

Seawall Park Ad-Hoc committee  
May 8, 2017  
Minutes

Attendance: Becky McLemore, Sharon Emerson-chair, Moe Jerome, Frank Rose, John DeWit, Bernadette Aguillar, Marianne Edain recording.

Staff: Brigid Reynolds and Mayor Tim Callison

Guests: Robin Black

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 and the agenda was adopted.

The minutes of the March 13, 2017 meeting were approved.

1. The chair suggesting amending the committee's membership to reflect the fact that some parties were no longer attending meetings and others not on the committee were taking on responsible roles. Moe Jerome was voted onto the committee. Pam Schell and Jeanie Miller were voted onto the committee pending their assent.
2. The Committee discussed the proposed 'interim' clean-up and improvements, and budget/funding. Public Works Department is proposing to gravel a path immediately adjacent to the seawall, +/- 3 ft wide, the full length of the wall, as part of its regular Seawall Park maintenance & operations budget, which amounts to +/- \$10,000/year and comes out of the General Fund. Other maintenance includes mowing and garbage collection.

Any additional permitting needs to be confirmed.

Other items identified and discussed as needing repair includes the picnic table and the deck on which it stands are rotting away and need either to be repaired or replaced and the fence at the east end of the park is dilapidated and ugly.

Stan will be asked to provide a cost estimate for materials to replace the fence.

Mayor Tim suggested the Community Club might provide the labor and might also be willing to work on the picnic tables.

Mayor Tim suggested that the committee make a direct request for these items or include a request in its report.

Brigid said the committee should present a single report to the City Council.

3. There is no projected date for when the survey may be completed.
4. There was no grants update as Joann is away.  
Mayor Tim reported that he had secured \$7,000.00 specifically for handrails and benches at Seawall Park.
5. Request for Proposal for Park Improvements  
Sharon would like to see a design competition for Seawall Park improvements.

Components of the park plan were discussed and there is general agreement on the following:

- Due to lack of funding any improvements would have to be implemented in phases.
- The park is a somewhat harsh environment in which it is difficult to establish plants.
- Establishing a 'gateway' to the park, i.e. Whale Bell/Hladky Park is being proposed as part of the "Complete Streets" project for 1<sup>st</sup> Street.
- Any park furniture shall be limited, and that it should be, if possible 'functional art.'
- Any landscaping should be low maintenance native landscaping. Marianne has already begun to propagate native shrubs for this aspect. Before native plants can be planted, the invasive exotics need to be removed. Marianne has proposed volunteer work parties to remove the exotics and replant, a long slow process.
- Some sort of attraction to draw visitors to the east end of the park should be installed and could include a covered picnic area or a swing
- Install a telescope above the pump station. Some First Street owners have been considering this.
- Improving accessibility is issues, including the idea of a stairway with handrail on the west edge of the Anthes extension, and the possibility that at some point a building might be built to include an elevator at the east end. Sharon proposed that, due to the complex, contentious, and expensive nature of probable solution, the committee not address full ADA access at the east end of the park for now, other than to ensure that room was left for such a project should it be wanted & funded at some future date.
- Signage, both wayfinding and interpretive.

6. New business.

Frank Rose presented an outline for an action plan. As the committee was seeing it for the first time it will be discussed at the next meeting as part of the 'report to Council.' The report should also include the following:

- Projected costs and a rough budget. As discussed there is \$7000 available for handrails and benches, \$10k in the general fund for maintenance, and a possible additional \$3k.
- Sharon repeated that a design competition could give good ideas at little or no cost.
- The plan needs to include both long term and short term goals and actions.
- Short term options discussed include: gravel trail along seawall; develop a picnic area at the east end; replace the fence at the east end; repair the existing picnic tables and benches; add another picnic table; assess repair needs of the stairway; add more garbage or recycling cans and/or deal with pizza parlor about the piles of pizza cartons; stress need for responsibility on part of dog owners re dog waste.

7. The chair requested that as she is away for the meeting dates for June and July could the meeting be rescheduled to the 4th Monday, so the committee will meet again on June 26 and on July 24. Committee members will be consulted to confirm availability.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.