

AGENDA
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 11th, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Item	Presenter	Action Requested
1. Call to Order	Chair, C. Mertl	
2. Agenda Changes		
3. Public Participation of Non-Agenda Items		
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 6th, 2016 & September 9th, 2016		Motion to approve
5. New Business SEAL Trust Letter of Support		
6. Director's Report - P&R Master Planning Update - Parks Inventory in conjunction with the Parks Foundation - Steering Committee proposal - Lena lot line adjustment - Point of Sale implementation - Hall Report Update - AmeriCorps Coordination - Eagle Valley Center	K. Duncan	
7. Unfinished Business Fireworks Motion sent to the COW		
8. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports - Chair Report - Liaison to the Assembly Report - Liaisons: a) YAB b) Aquatic Facilities c) Jensen-Olson d) Lands e) 1% for art f) Treadwell - Other Partners: a) JNU Urban Forestry b) Eaglecrest c) TrailMix d) Park Foundation - Other Member Business	C. Mertl M. Gladziszewski T. Rutecki T. Rutecki E. Ouderkirk C. Mertl J. Anderson C. Mertl C. Mertl O. Brudie B. Farrell C. Mertl	
9. Adjournment		

AGENDA SYNOPSIS
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 11th, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6:00 p.m.

New Business

- A. **SEAL Trust Letter of Support:** The Southeast Alaska Land Trust is working on a public access enhancement project at 2.7 mile on North Douglas Highway and they are seeking support from the PRAC. *[Page 14-15]*

Director's Report

- A. **Master Planning Update:** Alix Pierce, P&R Project Manager, will present an update on the Master Planning process and will be prepared to answer any questions the PRAC members may have about the project.
- B. **Parks Inventory in conjunction with the Parks Foundation:** A Request for Legal Services (RLS) has been submitted to the Law Department for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CBJ and the Juneau Parks Foundation for the completion of a Parks Inventory. This will include a survey of our existing parks, what is needed to bring the various parks up to a standard (to be determined) as well as a discussion of “do we have the right parks in the right places”.
- C. **Steering Committee proposal:** Please see the enclosed 2 page outline of the steering committee process for the master planning project. This outline follows the Planning Commission's process when establishing steering committee for the Lemon Creek and Auke Bay project. We will be asking for a member of the PRAC to be a non-voting member of the steering committee. *[Page 16-17]*
- D. **Lena lot line adjustment:** Alaska Power and Telephone (APT) ran an undersea fiber optic cable from Haines to Juneau and purchased a property at Lena as the terminus of the project. When they purchased the property, they assumed the fence line was the property line. The fence line was actually 10 feet into P&R managed property. APT paid \$4,000 for a lot line adjustment and that money was paid to the Juneau Parks Foundation for park improvements.
- E. **Point of Sale implementation:** The Point of Sale system implementation is now complete with credit card integration. The information available to us concerning how people use our facilities is greatly enhanced over the previous system.
- F. **Hall Report update:** In December of 2014, Jim Hall, Boise Parks & Recreation Director was hired to do an audit of the CBJ Parks & Rec Department. Jim was a previous director of CBJ Parks & Rec. He had a series of recommendations and I like to review where we are in the process of implementing the recommendation. A spreadsheet has been created that graphically relates where we are in the process. *[Page 18]*
- G. **AmeriCorps Coordination:** CBJ Parks & Rec has been approached by Serve Alaska, the AmeriCorps agency for the State of Alaska, to provide AmeriCorps coordination for Juneau. Currently the coordination is being provided out of Sitka and the coordinator in Sitka is retiring

next spring. There are currently 12 AmeriCorps volunteers in Juneau and the program is important to the community for many reasons. Currently there is no other agency interested in providing the coordination services in Juneau. Kristi West is assisting to determine if it makes sense for CBJ Parks & Rec to do this work.

- H. **Eagle Valley Center:** The EVC at 24.5 mile, Amalga Harbor, has been cleaned up and the upstairs slightly remodeled. It will soon be ready to be used by groups for meetings and social occasions. Water issues are problematic as we are trucking water to the facility. If anyone would like to see the facility, I would be happy to provide a tour.

Unfinished Business

- A. **Fireworks Motion:** Please see the attached letter that was sent to the Assembly with the motion that the PRAC passed at the September 9th Special Meeting about fireworks in CBJ parks.

[Page 19]

DRAFT MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 6th, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6 p.m.

