mike answered yes. Patrick questioned if this would be compared to previous surveys (curious to see a comparison). Mike said it may, but not many surveys have been done. Mike said the closest survey would be the needs assessment done by the City of Bozeman (Prost plan). He added that Big Sky and Manhattan both have performed surveys; however neither were directed towards needs of service.
5:40:59 PM	Rick Fink	Have you sold any hay from the park? Mike answered that he has not sold any.
5:41:11 PM		Board discussion. Last week Deb Kane checked out the new bridge with her dog and saw that construction debris had blown around and somebody nice had piled it up next to the trash can and covered it with rocks so it didn't blow away. Suggested a larger trash can be placed out there. Mike answered we had the smaller ones first to test the usage, and too large of one could encourage personal trash usage. Jail crews do go out and clean the area. He is still pondering if we

		<p>need a bigger garbage can. Vandalism hasn't been high, some graffiti but not much going on. Rick asked how the skate park was going. Mike said that one of their wishes is that it be skate only. Bikes use foot pegs for tricks and when they wreck, their handlebars and pegs create divets that make it dangerous for skateboarders. You could use a higher grade on concrete that doesn't chip as easily. It would be great if a group were willing to pay the extra money for an upgrade, or build their own addition for bikes only, but those discussions need to happen early. Deb Kane asked if there was a conflict between skateboards and bicyclist, like there is between skiers and snowboarders. Mike doesn't believe so. Discussion regarding bike liability concerns more than skateboarding due to the higher rate of speed and angles than skateboards. Once a decision is made about skateboards and bikes, an ordinance may need to be approved for enforcement. Patrick Finnegan added it needs to be driven by user groups. Mike said he sent a letter saying we need to start with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Board of Park Commission and the skateboarding group so that people can come in and participate, show interest, raise money, etc... but they need to have that opportunity. An MOU is not a license agreement.</p>
5:49:42 PM	Chairman Finnegan	Requested that we make the Skate Park contact information on the BOPC website (Crystal will update the website to reflect that).
5:50:42 PM	Mike Harris, Coordinator	Mentioned he did receive a call from a Regional Park neighbor about lighting issues when the park is finalized. Carol Collins said it is a good question and discussion needs to take place. Some lighting could be a nuisance to neighbors and invite longer use hours. Mike said the Master Plan didn't call for lights on any fields.
5:52:19 PM	Carol Collins	Questioned Mike regarding the different containers for garbage: do they need to be animal resistant? Mike doesn't believe so but he will check into it.
5:54:18 PM	Chairman Finnegan	VI. Set Agenda, Meeting Time and Location for next time: so far the Hyalite Heights preliminary park plan, the normal updates. If any other items come up, we will set that at the November 6th Executive Committee meeting. Mike recommended two items: 1) Skate Park MOU and keep placeholder for 2) Dinosaur playground and Land & Water Conservation Grant.
5:55:23 PM		With no other issues to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.