



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018 – 6PM
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

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

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

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Kristi West, EVC Manager; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 8, 2018 – J. Anderson moves to approve the minutes; no objection. *Minutes adopted.*

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business –

A. Welcome

W. Muldoon: The skate park got me involved in being a park user back in the day. I was part of the Skate Park Advisory Board and their interactions with the Juneau Community Foundation. Recently, I was part of the Parks & Rec Master Plan Committee.

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Department Information Items –

A. Eagle Valley Center Update

K. West: In 1997, CBJ acquired the property and SAGA leased the land for over two decades. When SAGA's lease ended in 2015, operation and management moved back to Parks & Recreation where we renovated the facility and started renting it. Throughout the current Parks & Rec Master Plan process, we were able to hold a meeting for future partners and the neighborhood to discuss the future of the area. Our goals were to build essential partnerships to operate a break-even facility and offer programs that allow local residents, non-profits, businesses and visitors to use this natural park area for outdoor education and enjoyment. Without any promotion or having a website, in 2016 we had 11 unique rentals (21 days booked), in 2017 we had 26 unique rentals (38 days booked) and in 2018, 67 unique rentals (102 days booked). In FY18, total cost recovery was 125%. Some building and infrastructure needs are water system improvements, new roof, ground drainage and road improvements. The plans we have for the future are building some public use cabins on the beach, reopening the challenge course and a partner to offer a center for education.

Ryan O'Shaughnessy: I am the Project Manager at Trail Mix. We're working on improvements on the Horse Tram Trail which connects the EVC to Boy Scout Beach. Our crews have worked about 5 weeks clearing the trail but will not complete it until the summer of 2019.

B. Eagle Valley Center Public Use Cabin

G. Schaaf: In partnership with SAGA, a master plan was completed in 2013 and one of the outcomes are the potential sites for public use cabins. Juneau currently has 11 cabins on the road system; all but three are a 3-7 mile hike. The proposed cabin location in Eagle Cove is consistent with the 2013 master plan and would be about a 15 minute walk from the EVC parking lot. What we envision is something similar to Eagle Beach cabins which are essentially cabin kits provided by Icy Straits lumber over in Hoonah. The location is private and has amazing views of the water. The Alaska State Parks has provided us with the plans of their cabins which have already been approved by State Engineers which makes it easy for us to transfer over to the City. The estimated costs to build are relatively low, around \$50,000 for the cabin, roofing, doors and windows and \$2,500 for a pit toilet. We're still figuring out if we want to go with oil or propane heat. Some potential funding sources are Juneau Park Foundation/JCF, Rasmuson Foundation, private donors and volunteer/nonprofit organizations. We project the cabin would be occupied about 200 nights per year for \$75/night and would generate \$15,000 additional revenue with expenses projected to be around \$4,000 per year. We're working with engineering to refine costs and identify funding. I will be coming back to the PRAC in the spring for a recommendation. We hope to construct it in either 2019 or the latest, 2020.

C. Capital Improvement Program (GY2020-25)

G. Schaaf: Some projects we completed this year through CIP was Overstreet Park, Project Playground, Riverside Rotary Park playground replacement, Arboretum building repairs and parking lot. In FY19 we requested \$2,630,000 for our Parks & Trails CIP and only \$1,010,000 was approved. This year coming up, some projects we're looking at proposing for funding in FY20 is finishing Cope Park, replacing the Chicken Yard Park playground, Melvin Park parking lot repairs, Riverside Rotary Park parking lot and pathway repairs, Pipeline Skatepark parking lot and drainage repairs, area wide sign replacement and Capital School Park playground replacement. We're also requesting money to complete the Juneau Trails Plan that was started in the 90's, area wide trail repairs and the Switzer Trail repairs and neighborhood connectors. The current need for Parks & Trails is \$42 million which do include big ticket projects like turfing Adair Kennedy.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— Kirk Duncan will be joining us on the PRAC.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— the sale of Gunakadeit Park came through the Lands Committee and was denied. Deckhand Dave proposed to lease the property to the Assembly and it passed 5-3; now being sent back to Lands for lease negotiations.

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – T. Rutecki: City Manager presented on his recommendation for board governance.

YAB – T. Rutecki: Haven't met in a while but will be discussing the P&R Master Plan.

Eaglecrest – E. Palmer: None.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— VACANT

JNU Urban Forestry – C. Mertl: None.

Lands – C. Mertl: None.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: Need to fill a vacant seat; going to clearly define roles and expectations of the board and department.

Treadwell Arena Board – VACANT

TrailMix— K. Shelton: Getting ready for their fundraiser on November 17.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Other Member Business –

Adjournment – 7:31 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, P&R Administrative Assistant II, 11/21/2018