

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 6th, 2018
City Hall Chambers– 6 p.m.

I. Call to Order at 5:59 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: J. Anderson, T. Gilmour, C. Mertl, E. Palmer, T. Rutecki, G. Schaaf

Absent: E. Carrillo, C. Prussing

Staff Present: Kirk Duncan (t), Director; Brent Fischer, Facilities Superintendent; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison; Alix Pierce, Project Manager; Skye Stekoll, Engineering

II. Agenda Changes – T. Rutecki adds Dog-Free Trail discussion under Unfinished Business.

III. Public Participation of Non-Agenda Items – None.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2018 – T. Gilmour moves to approve the minutes, no objection. *Minutes adopted.*

V. New Business –

A. Multi-Sport Pump Track

Elliot Matheis: A pump track is a course made up of bumps and banked turns used by bikes, rollerblades, scooters, etc. and are typically made out of dirt but that would not hold up in Juneau. I have been in contact with Velosolutions which makes asphalt coated pump tracks. Looking at creating it in front of the Fieldhouse where all the alders are near the bridge, it would be around 11,000 square feet.

A. Pierce: We have talked to Risk Management & CDD about permits and insurance, we don't think there will be many hurdles. This is a local user group that wants to add an asset to a city park and we're very supportive of that. This the most researched and well developed proposal we have seen.

E. Matheis: Velosolutions, its roughly \$25/sq foot which would be around \$250,000 total. They did mention there is various ways to cut costs by bringing up a limited staff and working with local companies. Talked to the Juneau Community Foundation but working on putting together on creating an official group and then begin fundraising money. It would be run similar to the skate park and it can be used by multiple users at one time.

B. Fisher: They would build it and then turn it over to the City to manage.

C. Mertl: I think it's a great idea but the only thing I would advocate for building it in Lemon Creek. Let us know how the PRAC can help out, we're in support of this.

B. Chairlift Benches

Sean Boily: I am here on behalf of the Downtown Business Association (DBA) and we're trying to connect downtown visitors with our winter activities. We have old chairlift chairs from Eaglecrest and would like to create them into benches for downtown to promote our winter activities to tourists in the summer. We would seek business sponsorships. The DBA has spoken with Docks & Harbor and Parks & Rec, with one bench going on the docks and the other in Gunakadeit Park (Pocket Park).

E. Palmer: What is your long term vision for downtown?

S. Boily: Planning on having one bench completed in the next two months. Our long term goal is to have 6-8 benches around downtown. I don't feel they will be forever elements of downtown, they will be removable. The opportunity would be to showcase what else you can do in Juneau.

C. Mertl: Would be a great way to promote Juneau and it would be a big photo opportunity for tourists. I do not see any objections or concerns, PRAC members are in support of this project to move forward. You can work with the Department on selecting the location once the benches are complete.

C. Engineering Update

S. Stekoll: *Overstreet Park*- Should be completed in May, on schedule as of now. *Arboretum Parking Lot*- Once weather clears up, they will be paving the parking lot. *Auke Lake*- will be working on creating a picnic area. *Riverside Rotary Park* – Bid has been awarded to Admiralty Construction, contractor portion complete in May. Volunteer effort should happen in June. *Chicken Yard Park* – PND will do structural analysis of wall; will be repairing the wall, replacing the fence and concrete. Still working on the driveway easement. *Capital Park* – retaining wall will cost \$250,000 to replace, waiting to get funds for the wall replacement and then will work on updating the rest of the park. *Adair Kennedy* – One of the biggest issues is the trees which is something we do have funding for now. This is the least expensive and most impactful part of the project now. School is concerned about the trees because they're hiding areas; near Loop Road and then near the baseball fields. We will be putting out a contract for thinning and clearing trees soon.

T. Gilmour: I went to the public meeting and haven't heard much since about Riverside Rotary Park. The people that attend the meeting would like to hear what the plan is for the park.

VI. Unfinished Business –

A. Dog-Free Trail

T. Rutecki: At our last meeting I brought up the idea of a dog-free trail since we do not have one. Let me know the next meeting why we shouldn't have a trail that is dog free.

C. Mertl: I think no one is opposed to the idea but this is your project. You should come up with some trails you think would work and bring it to the PRAC.

VII. Director's Report – K. Duncan –

A. Project Playground Update:

A. Pierce: Recently received the 90% drawings and engineering going over technical aspects of those. The project will be going out to bid in April and the contractor starting in June. The community build will be Augusts 8-12. The steering committee only needs to raise \$84k which would fund 100% of poured in place. If they sell all their pickets, they will have all the money they need.

B. Youth Sports Under ZGYC

K. Duncan: We have decided as a Department to move Youth Sports under ZGYC. It will have a more specialized emphasis on youth. Then the Adult Sports program can spend more time on potential expanded senior activities.

C. Aquatics Board Update

K. Duncan: They have held two public meetings and presented to other groups in town. The existing board will sunset on May 28th. They have been looking at four options and will be presenting to the Finance Committee on March 14th and making a recommendation. They would like to extend the current situation so they can do more research on option C & D. The Department will be recommending option A (allowing the Aquatics Board to sunset and bringing the pools back into Parks & Rec) which is not being considered by the Aquatics Board. This is the first conflict between the Director and the Aquatics Board.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— Welcome Emily Palmer & Kirsten Shelton to the PRAC.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— None.

C. Liaison Reports—

YAAB – T. Rutecki: YAAB held a meeting for the organizations who apply for the grants.

Aquatics – T. Rutecki:

Jensen-Olson Arboretum—T. Gilmour: Parking lot will be completed in the spring and construction of the sunroom will be completed soon. They're looking into composting toilets. Trail Mix is making a new trail from the parking lot to the Arboretum.

Lands – C. Mertl: Had two meetings on the Cornerstone property. They made 3 recommendations of the 6 that applied to move forward to the Assembly.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Treadwell Arena Board – VACANT

JNU Urban Forestry – C. Mertl: Getting ready for the Home Show.

Eaglecrest – VACANT

TrailMix— VACANT

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: Going before the finance committee April 11 about the \$50,000.

Other Member Business –

Adjournment – 7:45 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Verrelli, P&R Administrative Assistant II, 3/26/2018