

An emergency Board meeting of the Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association was held at 2 pm on September 28, 2013 at the Lane House annex. The purpose was to discuss the recent recommendation by the Kanipe Park Planning Committee to allow clearcutting of a 20 acre parcel proposed by Douglas County Land and Parks Department.

Board members present included: John Robertson, Karen Roberson, Celia Scott, Deb Gray, Steve Kennerly and Leslye Wing. Midge McGinnis was in Indiana and listened by speaker phone.

Guests included: Mike Burke, a member of the Friends of Mildred Kanipe Park, Diane Rannow, a member of the Umpqua Hiking Club and Diana Wales, President of the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society

NOTE: Leslye Wing , Diane Rannow and Diana Wales are members of the Kanipe Park Planning Committee, along with 11 other representatives.

Karen expressed the frustration with the process used by the planning committee and parks department in arriving at the decision to sanction clear-cutting in the park, and that the process did not allow for representatives to come back to their representative groups to discuss proposals before making votes, resulting in the inability of board members to have input at the September vote regarding clear-cut logging. When the Board was notified that Leslye had voted to approve clear-cutting, this meeting was called to learn more and decide what action was needed. Please note that both Leslye and Diane voted for a ONE TIME ONLY proposed clear-cut of 20 acres at the northwest section of the park where there are no riding or hiking trails when they could not see any other viable options for money to build a campground (so the park can become self-sufficient).

A discussion ensued in which Diane explained that committee members were instructed not to post committee reports or actions; instead, the county said this information would be available on their website (this was supposed to avoid misrepresentation of the facts). In reality, Leslye and the other planning committee members present felt that the county's web site had only scanty, incomplete and slanted information.

In retrospect and in light of new information obtained by Diana Wales while attending the September Parks Advisory Board, it was concluded that complete and accurate financial information concerning possible funding options for Kanipe to attain self-sufficiency was not disclosed by the parks department. Diane and Leslye agreed that this omission caused them to think there was only one viable option to save the park: logging. Therefore, both felt they had no other option except to vote in favor of clear-cutting to generate essential revenue. Diana Wales added that the committee meetings were poorly facilitated and the agendas often deviated from the original plan.

Diana presented a very rational summary of financial options to attain self-sufficient operation of Kanipe Park. Viable funding scenarios are given, including contributions (See attached memo from Diana to the Friends of September 28, 2013). Diana's conclusion is that only \$33,500 is needed to construct a revenue-generating campground, as an example of why she feels logging funds are not necessary. (See point 4d of attachment) Diana also listed a funding stream called the County Opportunity Grant, in which 50% of the costs of a project are paid by the State of Oregon. The parks department has used this grant (or in the process of using) to pay half of

a huge campground expansion at Whistler's Bend Park and another campground at the coast. Yet, this funding possibility was never mentioned by the park department as a funding tool for Kanipe.

Diane, Leslye and Diana agreed that this type of serious omission occurred and was not confined only to financial matters. (for example: Leslye made up a comprehensive proposal, which had been assigned as homework for the June meeting, but which was never discussed or acknowledged.)

After Diana's presentation, a motion was made by Karen to take a vote among Kanipe board members stating agreement or disagreement with the proposal to clearcut. The motion was seconded by Celia. All members voted "No" to the proposal. Leslye then agreed to write a letter to the Parks Department stating that her fellow Friends of Kanipe Board members have unanimously directed her to change her "Yes" vote to "No," and the reasons for this. Other Board members will be given the opportunity to make any changes/additions/deletions to the letter prior to distribution. A finalized version will be signed by Leslye and sent to Gary Groth at the Parks Department and all of the planning committee members.

All Board members were encouraged to attend the next (and final) Kanipe Planning Committee meeting on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, Room 310 in the Douglas County Courthouse, and also the Parks Advisory Board meeting on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am, Room 311, Douglas County Courthouse.

The next Kanipe Board meeting will be Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm at the Lane House Annex.

The emergency meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm.

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**MILDRED KANIPE MEMORIAL PARK**

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**TO:** FRIENDS OF MILDRED KANIPE PARK  
**FROM:** DIANA WALES  
**SUBJECT:** SEPTEMBER 16 MEETING OUTCOME AND OPTIONS  
**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

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1. The bottom line
  - a. The sole justification for the clear-cut is the need for funds to build the campground which in turn will generate revenue for the Park
  - b. Based on the analysis below, there is a deficit of less than \$35,000 between estimated development costs and available funds
2. Proposal
  - a. The County commit to a “no clear-cut” policy for the Park and the funding scenario outlined below
  - b. The \$35,000 needed comes from:
    - i. Available Parks funds (see below) based on the premise that Park finances need to be balanced in 3-4 years rather than immediately; or
    - ii. Advanced from Parks funds to be repaid from Kanipe Park revenues over a few years; or
    - iii. Contributions to the Parks Foundation – those commitments to be in place by ??? (12/31/13?)
3. How this gets back to the table
  - a. Homework assignment from prior meeting was for each member of committee to bring a comprehensive proposal to the September meeting (8/12/13 minutes)
  - b. Leslye is only one who did – but it was never brought forward for discussion
    - i. The moderator didn’t even acknowledge it until more than half-way through the meeting
    - ii. Note: Leslye also prepared a comprehensive proposal for the June meeting which was similarly ignored
4. Numbers
  - a. Annual budget (9/11/13 revision)
    - i. Projected revenue - \$42,600
    - ii. Projected administrative/maintenance expenses - \$36,600
  - b. Campground development estimated cost - \$127,000
    - i. If County Opportunity Grant funding is used, 50% would be paid by State – reducing County portion to \$63,500
  - c. Trust funds –
    - i. \$106,000 to County from Trust August, 2012
    - ii. Beginning balance FY 13-14 - \$96,000
    - iii. Ending balance FY 13-14 - \$39,476 (enough to cover FY 14-15 projected expenses after which the campground should be up and running)

- d. FY 13-14 Budget
  - i. Resources (included projected income) - \$107,450
  - ii. Budgeted expenses - \$67,974
    - 1. \$31,374 in excess of Gary's 9/11/13 budget figures
    - 2. The \$30,000+ is therefore budget and available for other Park expenses (like matching a County Opportunity Grant – **which leaves just \$33,500 needed to build the campground**)
- e. Other pieces of the financial picture
  - i. Ada property sale – total \$465,000 (late 2012)
    - 1. The County's half (\$87,500) of the Whistler's Bend Expansion is coming from the sale proceeds – status of the balance?
  - ii. Parks revenue for FY 12-13 exceeded budget by \$115,000 (surplus carry forward)
  - iii. Swiftwater Park sale is pending – appraisal was \$1.35 million net to the County
  - iv. Foreclosure funds now dedicated to the Parks budget, historically had been disbursed to the taxing districts – estimate for FY 13-14 - \$100,000
  - v. Because there is currently no Park Fund – property sale proceeds and budget surpluses go into the General Fund earmarked for Parks to further develop parks properties toward the goal of self-sufficiency. There may be more of these ear-marked funds – not sure how they're carried on the books.