



The meeting of the Board of Directors of the *Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association, Inc.* was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at the Washington School Community Center at 637 NE Locust Street, Oakland, after our annual membership meeting. In attendance were Midge McGinnis, Karen Robertson, Deb Gray, John Robertson, Celia Scott (Mike Burke), Steve Kennerly and Landa Baily. Leslye Wing and Debbie Levings were unable to attend.

GrantMakers Report

A group of individuals/organizations responsible for grants made a lunch stop at Mildred Kanipe Park on Thursday, September 18, 2014. This group was hosted by Umpqua Bank who asked Friends to deliver lunches and water. The group's tour started in Portland and made multiple stops throughout Douglas County over a two- day tour.

Attendees were:

James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation;
The Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation;
The Collins Foundation;
Meyer Memorial Trust;
Lora L. and Martin N. Kelley Family Foundation Trust;
The Kinsman Foundation;
The Oregon Community Foundation;
Umpqua Bank;
Legacy Health;
The Doyle and Donna Shepherd Foundation;
The Ford Family Foundation;
Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation;
GRANTMAKERS of Oregon and Southwest Washington

Midge reserved the park for the group with Veronica, at the Parks Department. Friends picked up the group's box lunches from Tolly's, arranged decorations on the picnic tables, picked up truffles from Sweet Thang in Drain, fruit from Kruse Farm, local Oregon bottled water and table cloths from Party Time Rentals. Other board members hung the Friends of Mildred Kanipe banner, set up a display of the aerial photograph of the park, and answered questions about the history of the park prior to the speaking presentations.

Speakers present were:

Former Douglas County Commissioner Doug Robertson; Greg Henderson, Executive Director, Sutherlin Chamber of Commerce; and Karen Robertson and Debra Gray, Board members, Friends of Mildred Kanipe memorial Park.

Former Commissioner Robertson praised Friends for raising \$65,000 toward construction of the campground at Kanipe. He said that because Friends were able to raise \$65,000 toward the campground construction, awareness of the Park and its assets was raised and more events like the GrantMakers luncheon at Kanipe will surely follow. He also stated that it was not the County's intent to log Kanipe but rather to find funds to build the campground and Friends brought the County to the place it needed to be to do so.

The GrantMakers Group was very impressed with the park and asked many questions about public access to trails and hours of business.

PAB (Douglas County Parks Advisory Board) Meeting – September 19, 2014

We requested to be added to the agenda for the September 19th PAB meeting to discuss Adopt-A-Park and the Donation Lock Boxes at Park. We were added to the agenda. Following account of the meeting came from Landa Baily, Deb Gray and Karen Roberson (all in attendance at this meeting).

GrantMakers Visit to Kanipe Park – In response to our report on the GrantMakers lunch stop, we were surprised when parks Director, Gary Groth said he was upset that the Friends did not invite him and/or other representatives of the Parks Department. We explained that we were invitees and it was not our place to invite others. Our explanation was not well received. This was disappointing since the Friends were happy to act as ambassadors to welcome the individual grant representatives to Douglas County. When our Secretary-Treasurer confirmed reservations for the luncheon with the County Parks Department staff, they agreed this would be wonderful public relations building for the park and for Douglas County.

Adopt-A-Park – We presented our Adopt-A-Park project as follows, to lower costs and tax burdens. The Friends would pay for regular trash pick up from the park (Sutherlin Sanitary) vs. someone from the county making a trip to the park to remove trash. (Estimates from Sutherlin Sanitary come in around \$864 a year vs. \$1,334 (plus gas, vehicle maintenance, insurance, etc. – Expense code 51)). PAB and Park Director very negative about our proposal. Two other visitors voiced their opinions of this idea. Diana Wales (pro). Jill Talburt (anti). (Note: Subsequent to the meeting, we learned that Roseburg Oregon Equestrian Trails, of which Jill Talburt is Co-Chair, has recently entered into a contract with the State of Oregon to adopt Bullard's Beach State Park.) We championed multiple user groups adopting Kanipe, each with their own unique contribution. A motion was made to table this discussion. Modified by Jim Peterson with condition the county will have 90 days to decide how to manage volunteers at the park. Motion passed as amended. Jim Peterson expressed that the Friends are trying to

do what is good for the park and help with the count's expenses and the PAB should not discourage that. He added that "They are going to get tired of being jostled around".

Karen Roberson gave a history of why, as a Board, we proposed this idea. We looked at escalating costs and the park budget and tried to find a tangible way to reduce expenses. Saw that county pays a county employee to go from Roseburg to Kanipe on a weekly basis, so we checked with Yoncalla and Sutherlin Sanitary services to see what they would charge. Sutherlin Sanitary services this area and would charge \$72 per month for two 95-gallon trash bins.

