

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
City Hall, Room 224 – 6 p.m.

**I. Call to Order at 6:01 p.m. – G. Schaaf, Vice-Chair**

**Present:** J. Anderson, B. Farrell, T. Gilmour, E. Ouderkirk, C. Prussing, T. Rutecki, G. Schaaf

**Absent:** E. Carillo, C. Merti

**Staff Present:** Kirk Duncan, P&R Director; Brent Fischer, FP&L Superintendent; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

**II. Agenda Changes – B. Fischer:** Would like to add an update on the Treadwell zip-line and Treadwell Historical District to New Business. ***Approved.***

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

**IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – J. Anderson** moves to approve the minutes, no objection. ***Minutes adopted.***

**V. New Business –**

**A. Treadwell Ditch Trail Renovation Project:**

J. Kreinheder: I'm here to speak about transferring/reallocating \$100,000 from the Montana Creek Trail to the Treadwell Ditch Trail. The Montana Creek trail project is not practical anymore for that amount of money. The Treadwell Ditch Trail renovation project is top priority for Trail Mix and a high priority for the City as well. The goal is to renovate the entire 14 mile trail, from Treadwell to Eaglecrest with the Forest Service providing some funds.

B. Fischer: We're still working with UAA with getting an easement for the Auke Lake connector trail that connects with Montana Creek Trail. We would like to move the remaining \$50,000 from the Montana Creek Trail to the Auke Lake Connector Trail project

T. Gilmour: This money is just sitting somewhere and it's not going to be used and it won't be used correct?

B. Fischer: That is correct.

B. Farrell: I move that the PRAC recommends to re-appropriate \$150,000 from the 1% sales tax that is currently allocated to Montana Creek Trail project is re-allocated; \$100,000 to Treadwell Ditch Trail renovation project with partnership with the US Forest Service, National Forest Foundation, Juneau Community Foundation and Trail Mix and \$50,000 to the Auke Lake Connector Trail project.

***No objection; motion passes.***

**B. Park Tour Locations Discussion:**

G. Schaaf: For our August meeting, we will be having a park tour to our downtown parks which includes Chicken Yard Park, Cathedral Park, Capital Park, Bishop Kenny Peace Park, Telephone Hill Park, Cope Park, Mayor Bill Overstreet Park and Marine Park.

**C. Zip-Line at Savikko Park:**

B. Fischer: This is information only but we were approached by Alaska Canopy Adventures who want to get a commercial use permit to walk tourists through Treadwell District Historical Trail to the zip-line; they currently have a conditional use permit now that needs to go back to CDD and have that reviewed because of the increase of people (about 5,000 for the season) they want to walk through the land. The Treadwell Preservation Society is in support of this.

## VI. Director's Report – K. Duncan

### A. Parks & Rec Master Plan Update:

A. Pierce: Currently, we're in phase 3 and we're going back to the stakeholder groups to show them what we're generally recommending from everything we heard. We're trying to keep our recommendations high level. *In-depth handout included in packet on current status [page 4-6].*

### B. Project Playground:

A. Pierce: The clean-up has been completed, soil test came back and the soil is fine. We're going to reseed the area. Roles and responsibilities on the committee, along with the role of the committee and the role of the City and how the money is managed have been assigned. Our next step is to hire a design contractor; an RFP will be going out in the next couple weeks. Most of the upgrades/improvements that have been discussed are safety and ADA improvements.

### C. Chicken Yard Park: *Public testimony on Chicken Yard Park*

Catherine Wilkins (440 Kennedy St.): Need a tap for the community garden above but not down below in the park. The tap can be turned off in the winter.

Vicki VanFleet (626 5<sup>th</sup> St.): Replace wood siding wall along the park, create a seat out of the new wall. Playground still has a lot of life in it. Generations have grown up in that playground. City purchased the equipment and the neighborhood put it up last time. We would be willing to do that again if new equipment is necessary. I live in the house that uses the park as a driveway; we try to be very conscious with people and kids in the park. If the park is in use, we park on the street.

Ann Metcalfe (624 6<sup>th</sup> St.): I want to thank the City for being so responsive to us. It is a historic park that needs to be preserved and improved. We truly care about this park.

David Thomson (504 Kennedy St.): The City comes and does some maintenance in the park. It's the neighbors that come and weed-whack the hillside and we're willing to do that. We're invested in the usage of the park; we want to put the time into the park to keep it looking nice.

Eve Soutiae (634 6<sup>th</sup> St.): We have kids that come from different neighborhoods to play in Chicken Yard Park because people know it's a safe place. The neighborhood keeps an eye on the park and its activity.

