

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 1st, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6 p.m.

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

Present: J. Anderson; O. Brudie; F. Dowd; B. Farrell; T. Gilmour; C. Mertl; E. Ouderkirk; C. Prussing; T. Rutecki;

Absent: None

Staff Present: Kirk Duncan, P&R Director; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison; Maria Gladziszewski, Assembly Liaison

II. Agenda Changes – None.

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 11th, 2016 –

October 11th, 2016: Motion by J. Anderson to approve, no objection. ***Minutes adopted.***

V. New Business –

A. Hut to Hut:

M. Gladziszewski: At the public works meeting the City Manager wanted to start looking into the funding for a Hut-to-Hut (cabin to cabin) system. This is just a concept at this point and that's what the money is needed for, \$50,000, to get it going. They need to have an initial conversation with the Forest Service on how to pick routes and develop this idea. They were looking at old CIPs that are not being used and one of them is the OHV CIP, which has been around for years but has been dormant for a while. The question is, can we take \$50,000 from the OHV CIP for the Hut-to-Hut CIP? With the intention of putting the money back into the OHV CIP when it is needed.

C. Prussing: Is this viewed as enhancing tourism?

M. Gladziszewski: Yes, it's an economic development idea.

J. Anderson: The Hut-to-Hut sounds like a great idea, I have some concerns though. Why would the OHV CIP be stalled out? What would it take to get that rolling again? It would be my hope or recommendations, if we're going to borrow from the OHV CIP; we need to guarantee it gets paid back.

M. Gladziszewski: There is \$150,000 in the OHV CIP currently. We do this all the time with CIPs, move funds around between CIPs that are moving faster than others. I don't have the answer to why OHV is not moving. I just know it stalled out for a number of reasons, one is costs. I cannot guarantee the money being paid back. I would support it, the current assembly would support it but the assembly in the future, I do not know.

E. Ouderkirk: Who is going to manage this contract to this study?

M. Gladziszewski: I do not know the answer to that.

C. Mertl: How much money has been spent in the OHV CIP?

K. Duncan: Started at \$245,000 and \$91,000 has been spent.

T. Gilmour: The Hut-to-Hut is a great idea to get tourism to Juneau. Have we identified other projects that are underfunded and that will not be getting finished as we discuss a new project? I think it would be wise to finish projects that we started.

O. Brudie: I think Hut-to-Hut is a good idea; it supports local and visitor recreational activities.

C. Prussing: If it took \$95,000 to hire a consultant for the OHV concept, that was a smaller project but a network of trails, connected by cabins, would \$50,000 be enough to hire a consultant for a project that big?

M. Gladyszewski: The manager who is heading this is asking for \$50,000.

C. Mertl: I'm seeing general consensus that we support the general concept for Hut-to-Hut. I just want to echo; there is not guarantee this \$50,000 will come back, that is my only fear.

J. Anderson: I would like to make a motion to recommend the PRAC to write a letter, that states the PRAC supports future projects, such as the Hut-to-Hut, but would like to emphasize the importance of completing previous projects, such as OHV. If money is to be taken from OHV CIP, when there is a future need for those funds (\$50,000), the money will be reinstated.

Yay: C. Mertl, J. Anderson, T. Gilmour, B. Farrell, O. Brudie, T. Rutecki

Nay: E. Ouderkirk, C. Prussing, F. Dowd

Motion passes, 6-3

VI. Director's Report – K. Duncan

A. Priority Based Budgeting:

K. Duncan: Throughout the city we're doing Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) which is trying to convey to the public exactly the cost of our services that we provide. This is coming from the Managers Office and it's unclear how this whole process will roll out. Probably in the December meeting we will have something for the PRAC to weigh in on.

B. Seawalk Maintenance:

K. Duncan: Docks & Harbor will maintain the Seawalk from Marine Park and as far down the channel as it goes. Parks & Rec will maintain the new Seawalk from Gold Creek to Under Bridge Park.

C. Mertl: Stating the obvious, fight for the funds to maintain it.

C. Master Planning Timeline:

K. Duncan: The next phase will be for us putting together the "What We Heard" document which you will be seeing at the January meeting and we will talk about how we will be moving forward onto the next phase.

T. Rutecki: The responsibility of the committee is to serve as the voice of the public and make recommendations. It seems like the 9 people here on the board does exactly that. I think we should be the steering committee.

K. Duncan: We're following the Planning Commission steering committee, if this group wants to do something different that is fine. We're looking at meeting once every 3 weeks as a steering committee and we're looking for a broad community representation where people might have particular interest in a certain issue but are open minded enough to represent the entire community.

