



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022 – 5:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:33 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: Josh Anderson, Alex Beebe-Giudice, Makayla Chappell, Ron Crenshaw, Emily Haynes, Chris Mertl, Will Muldoon

Absent: Edric Carrillo, Kirk Duncan

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – None

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business –

A. 2021 Annual Report

C. Mertl: Included in your packet is our 2021 Annual Report.

Report approved unanimously.

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Information Items –

A. Projects Update

M. Elfers: I wanted to give a quick update on some projects the department has going on. In December, we held a public meeting via Zoom on the conceptual plans for the Fish Creek Master Plan. There is a comment period, which is wrapping up shortly after we will review the comments and make any revisions. We should have a final master plan to show you at our next meeting.

On the Montana Creek Master Plan work, we have been gathering data and inputting it into our new GIS website. We are still in the data-gathering phase for the project but we are starting to move into the design phase. We have delayed the in-person design meetings due to the Omicron variant. I have been working with DNR on motorized use maps for the area, which has been difficult.

On the 35 Mile ORV project, we are going to have a joint Parks & Rec and Juneau Off-Road Association public meeting in about a month on Zoom. We will present the work we have been doing, concept layouts, data information and we will collect people comments. If things go well at the public meeting, then we will take it to the Assembly to review as a resolution and then to the Planning Commission for a conditional use permit. We have a process laid out with a rough timeline, which takes us through early summer.

Hank Harmon Public Range has \$200K of voter approved bond funding. We have a designer on contract to do some scoping and application for a Hunter Access Program Grant that is through Fish & Game. We should hear about the grant by this summer. We are working up a project either based on just the bond funding or bond funding plus grant, likely to be constructed in fall 2023.

Trail Mix & Parks & Rec applied for a Federal Lands Access Program Grant for the Jumbo Trailhead in South Douglas. The current trailhead off 5th Street has no parking and that part of the trail is in bad shape. With the grant, we received \$265,000 with about \$28,000 in match. That funding will go towards relocating the trailhead to Savikko Park so folks will be able to use the parking lot and other facilities in that area. We might see construction starting this fall.

J. Anderson: Thanks for all your work on the Mile 35 project. Have you spent any money to date yet on this project planning? Also, any other locations being tossed around?

M. Elfers: No, we have not yet spent any funding besides my staff time. Nothing is moving along like the 35 Mile site.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— We have 2 vacancies on the PRAC.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— The COW is discussing COVID mandates and Finance is discussing CIPs.

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics— W. Muldoon: AGB reno will be discussed at Finance Committee; wrapping up budget.

YAB— J. Anderson: Gearing up for 2022 grant season; discussed changes to grant application.

Eaglecrest— A. Beebe-Giudice: None

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— E. Carrillo: None

Lands, Economic Developing, Housing— C. Mertl: None.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: None

Treadwell Arena Board— K. Duncan: None

Trail Mix— E. Haynes: None

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None

Other Member Business –

G. Schaaf: We're planning on having a PRAC retreat in March. We will talk about the values and goals of the PRAC and how that translates into resources and CIPs.

Adjournment – 6 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager 1/10/22