



Oregon Parks Association

**OREGON PARKS ASSOCIATION
BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARCH 17, 2006
CHEHALEM PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
NEWBERG, OREGON**

Meeting Called To Order By President Maureen Crawford (Crook County):

Board Members Present: Christine Johnson (Lane County); Larry Robison (Coos County); Chris Wayland (Washington County); Lorrie Harvey (Baker County); Randy Hutton (Jackson County); Todd Winter (Lane County) **Members Present:** Mike McLees (Clackamas County); Paula Preston-Mills (Clackamas County); Don Clements (Chehalem Park & Rec. Distr.); Wayne Shuyler (OSMB); Marilyn Lippincott (OPRD); Steve Meshke (Clatsop County); and Jim Chambers (Lincoln County)

1. Announcements/Introductions: Crawford called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There were no announcements.

2. Approval of Minutes: Crawford asked for approval of the minutes from the January 20th meeting, and if there were no objections she would entertain a motion.

Motion: Robison moved that the minutes from the January 20, 2006 meeting be approved as submitted. Harvey seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Treasurer's Report: Johnson distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report and then read it into the record.

Time Deposits – Johnson had Wells Fargo move the Time Deposit that matured on February 11, 2006 into a savings account until the remaining Time Deposit matures in July, 2006. Then the two will be combined into a new \$10,000 7-month Time Deposit.

Motion: Wayland moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented, Chambers seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

4. Committee Reports

Legislative – Hutton: Hutton said that with Brian Carroll not here he had nothing really to report, however he did want to discuss an outstanding issue that really came to light for Jackson County Parks in the last few months while preparing the next fiscal year's budget. And that is if Public Law 106 is not re-allocated in 2007, how much it will affect not just Jackson County but the rest of the Counties in Oregon. He stated

that his Parks department stands to lose \$200,000, which for him means either raising fees or laying off permanent staff. He feels it's time to sit down with State Parks again and seriously look at how State Parks can help out the Counties – either by dedicating some of the Measure 66 money to Counties for maintenance and operations or looking at the RV fee allocations again – raising the Counties portion from 30% to 40%.

Crawford asked if this issue was brought up at the Parks Leadership Conference at Silver Falls. Hutton said that no it was not, but Carroll said that it would be nice to look at the city, county, state, and special district parks, not as individual entities but as a State-wide parks system. All working together and supporting and helping each other any way we can.

Winter said that Lane County got off the General Fund about ten years ago, but one of our revenue sources is a special revenue fund where Parks receives a portion of Lane County's car rental tax – this fund makes up about 42% of his budget, but can be re-allocated at the discretion of his Board of Commissioners. So every time the County starts talking budget cuts, they start looking at his car rental tax. Winter said he supports approaching State Parks. Clements stated that he felt that when State Parks increased the Local Government Grant Program from \$5 mil to \$8 mil, they were definitely going in the right direction and he is quite content with that. He feels that it is very important that we support State Parks, but they also need to support us as well. Hutton agreed that grants are great, but you can only do so much with them when you don't have the staff to maintain the projects funded by the grants.

Further discussion followed including what the Counties and the State are charging per campsite vs. what private industry is charging, determining whether budget problems are a local problem or a State-wide problem, and that it's time to be creative and start looking outside the box. Crawford asked for direction from the Board and was charged with arranging a meeting with Tim Wood.

Membership Committee – Carroll: As Carroll was not present Johnson reported that membership renewal dues had all been received except for two – Chehalem and Oregon State Parks. She also reported that we have a new member – Yamhill County. She contacted Ken Huffer, Parks Coordinator for Yamhill County and he e-mailed text and pictures to be included on the OPA website. This new addition has been published, so when you get a chance, check it out on the website.

Marketing & Networking – Johnson: Johnson reported that she was able to meet with Chris Ashburn and received a lesson in entering "key words" for our website. Not only can you do this for the website as a whole, but you can do it for each individual page if you want. Johnson has only had time to do it for the main menu page and the "Oregon Parks" page. Johnson then distributed the format of the new OPA logo that Chris Ashburn designed. Johnson will also be getting some bids for setting up the logo to do embroidery, if this format works for everyone. The formatted disk also includes the design in one color as well as black and white for a total of nine different formats for our use.

Motion: Winter moved that the Board approve the new logo format as presented and have Johnson proceed with ordering stationery, changing the logo where needed and getting bids for embroidered T-shirts. Hutton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Nominations Committee – Hutton: Hutton had nothing to report.