T. Rutecki: Who came up with the idea for the steering committee for the master plan?

K. Duncan: We're following the model of the Planning Commission committee, since the PRAC will be recommending adoption of the recommendations. If you're going to approve the recommendations you came up with, that could be subject to discussion about how you can approve what you came up with? The PRAC is one more level of approval. It goes from the Steering Committee to the PRAC to the Assembly. The Planning Commission set up this process the way they do planning.

O. Brudie: Do you plan on having a PRAC member on the Steering Committee?

K. Duncan: The current plan is to have a non-voting PRAC member on the steering committee. The PRAC would approve the steering committee. Staff will come up with the recommendation for the steering committee.

F. Dowd: Do you anticipate 12-15 folks that are interested in volunteering their time for 12-18 months for this process? Do you have people in mind already?

K. Duncan: We do not have people in mind already. I think we will have too much interest in being on this committee.

C. Mertl: We need to be involved as much as possible in this process and I wouldn't object seeing 3 PRAC members be on the Steering Committee.

D. Amended Steering Committee Memo:

K. Duncan: The updated memo is in the packet to reflect Chris' concern about the Assembly.

E. Parks & Rec Senior Staff EVC Retreat:

K. Duncan: We had 11 members of the Senior Staff attended a retreat out at the EVC. Internally the department is doing really well. We're more focused on getting to "yes" instead of no. Our new tagline will be "Essential partners in a healthy community."

F. ADDITION: Parks Foundation:

K. Duncan: We ran into an issue with transferring the money. The Parks Foundation still has not completed its 501C3 and the Law Department has decided there will not be any transferring of funds until that is completed which may take some time. The Community Foundation is reaching out to the Law Department to get some clarification but this is where we are at right now.

G. ADDITION: Field User Group Meeting:

K. Duncan: We had a very successful field user group meeting on Friday. Softball players want to see concrete floor dugouts at Dimond Park. We told our user groups, if they want to be involved, we will not stand in the way, we will help them when/where we can. Some of these user groups have the funds to do the projects they want done.

T. Gilmour: In the past we were told we cannot do any to that, this is really encouraging. Our 501C3 and bylaws state we have to put back into the program and that's how we do it, by improving Dimond Park.

K. Duncan: There is no reason why user groups cannot be involved in the updating of their facilities.

VII. Unfinished Business –

A. Summary on Previous 1% Sales Tax:

K. Duncan: I reached out to the engineering department and they're putting something together and I anticipate we will have something next meeting.

C. Mertl: If we could also add any remaining funds in project budgets?

K. Duncan: Yes.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report—

C. Mertl: I will be asking at the next meeting what your interests are, what you want for your special project.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report—

C. Mertl: Any update on the Assembly meeting last night about fireworks?

M. Gladziszewski: At the COW we talked about fireworks and the Assembly decided to post-pone anymore work on the fireworks ordinance until April 2017 to give JPD a chance to enforce the noise ordinance/disturbing the peace. Currently, there is no change in the law.

B. Farrell: Someone is going to have to decide if areal firework is a missile or not and if it is illegal in parks.

T. Gilmour: I'm pretty disappointed by the Assembly's decision, a lot of people put in their personal time. I do hope that JPD will be allowed to cite people.

C. Mertl: We could ask the Assembly to approve our recommendation to at least get parklands dealt with. Was there any discussion on our motion by the Assembly?

M. Gladziszewski: Not yesterday, but they did see it. The hope is that JPD will do some enforcement and there will be less disturbing people's neighbors.

C. Liaison Reports—

YAAB – T. Rutecki: None

Aquatics – T. Rutecki: None

Jensen-Olson Arboretum—E. Ouderkirk: None

Lands – C. Mertl: None

1% for Art— J. Anderson: Gary Gillette recently returned from a site visit in Utah where they're building the whale tail. Construction should be completed this March, shipping in April and insulation on the piers in May 2017.

Treadwell – C. Mertl: None.

Urban Forestry – C. Mertl: None

Eaglecrest – O. Brudie: They're getting ready for the season; roof repairs on the lodge are done, and they made some improvements on the Eagles Nest. Black Bear chair is still run on diesel and they want to switch that over to electric which is on their CIP.

TrailMix—B. Farrell: They will be coming to the PRAC to assist in their efforts to get some of the 1% sales tax.

Park Foundation—C. Mertl: They're going through their paperwork for their 501C3.

D. Other Member Business –

T. Rutecki: I changed my mind on Pocket Park, I think we have something there we can work with compared to what it was before.

Adjournment – 7:30 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*