



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 – 6PM
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

I. Call to Order at 6:05 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: J. Anderson, E. Carrillo, C. Mertl, E. Palmer, T. Rutecki,

Absent: J. Gellings, T. Gilmour, K. Shelton

Staff Present: George Schaaf (t), Director; Alix Pierce, Project Manager; Colby Shibler, Park Maintenance Supervisor; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 7, 2018 – *Not available, moved to next meeting.*

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business –

A. Treadwell Mine Historic Site & Trail Plan

G. Schaaf: Corvus Design approached us in May with an offer to develop a site & trail plan for Treadwell Mine Historic Park at no cost to CBJ. The plan “aims to convey the history of the mining complex, developing a plan that complements the interpretive signage.” The plan identifies a range of actions to enhance the visitor experience, which can be accomplished as resources allow. The recommendation is that PRAC adopts this plan so we can move forward with implementing it when we’re able.

C. Mertl: This plan complements and gives further detail to Treadwell Mine Historic Trail in the Savikko Master Plan from 2008. One thing that this plan does is try to restore the original historic site circulation of the area.

J. Anderson: I move to adopt the Treadwell Mine Historic Site & Trail Plan presented in the packet.

George Utermohle (1970 Glacier Ave.): I have been a user of the area since 1975, I don’t see this as a plan that the PRAC can adopt. You’re proposing vast changes to the existing area. This plan proposes eliminating all existing trails which would clear cut the area to impose these new trails. This plan is inconsistent with existing use and needs to go to the public.

T. Rutecki: In regards to clear cutting, that means cutting down everything that is there.

George Utermohle: That is what this plan proposes, eliminating all existing trails and putting in a new trail system.

C. Mertl: The reestablish of historic trails is appropriate; the ones that are there now were largely put in by the cross country club. This document is a roadmap on how to move forward to preserve the historic nature of the site; it is not a management plan. What I have heard from the Treadwell Historic Society is that they want to stop the deterioration and preserve the landscape, the sites and artifacts and not let it get overgrown.

G. Schaaf: This plan was designed to complement the existing Savikko Park Master Plan that includes the Treadwell Mine Historic Park which was adopted in 2008. This plan provides us a framework

going forward in the future when we develop trails in the area that they will be more consistent with the historic use and values of the area. I don't see it will dramatically change the environment in the area, nor does it propose any changes that are not consistent with the 2008 plan.

E. Carrillo: This is the first time I have heard of this, so maybe we can table it to the next month to get more input from the public.

J. Anderson: This plan is right in line with what we have discussed the last several years; I would like to move forward with a motion to adopt the plan.

C. Merti: I have a conflict of interest since my firm worked on this; I will not be able to vote. We lose our quorum and will have to push this to our October meeting.

B. Parks & Recreation Master Plan

A. Pierce: This Draft Parks & Rec Master Plan is the result of two years of work by department staff and by the PRAC Special Committee, who donated hours of their time to reviewing the document chapter by chapter. We consulted with over 30 user groups and engaged the public through surveys, meetings, and online. Based on the feedback we received from the public, the Special Committee developed a mission, vision, and guiding principles that shape the direction of the Master Plan. The department also developed a set of recommendations based on public feedback and internal goals. The Draft Master Plan document arrives at these goals and recommendations and provides baseline conditions, a policy framework, and guidance to future decision makers. The key themes of the Plan are partnerships, maintaining what we have, supporting underserved residents, and direction for future land management decisions. This is a broad and comprehensive document that presents a lot of information over 100 + pages. Please consider the public and Assembly's perspective in your review, and review for broad content rather than individual interests and bring your recommendations to the October PRAC meeting.

VI. Unfinished Business –

A. Pickleball/Shared Use of Tennis Courts

G. Schaaf: At our June 5 meeting, the PRAC recommended the installation of temporary lines for pickleball at Cope Park and Adair Kennedy Memorial Park. You also asked staff to solicit feedback from the public about how they felt with the shared use of the courts. We worked with our Park Maintenance staff and pickleball volunteers to install temporary pickleball lines at Cope and Adair. We installed signs with QR codes at both courts inviting feedback from court users, either positive or negative regarding the lines. Some of the lessons learned from the past couple of months is that the temporary tape does not hold up well in our climate. The tape faded from orange to white which made it confusing for both players. We learned more about pickleball lines and according to the USA Pickleball Association (USAPA), mixed use courts that accommodate both tennis and pickleball players should include tone-on-tone lines (same color family). Based on the feedback we received from the public, we had 28 positive responses, 8 negative responses and 2 neutral responses. There is an opportunity here to maximize the use of our existing courts without having to spend a lot of money to build additional courts at this time. We recommend installing permanent blended lines for pickleball on one court at Cope and one at Adair, consistent with USAPA guidelines.

E. Carrillo: I would like to make a motion that the PRAC adopts the Departments recommendations of installing permanent blended lines for pickleball on one tennis court at Cope Park and one tennis court at Adair, consistent with USAPA guidelines.

Art Dee (1180 Fritz Cove): I am a tennis player and adding all this additional stripping has ruined the courts. The stripes are very confusing for both sports.

T. Rutecki: What about the covered areas at schools?

G. Schaaf: Those unfortunately are not a good playing surface for court sports. They're also part of school property and are not available during the school year. From our standpoint we're trying to make the most of our resources we have and looking at this as an opportunity to maximize the use of our tennis courts.

C. Mertl: Any objection to the motion before us?

No objection; motion passes.

VII. Department Information Items - None

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— None.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— None.

C. Liaison Reports—

YAB— T. Rutecki: Did not fund a contingency grant; has two new members.

Aquatics— T. Rutecki: City Manager attended the last meeting and stated that nothing will be going before the Assembly until after the election.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum—T. Gilmour: None.

Lands— C. Mertl: None.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Treadwell Arena Board— VACANT

JNU Urban Forestry— C. Mertl: None.

Eaglecrest— E. Palmer: None.

TrailMix— K. Shelton: None.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: None.

Other Member Business— None.

Adjournment – 7:23 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, P&R Administrative Assistant II, 10/3/2018