Conference Committee – Chambers: Chambers reported that he checked out both Chinook Winds and Salishan Lodge as possible venues for the next conference. Chinook Winds was eliminated because it is too hard for some agencies to get travel expenses to a casino, and the Salishan Lodge was too expensive all the way around. Chambers ended up at the Best Western on Agate Beach. Their facilities look like they would accommodate our group quite well. Room rates were between \$74 and \$84 and the food is good. The Conference Committee needs to meet on-site and work out the details. The dates for the conference had been set for September 18, 19, & 20, but with ORPA's short event this year on September 20 & 21, Chambers will check on some other dates. The Conference Committee will meet briefly after this meeting to discuss further.

Crawford stated that she received a call from the Hood River Inn and they are interested in OPA holding next year's conference at the Hood River Inn. Crawford feels that we should check it out and see what they have to offer.

5. Old Business:

Jeff Powers Recognition: Crawford said that she and Todd Winter have rescheduled the presentation for Jeff Powers to occur at the Redmond City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Anybody who wishes to attend is welcome to come.

Teleconferencing May Board Meeting – Update : Crawford said we may want to re-think holding a teleconference meeting. After talking with both Lorrie Baker and Sandi Putman she determined that we wouldn't have enough interest in this type of meeting to justify the cost -- \$100 an hour. So we will return to the previous meeting schedule – May 19th meeting at the River House in Jackson County and the July 21st meeting in Lane County. Hutton will contact Johnson to confirm the availability of the River House.

Draft of By-Laws Change: Crawford referred to the copy of the rough draft that was distributed to everyone and read the proposed changes. Discussion followed regarding the amount of funds to be made available each year and how to state it in the By-Laws. The suggested addition was "Each year the sub-committee would recommend the amount of funds allocated that year for scholarship(s) to the Board for final approval," or something to that effect. A final draft of the changes will be brought back for final approval at the next meeting.

Campground Guide Sub-Committee: Crawford said that this sub-committee will meet briefly following this meeting. Crawford added that she had six cases of the old campground guides in her truck for anyone that wanted them.

6. New Business:

OSMB – Wayne Shuyler: Shuyler reported that their Board met yesterday at the Columbia River Yacht Club. They will be going to the Emergency Board on April 6 and 7 to increase their limitation by about \$1 mil because of a bump-up in Coast Guard funds – this will be going to law enforcement, education campaigns, and possibly some grass roots grant programs.

- They received the preliminary indications from OSU that the gas tax, based on the survey done last boating season, is surprisingly higher than expected.

- Working on two legislative concepts: Going back to try an increase the Agent Service Fee from \$1.00 (which it has been at for forever and doesn't really reflect the cost of doing business) to \$2.50, after being defeated the first time. And the other concept was repeal of a sunset provision on a reciprocity bill with Washington for Guides and Outfitters.

- Budget is due August 1, 2006 and is pretty much unchanged. They approved Round 2 grants yesterday – had 20 grants and committed about \$850,000 of Facility Grant funds, which leaves about \$400,000 for Round 3. The Board approved a \$10,000 grant commitment to the Oregon Solutions Team that is working on the long-term solution for ways to keep the Willamette locks open.

- Had six e-MAP projects submitted and has a few more storm-related ones coming in.

- For information on outfitter guides and whether or not they are using your boat ramps, you can contact Janice Hilers, OSMB's Registration Program Manager, for the on-line search database.

- The Board approved taking the Facility Grant Program rules out for review and is open for suggestions. Will be forming an advisory committee and welcomes anyone from OPA to sit on this committee. If OPA wants to appoint one or two people, he will take that recommendation back to the Board in June.

- Next Board meeting will be held in Coos Bay.

OPRD – Marilyn Lippincott: Lippincott passed out the RV Distribution Estimates for 06/07. Even though RV registrations were down by 4,000, revenues still went up.

- HB 2729: The Veterans War Memorial Grant Program -- they have drafted the rules for administering this grant program, \$500,000 has been committed, and the Parks Commission has approved it being forwarded to Rule Making.

- Grant Survey Meetings: they are in the process of finalizing all the in-put received at these meetings and will get the results of the compiled out to everyone as soon as it's done.

- Local Government Grant Program: applications for the current cycle are due by April 14, 2006 with \$3.5 mil available.

- Parks Commission: The Commission is meeting in Prineville on April 13, 2006. Lippincott requested that Crawford put together a tour of sites that were funded by grants – she will get the rest of the details to Crawford.

- Sean Jagodnik Memorial: Lippincott announced that Frank Jagonik's son, Sean, passed away last Sunday. There will be a memorial at the Coaster Theater Playhouse in Canon Beach on March 26, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

Motion: Crawford moved that OPA donate \$100 to the Coaster Theater in Sean's memory. Wayland seconded the motion.

Motion: Crawford moved that OPA also donate \$100 to the charity of Paula Preston-Mills' choice in memory of her husband. Wayland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of both motions.

7. Good of the Order:

There was nothing presented for the Good of the Order.

8. Next Meeting:

Shady Cove River House, Jackson County, OR from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on May 19, 2006.

9. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christine A. Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer