



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019 – 6PM
CITY HALL CHAMBERS

I. Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: J. Anderson, E. Carrillo, K. Duncan, J. Gellings (t), C. Mertl, W. Muldoon, E. Palmer, T. Rutecki

Absent: K. Shelton

Staff Present: Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison; Merrill Jensen, Jensen-Olson Arboretum Manager

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 5, 2019 – E. Palmer moves to approve the minutes; no objection. *Minutes adopted.*

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business –

A. Subcommittee Assignments

M. Elfers: At the PRAC retreat, you discussed creating subcommittees for specific issues the department has. We wanted to start the conversation now. Some of the issues we're looking at are Commercial Use regulations, fees & charges, Title 67, Trails Plan, and future sales tax & bond requests. These are big issues and it will take staff time. Staff is holding a retreat in April and will be creating a work plan for the year; George will give an update in May on where we're at for projects.

B. Eaglecrest Board Combined Meeting Topics

E. Palmer: The Eaglecrest Board is interested in having a joint meeting with us on how we can better collaborate with them. They want us to come up with agenda topics. Some topics I was thinking of was discussing new summer trails, management of the Field House, and information on building a public use cabin.

E. Carrillo: Can we get a presentation from Eaglecrest's director on what they're doing, their goals and needs after their season is over?

M. Elfers: Yes, the Department will reach out and invite Dave.

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Department Information Items –

A. Jensen-Olson Arboretum Update:

M. Jensen: The vision of the Jensen-Olson Arboretum is to provide the people of Juneau a place that both teaches and inspires learning in horticulture, natural sciences and

landscaping – to preserve the beauty of the landscape for pure aesthetic enjoyment – to maintain the historical and cultural context of the place and its people. It holds a National Collection Status of Primula and which is the largest collection of primula in North America. Since opening in July 2007, approximately 90,000 people have visited; 60% of visitors are locals and approximately 25% of non-local visitors are independent travelers opposed to being from off the boats. Some recent projects include- the Chilkats Viewing Shelter, creating children’s programs, training seasonal docents, a word garden was installed and last summer, our parking lot was completed with a new trail leading to the Arboretum. Some future projects are a visitor entry panel, parking lot plantings, creating a field guide to the plants, multipurpose classroom, establish a permanent restroom and continue expanding the primrose collection through seed exchanges.

B. Douglas Cemeteries:

M. Elfers: Greg Chaney from Lands presented to the Douglas Committee on the cemeteries. Many of the parcels were created prior to the establishment of legal process for land ownerships in Juneau and Douglas. The Lands division has been researching the ownership details of each parcel which is a long process.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— None.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— The Planning Commission saw the Parks & Rec Master Plan; Chicken Yard Park was approved; still discussing the lease with Deckhand Dave’s. Would a Rotary Club want to take on cleaning up the Douglas cemeteries?

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – T. Rutecki: Looked at budget narrative; board is expanding to 9 members.

YAB – T. Rutecki: Received 27 grand applications.

Eaglecrest – E. Palmer: Marketing snow school.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— None.

JNU Urban Forestry – C. Mertl: None.

Lands – C. Mertl: None.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: Moving forward with 501C3 status; working on public engagement.

Treadwell Arena Board – None.

TrailMix— K. Shelton: None.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Other Member Business – None.

Adjournment – 7:21 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, P&R Administrative Assistant II, 3/24/2019