We then looked to see how we can do this. We saw from the County's list of possible Adopt-A-Park duties that garbage pickup is one option. This proposal would accomplish two things:

1. Lower cost
2. Support local small business

Upon hearing this explanation, the PAB still voted to decline our request to arrange garbage pickup.

After motion to table was passed, Gary said we can always make a donation to the Parks Foundation and earmark it for garbage.

PAB member, Dick Swartzlender, asked the Kanipe Board Members several times, "Will you agree to what we want to do to manage that timber out at the park?" When we asked him exactly what he meant, he said that we "riled up the public" and kept the Parks Department from managing the timber at the park the way they wanted to and so the PAB would not be approving our projects at the park (in this case, Adopt-A-Park). Mr. Swartzlender very clearly indicated a retaliatory stance toward the Friends because of our successful fundraising efforts.

Joe Laurence stated the "greatest threat is fire at the park which could burn down all those wonderful historical buildings that we all love". There will need to be some prescribed burns to reduce the fire danger and possibly some trees removed, and "if we remove trees we are going to sell them."

[Comments from Celia Scott – Mr. Laurence's statement did not seem to have taken into account that sites which might be considered for logging at Kanipe are all very far away from the historic buildings; also, if "sustained yield" logging (cutting most trees in an area and replanting) took place, fire danger would be much greater because of the rapid growth of flammable brush and vulnerability to fire of small trees. The original forest trees have thick, fire-resistant bark, and the understory of these trees is very shaded, which discourages the growth of flammable underbrush. Mr. Laurence did not precisely state what "possibly some other trees removed" means. If it means "sustained yield" (a form of clear cutting), I strongly urge the PAB, the Parks Department, and the

Commissioners to take into consideration the public's often-demonstrated will not to clear cut in Kanpe Park.)]

Donation Boxes – This was another idea that was presented by Friends to the PAB. We have estimates for locks and sheet metal for doors (Dan O'Neil). Locks would run about \$80 each and boxes would run about \$70 per box. Friends would bear the cost.

Park guests have asked us why the boxes are not operational since they are more than willing to donate/pay for park use. Park director stated that it is not so much the cost of the lock/door, but a personnel issue. Friends stated that they would be more than happy to work with county regarding the picking up of donations/fees. Two Friends members live close to park and would be willing to meet park employee regularly to empty the boxes and have three people to count funds. Gary said the issue is being worked and discussion was tabled. It was again suggested that if people wanted to donate, they could do so via the Parks Foundation. Diana Wales asked where can we find out more about the Parks Foundation. We were told that Parks would get the information for us. We have also done some research ourselves and do find that this Foundation is a 501(c) organization. It is not clear, however, how one would make a donation.

Garbage Agreement/Restricted Donation to Parks Foundation – Karen made motion that after verifying 501(c) status of Foundation and verification of Sutherlin Sanitary costs, that we write check for one year's pickup, with two payees (Sutherlin Sanitary and Parks Foundation) (with the additional condition that if the PAB accepts the funds to pay for garbage, the County will agree to stop sending a person from Roseburg once a week, with one hour for travel time pay with benefits, to pick up the garbage) in the spirit of Gary Groth's suggestion to donate it to the Parks Foundation and earmark for garbage collection. John Robertson, Friends' President, seconded the motion.

OTHER UPDATES – Annual Meeting Agenda

Campground - Bids were opened on September 24th. Campground to be completed by December 21st. There are 19 sites in the campground area and the equestrian pavilion will be set up as the 20th site with a fire pit and water.

Cemetery – Ground penetrating radar will be done in October.

School House Roof - work scheduled to begin next week. Steve will contact Craig Reed about the Ruralite article. We will need to have some volunteers to move scrap that we want to keep after S. Songer is done for day (ie: bricks, etc.). We are also hoping that Steve Songer will fill in some of the holes that are in the building.

New Business

Sheep shed – it appears the shed is starting to fall and may not make it through the winter. Karen Roberson has asked her brother and father to take a look at it for some 'second' opinions. We are hoping we can get some volunteers to shore the building up.

As long as we are using only volunteers and no paid workers, we should be able to do this without insurance, etc.

Pump house – School House – pump house located next to school house is a bit of a concern. As the school house is on the Historical Register, any changes/additions in the area needs to follow Historic Preservation guidelines. Friends believe that the pump house design is between the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the County.

EVENT DATES

October 4, 2014 (10-3p.m.) - Oakland Flea Market (annual)

October 10, 2014 – Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park – Board Meeting

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be on Friday, October 10, 2014 – Lane House Annex – Roseburg.