



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 – 5:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:31 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: Josh Anderson, Alex Beebe-Giudice, Edric Carrillo, Ron Crenshaw, Kirk Duncan, Chris Mertl, Will Muldoon, Emily Palmer, Tom Rutecki

Absent: None

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

II. Agenda Changes – C. Mertl adds presentation from Barbara Miranda on Mendenhall Glacier Master Plan under New Business.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes –

- A.** From September 1, 2020 – E. Palmer moves to approve minutes; no objection. ***Minutes adopted.***
- B.** From November 3, 2020 – E. Palmer moves to approve minutes; no objection. ***Minutes adopted.***

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business –

A. Mendenhall Glacier Master Plan Update

Barb Miranda: I am the new Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area Director and I am here to give an update on the Mendenhall Glacier Master Plan. Comments received in the last public comment period at the beginning of 2020 determined that an Environmental Impact Statement was needed and public comment is now back open until January 15. There will be an additional comment period over the summer and a final decision in the spring 2022. Current capacity is estimated at 635,500 people per year and as of 2017, visitation has been over 700,000 per year. A number of things are being proposed including expanding parking, a welcome center complex, updating the visitor center, additional trails and expanding current trails, new public use cabins, remote glacier visitor area, etc..

B. FY2022-27 Capital Improvement Program

K. Duncan: A memo is included in the packet that outlines what happened in our December 14 subcommittee meeting. CIP funds are an extremely important component of the Departments long term budgeting process. It is important that PRAC take an active stance to recommend to the Assembly that both the CIP projects and the bond the voters approved to get the funding.

J. Anderson: I move that the PRAC recommend that the Assembly fully fund the Parks & Recreation Departments FY22 CIP request.

Motion passes unanimously.

C. Prop 2 General Obligation Bond Projects

R. Crenshaw: I move the PRAC express its appreciation for the Assembly's support of Parks & Recreation projects totaling \$5.4 million, and recommends that the Assembly appropriate bond

funds for these projects, as presented at the December 9, 2020 meeting of the CBJ Assembly Finance Committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

VI. Unfinished Business –

A. Brigadoon Estates Land Disposal

G. Schaaf: We sent a mailer to everyone in the neighborhood, promoted it online and on social media and received 166 responses. The response we received was overwhelmingly to retain it as a park. Most individuals did not agree on providing the land at no cost. After we conducted the public outreach, the Law Department concluded that the property is a “public way” and it cannot be sold under the usual Title 53 process because it is not owned by the CBJ in its proprietary capacity. The Beans are not the “rightful owners” of the property and would not be eligible to receive the land if it was vacated.

VII. Information Items –

A. Amalga Cabin Update

G. Schaaf: With a little over 6 months of work, we have a completed cabin. The cabin will be available for reservations on January 11 at noon and the first night it will be available on Friday, January 15. The cost will be \$75/night with 3 nights maximum.

B. Capital School Park Improvements Project Update

G. Schaaf: Currently houses one of the oldest playgrounds we have in the system. It is one of the heaviest visited parks due to the proximity of day cares in the area. The retaining wall behind the playground is the biggest issue. With the passing of Prop. 2 we will have the funding to complete the playground. We completed a master plan in 2012 and looking to take it back to the community for input now. We have a public community meeting via Zoom on January 12. We plan to break ground this summer.

C. Operations Update

G. Schaaf: Can be found in the [director's report](#).

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— None

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— Approved funding for EVC work; will promote our CIP projects; organizing training on Roberts Rules; Assembly has approved Fieldhouse to move back to CBJ ownership and for P&R to take over.

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – W. Muldoon: Working on reviewing the Aquatics budget.

YAB – J. Anderson: Discussed proposed grants and changes.

Eaglecrest – E. Palmer: Eaglecrest is open.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— E. Carrillo: None.

Lands – C. Mertl: Retooling Lands & Resources Committee to Housing Economic Development and Lands Committee. I may no longer be serving as the liaison.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: Cabin is ready.

Treadwell Arena Board – K. Duncan: None.

Trail Mix— R. Crenshaw: None.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Other Member Business –

W. Muldoon: Sigoowu Ye Park in Lemon Creek is still having problems with drugs and crime and not being inviting place due to the need for lighting. The neighborhood group asked me to bring that up.

Adjournment – 6:49 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager, 2/28/2021