Claire Richardson (510 Kennedy St.): I would like to help participate in helping with the park. Maybe we could partner with Project Playground when buying playground equipment. We do not need any more gardening space; currently we have 18 plots. The retaining wall is deteriorating. We're having a sing-along to raise money in August.

Paul Korchin (634 6<sup>th</sup> St.): The Park is a selling point for the neighborhood. It's a communal, vibrant, lively space. The courtesy that Jack & Vicki show to the park is very important. A vehicle never takes precedence over a human in that park.

B. Fischer: Things are on hold, the money will not be moved at this time; we will begin looking at planning's and we will get the neighborhood involved. It's very important to hear from you all.

### D. Jumbo:

K. Duncan: We are going to continue to Band-Aid it for now.

### E. 1% Sales Tax Update:

K. Duncan: There was \$120 million dollars in requests and each Assembly member was asked to rate each request on the list. AGB (\$5.5 million) and Centennial Hall (\$8.5 million) were ranked within the top six. The Assembly will make a decision at their next meeting.

### F. Point of Sale Information:

K. Duncan: Our point of sale system is able to provide a lot of beneficial data and information on times, ages, usage. We can do this kind of stuff with other aspects in our department, from picnic shelters, to rentals, etc.

## VII. Unfinished Business – None.

## VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

**A. Chair Report**— None.

**B. Liaison to the Assembly Report**— None.

**C. Liaison Reports**—

YAAB – T. Rutecki: None.

Aquatics – T. Rutecki: Focus has been getting the 1% for AGB on the ballot. The Aquatics Board is scheduled to sunset in May of 2018 and starting to discuss what they want to do.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum—T. Gilmour: None.

Lands – C. Mertl: None.

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None.

Treadwell Arena Board – C. Mertl: None.

JNU Urban Forestry – C. Mertl: None.

Eaglecrest – Vacant: None.

TrailMix—B. Farrell: None.

Park Foundation— None.

**Other Member Business** – None.

**Adjournment – 7:35 p.m.** *Having no other business before the board.*

**Date:** June 27, 2017

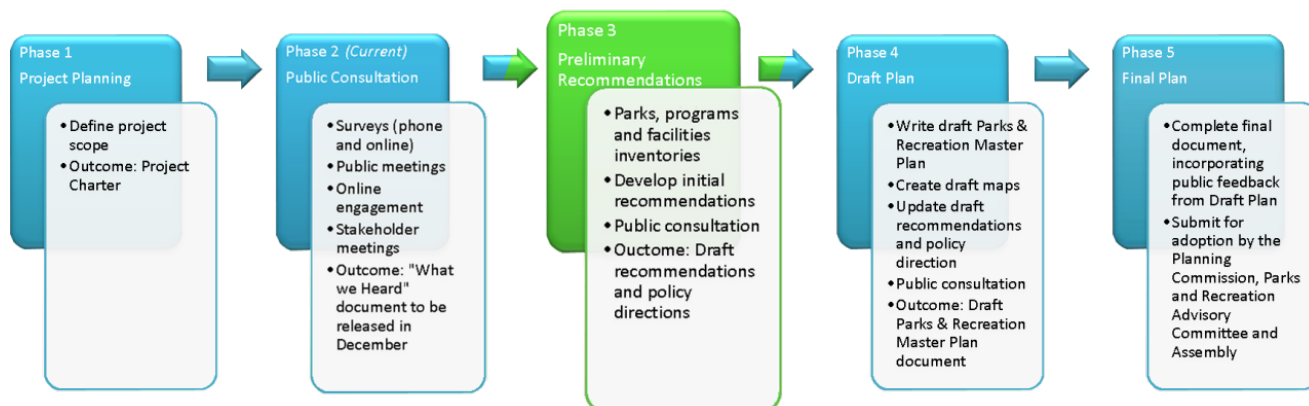
**To:** Planning Commission, Assembly

**Cc:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

**From:** Alexandra Pierce, Project Manager

**Subject:** Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The objective of this project is to develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan that serves the needs of the community of Juneau and addresses gaps in the current system over the next 10 to 20 years. The Plan will answer the question, “what does the department look like in 20 years?” and will provide a roadmap to achieve that long-term vision with policies and recommendations to be executed over the next 10 years. The Plan will be easily updatable and will also identify opportunities for partnerships with community organizations and will seek to gather and reflect the needs of the broader public, not just current Parks and Recreation facility users. The most recent Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1997, with the recommendations chapter updated in 2007. Since the completion of the 1997 plan, several new facilities have been developed or acquired by the community and shifts in community needs and priorities have not been assessed in relation to Parks and Recreation. The process has been divided into five phases as shown below:



### **Phase 1: Project Planning**

Phase 1 completed in summer of 2016 with identification of the project scope and objectives. Centennial Hall and Parking are outside the core function of Parks & Recreation and are excluded from the project. All other Parks & Recreation programs and facilities fall within the scope of the Master Plan.

