

City Parks, Recreation Group Has New Members; Considers Two Proposals

Two proposals to add to the recreation facilities of Medford and vicinity were presented to the city parks and recreation commission Wednesday night. The meeting was the first for five new members of the commission.

One of the proposals was made by S. J. (Benny) Fagone, who suggested that the city build a multiple-use concrete play area in Hawthorne park. The other, made by the Eagle Point Grange, proposed that an area east of White City be developed into a recreation area.

Both proposals were taken under consideration by the commission. A committee of three was appointed to study the Grange proposal.

Members Welcomed
At the outset of last night's meeting, Commission Chairman Russ Jamison welcomed the five new members, and said "a lot of groundwork has been laid (by the commission) over the past year . . . but, there's still a lot that has to be done."

The five new members of the commission are Jim Sullivan, Robert DeLorme, Alex McDonald, Lloyd Carr and Fred Sears. They join Jamison, Verl Walker and Hero Partridge on the commission. Jamison was re-elected commission chairman at the meeting. Partridge was elected vice chairman; and Joanne Simmons was elected commission secretary. Mrs. Simmons is a secretary at the city hall.

Fagone proposed to the commission that a concrete or cement play area, having an approximate size of 125 feet by 75 feet, be installed in a clear area at Hawthorne park.

Play Area
The play area, he said, could be used for basketball, tennis, roller skating, badminton, shuffle board, band concerts, and both teen-age and adult dancing in the summer. Seating, either temporary or permanent, could be erected.

Fagone said he had no idea what the cost of the project might be, but said he felt the idea was worthy of consideration.

He added that the area could also be "piped" in order to facilitate ice skating. This would probably make the project a little more expensive, he said.

The most important thing about the plan would be that it could be used free of charge, Fagone said. This would give those youngsters who cannot afford to pay for recreation the chance to have some place to go and do pretty much what they please.

Maintenance cost would be low, he said, and it would require a minimum of supervision, although some scheduling of activities would be necessary.

Fagone noted that the same thing was done in New York and proved successful.

Passive Recreation Area
Parks and Recreation Department Director Robert Hawthorth pointed out that the new freeway will destroy much of the park's value as a passive recreation area. It is scheduled to become primarily a play area after the freeway is constructed. He said Fagone's proposal "would be a consideration for the area."

The proposal from the Eagle Point Grange suggested that the city of Medford, the Rogue Valley Irrigation district, the state fish and game commission and other groups, join together in developing an area east of White City for a recreation development.

They suggested that the area start near the Rogue river in the C. C. Hoover property, extend across Crater Lake highway, state game property, Table Rock rd., and into city property.

Lakes Be Created
The Grange proposed in a letter to the commission that a chain of lakes could be created by a system of small dams and said enough water could be found to fill the lakes. The area would have fishing, hunting and recreation value, they said.

Haworth noted that essentially the same proposal was made in 1958, but apparently no action was taken then. He



DOG HERO—Sam, a 4-year-old pointer, is the Dog Hero of 1960 and is shown in San Francisco as he was honored with a silver collar at a testimonial dinner in his behalf late Tuesday. Seven months ago, doctors removed a mitral valve on the left side of Sam's heart and replaced it with one from the right side. He has been doing splendidly ever since. Shown with Sam are Dr. Norman Shumway, left, and Dr. Raymond Stofor, two of the doctors who have been experimenting with disease of the mitral valve, common to victims of rheumatic fever. —(UPI Telephoto)

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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BEST DRESSED

Hollywood—Actors Rick Nelson and Jack Lemmon have been chosen to receive the annual best dressed award next Wednesday at the Men's Apparel club spring meeting, it was announced today.

They said that the area, commonly known as the Agate desert, is now unused land, and said the proposal "definitely has some potential in my opinion."

Legislature Sinks Teeth Into Tax, Judicial, Election Matters

Salem—The 1961 legislature Wednesday sunk its teeth into tax, judicial, education and election matters along with a move to block Gov. Mark Hatfield from moving state welfare headquarters from Portland to Salem.

Hatfield has ordered the welfare office shift for next spring and Rep. Grace O. Peck, D-Portland, led 11 other house members and a dozen senators in introducing a bill to prevent it.

Rep. Sam Wilderman, R-

Modern Alchemist Would Be Welcome in Present Congress

Washington—A modern alchemist who could cheaply turn salt water into fresh water would be welcomed with open arms in the present Congress.

Senators from water-short western states are ready to go all out on a program to convert sea water into fresh water suitable for use in agriculture and industry—and even in municipal water systems.

What's more, they're willing to spend money on research into the matter.

The westerners are spearheading a drive for further expansion of a salt water research program set up in 1952 and already extended in 1955 and 1958.

Legislation introduced in the present session not only would provide for research and pilot plants, but would grant loans to states, cities and public utility districts for the construction of conversion plants.

One bill, introduced by Sen. Clair Engle (D-Calif.) would provide up to \$20 million for research and loans. It would, for example, direct the interior secretary to build pilot plants and would authorize construction of a \$2.5 million laboratory for the interior department's office of saline water.

In introducing the bill, Engle said the nation was fast approaching the limits of its natural water supplies.

"We're going to have to rely more and more on the conversion of salt and brackish waters," he said.

Senators from states which would not benefit directly from the legislation also have come out strongly in favor of salt water research.

Among them was Sen. Frank E. Moss (D-Utah) who went on record in favor of such legislation as a possible solution to increasingly bitter disputes over water between his state and California. Similar quarrels have broken out between other neighboring states.

"Utah and southern California both look to the same source—the Colorado river—for much of the water to support a rapid growth of population and industry," Moss said.

Would Reduce Conflict
The Utah senator suggested that the desalination of sea water might provide an alternative means for California to get badly needed water and thus would reduce pressure for a larger share of Colorado river water for that state.

At least two dozen senators, most of them westerners, al-

ready have become sponsors of legislation to expand the saline water conversion program.

There also is strong sentiment for such legislation in the House where an interior committee hearing has been set for Monday to review progress under the present saline water research and development program.

The hearing was called by Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.). It will begin with testimony from the staff of the office of saline water.

AEC Says One Man Alive When Found

Idaho Falls, Idaho—The Atomic Energy commission has disclosed that one of three men killed in a reactor explosion at AEC facilities here last week was alive when taken from the reactor.

The AEC said the man was taken from the reactor at 10:35 p.m. the night of the explosion.

The group which found the man who was still alive said that they found him on the fourth trip into the building and that he moaned but he never spoke before dying.

About 80 per cent of forest fires are caused by carelessness.

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