

MINUTES

Eugene City Council Work Session
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

July 26, 2017
12:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Chris Pryor, Emily Semple, Claire Syrett, Betty Taylor, Jennifer Yeh, Alan Zelenka

Mayor Vinis opened the July 26, 2017, work session of the Eugene City Council.

A. WORK SESSION: Parks and Recreation System Plan Update

Project Manager for the Parks and Recreation System Plan Update, Carolyn Burke, and three representatives from the Trust for Public Land – Jessica Welch, Dee Frankfourth, and Warren Jimenez – presented information about the project, including vision, goals, implementation plans and timelines.

Council Discussion

- Quality of life shouldn't have to compete with quality of livelihood; the two are complementary.
- Helpful to determine what the public's saturation point is with regard to money measures on the ballot.
- Parks and open spaces are enormous assets; critical to care for them.
- Many of the City's recreation facilities are undersized, out-of-date; parks are unsafe.
- At a critical point with a number of facilities; if improvements aren't made now, the cost of rehabilitation will be insurmountable. Important to communicate this to the public.
- Survey is a logical next step; effective to include a map showing where improvements are planned around city.
- Parallel effort to clean up the parks needed with any improvements.
- Consider reallocating Transient Room Tax funds to support parks and recreation efforts.
- Important to gauge public opinion on as many potential funding options as possible.
- Different constituencies of facility-users should form coalition to build public support for any funding measure.
- Explore public-private partnerships to strengthen funding system.

B. WORK SESSION: Parks and Recreation Security and Maintenance Funding Committee

City Manager Jon Ruiz gave a brief overview of the proposal to create a committee on parks and recreation security and maintenance funding.

Council Discussion

- The purpose of the committee is to scope, gather research and format the information; not a recommendation-making body.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Zelenka, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to approve the formation of a Council committee to explore funding for parks and recreation security and maintenance as outlined in Attachment A, with councilors Pryor, Syrett, Clark, and Evans as members. **PASSED 7:1, Councilor Taylor opposed.**

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Zelenka, seconded by Councilor Clark, moved to extend the meeting 15 minutes. **PASSED 8:0.**

C. WORK SESSION: Downtown Update

Library, Recreation, and Cultural Service Executive Director Renee Grube provided a mid-summer report about activity in the downtown related to safety and social service interventions, programming and activation, and physical changes and improvements to downtown facilities. She was joined by LaVena Nohrenberg, Will Dowdy, Anne Fifield, Sgt. Julie Smith, and Collette Ramirez.

Council Discussion

- There is still an issue with loitering, insufficient police presence, bar patrons.
- Dog ban has created inequities; may be pushing homeless campers to other neighborhoods.
- Great to see all of the coordinated initiatives coming to fruition.

The work session of the Eugene City Council adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Robinson
Deputy City Recorder
(AIC)