### **Phase 2: Public Consultation**

Parks & Rec staff completed Phase 2 in late 2016 by conducting public outreach and releasing a document, "What we Heard" in December. The following topics emerged from our public consultation.

Themes:

- Affordability
- Community value
- Maintain what we have
- Support for seniors
- Support for underserved residents
- Partnerships
- Youth activities

Topics Identified for Further Discussion

- Augustus Brown Pool
- Additional indoor ice surface
- Off road vehicles

#### Requested Additions and Upgrades

- Additional bike trails/paths
- Additional dog parks
- Indoor recreation space
- Lemon Creek park space
- Pipeline Skate Park improvements
- Restroom facilities at parks
- Trail maintenance and upgrades
- Turf fields

### Phase 3: Inventories

We are currently in Phase 3, with the following tasks in progress:

- Special Committee – A demographically representative Master Plan advisory group was formed as a special committee of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC). The committee is vetting plan outcomes and public materials before they are reviewed by the public. The committee has met five times and has established the following mission, vision and guiding principles. These statements will shape the direction of the Plan.
  - o Mission Statement: To establish Parks & Recreation's role as an essential partner in a healthy community
  - o Vision Statement: Guiding future decisions to provide the highest possible quality Parks & Recreation facilities, programs and services for all regardless of age, income, or ability
  - o Guiding Principles: The Parks and Recreation Master Plan will guide the department in:
    - Promoting community engagement, health, and wellness
    - Managing our assets effectively
    - Ensuring financial sustainability
    - Supporting community partnerships
    - Engaging youth and encouraging lifelong wellness
    - Serving the needs of a diverse and changing population
    - Fostering environmental stewardship
    - Increasing cultural awareness
- Parks, Programs, Facilities Inventories
  - o The parks inventory will include:
    - A review of existing parks facilities
    - An evaluation of the physical condition and functionality of city managed parks, and an analysis of the park system to determine whether Juneau has the right parks in the right places with the right equipment. This will inform future decisions on capital improvement project spending.
    - A policy and process for parkland acquisition and disposal and a review of Parks & Recreation managed lands that meet a set of criteria for potential divestment. Park lands identified as potentially available will be subject to a more stringent disposal or sale process than other CBJ managed lands.
- The programs and facilities inventory will include a list of needed capital projects reconciled with community recommendations and input, as well as benchmarking of Juneau's recreation offerings against other communities.
- Assessment of trails will include a review of the non-motorized transportation plan for connectivity between parks, programs and trail systems and will identify recommendations for large trail projects. We will

recommend developing a new Trails Plan and have already put this project on the 1% list. We will propose a set of trails standards to be applied in the new trails plan and to create management objectives for CBJ trails.

- Recommendations
  - o Attached is a list of recommendations, vetted by the committee, which is currently with stakeholders for review. Recommendations are categorized as required actions (required to continue operating successfully), recommended actions (suggested improvements to facilities and services), or potential actions (requested by community members or groups but not currently operationally and/or financially feasible) and will include capital costs.
- Public Consultation
  - o We are posting a project update on PlaceSpeak and vetting the recommendations with our stakeholders. The draft plan will receive a full public review in late 2017 including public meetings, stakeholder review, and online engagement.

#### **Phase 4: Draft Plan**

The draft plan will be a first draft document submitted to the public for review in late 2017. The project team will reach out to stakeholders and the public through a series of meetings and online to ensure that the draft plan and recommendations are in line with the interests and needs of the community.

##### **Draft Plan**

- Outline of how document will be organized to be accepted by special committee and presented to the public for comment through the following channels:
  - o Stakeholder meetings
  - o Public meetings
  - o Online engagement

##### **Draft Maps**

- Visual component of Plan to be accepted by special committee and presented to public for comment through the following:
  - o Stakeholder meetings
  - o Public meetings
  - o Online engagement

##### **Draft Recommendations**

- Recommendations with timeline and budget estimates to be accepted by the special committee and presented for public comment through the following channels:
  - o Stakeholder meetings
  - o Public meetings
  - o Online engagement

#### **Phase 5: Final Plan**

The final document will be presented in a complete, visually appealing format and providing community-verified direction for how Juneau Parks and Recreation looks over the next one to two decades. The Final Plan will be completed in 2018.

##### **Acceptance Criteria**

- Acceptance by PRAC
- Acceptance of any lands-related recommendations by Planning Commission
- Acceptance by CBJ Assembly

#### **Attachments: Draft Policy Statements and Recommendations**