I. Call to Order at 6:01 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: J. Anderson; F. Dowd (t); B. Farrell; T. Gilmour; C. Mertl; E. Ouderkirk; C. Prussing; T. Rutecki

Absent: O. Brudie,

Staff Present: Brent Fischer, FP&L Superintendent; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

Guests Present: Trinidad Contreras, Assistant Municipal Attorney

- II. Agenda Changes** – C. Mertl: I have invited Trinidad Contreras from CBJ Law to join us for unfinished business to provide some guidelines for testimony tonight.

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

- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 2nd** – Motion by T. Gilmour to approve, no objection.
Minutes adopted.

- V. New Business** – None.

- VI. Director's Report** – B. Fischer on behalf of Kirk Duncan (absent) reads the Staff Report in the Agenda Packet, page 9.

C. Mertl: The latest numbers we currently have are the following:

- #1– Allow unrestricted use of fireworks in CBJ Parks **31%**
- #2 – Completely ban possession of fireworks in CBJ Parks **20%**
- #3 – Partial ban – Restrict fireworks over a certain size **3%**
- #4 – Partial ban – Restrict fireworks on specific holidays and before a certain time **16%**
- #5 – Partial ban – A combination of #3 and #4 **30%**

VII. Unfinished Business – Fireworks in CBJ Parkland

T. Contreras: The scope of today's hearing is strictly bounded by CBJ parklands/managed properties. Anything beyond that will be outside what we can discuss. I'm also here to address the potential conflict of interest with Chris Prussing on the PRAC board. We have come to the conclusion that under CBJ Code there is no financial or personal conflict of interest and if Ms. Prussing wishes to participate today, she can.

[Public Testimony]

Lorraine Murray, 8108 Poplar Ave: *[PowerPoint presentation]* I have provided testimony on PlaceSpeak. In 2006, changes to our Fire Code allowed 60-gram Mortar Shells formerly classified as “dangerous” fireworks to become “salable” or “consumer” fireworks. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health for every 3 decibels over 85 decibels the permissible exposure time is to be cut in half to avoid possible hearing damage. Fireworks start at 145 decibels and noise above 140 decibels is not considered safe for any period of time, without hearing protection. Loud noise not only represents a danger to hearing but to our health as well. CBJ Parks are surrounded by residential areas and guidelines for healthy noise levels in residential areas are no louder than 73 decibels for daytime and 55 decibels for nighttime.

Cynthia Dau, 2335 Meadow Lane: *[PowerPoint presentation]* Yes, I have sent in testimony. The professional fireworks show was ruined for me this years, as good as a job they did. I couldn't hear that night. We have thought about moving but there is no place to go. I don't take my dog to Savikko Park anymore. My dog now panics and I'm not going to drug him. Fireworks are preventing me and my family, born and raised here, from enjoying our parks. The polls are great but do not reach everyone, it misses a whole generation. I hope we don't come with someone paid to talk to you in the next instance because hiring an attorney for both sides would be very expensive.

Joann Flora, 8155 Easy St.: I have commented before and I have written letters. I live between two parks and I get it from all sides. Fireworks have grown substantially in size, volume and noise level. Most recently, on September 2nd, fireworks were let off for half an hour in the evening in my neighborhood. They disturb sleep, traumatize pets, scare small children and negatively impact people with PTSD, autism and certain neurological disorders. I have a family member with Parkinson's and when the booming starts in the area, his symptoms get worse. They're handled by people with no training or permitting and most likely been consuming alcohol. They cost us sleep, time, money, stress, anxiety and impair our ability to enjoy the holidays. We now have to hunker down during the holidays because of our dog. I have also gone to motels on these holidays to get her out of the area. We need to find a solution that allows people to enjoy the holidays. I'm not anti-fireworks but I haven't been able to see a show for years because I have to sit on my bathroom floor with my dog to prevent her from having a heart attack. I hope the PRAC would take some action to find a balance. I think if we would look into having a fireworks show in the valley, that would help the problem.

C. Mertl: You said you wanted to find balance, what type of balance are you looking for?

J. Flora: If I knew when they [fireworks] were going to go off, I could learn to live with it.

William Quayle Jr., 415 Willoughby #305: I'm here to support one month around the 4th of July and one month around the 1st of the year for use of fireworks. Unfortunately, fireworks are not idiot proof and there should be stipulation that any operation during that time that causes imminent danger to a person or property should be cited. If you're going to be setting them off, make sure you're setting them off over water or a very safe environment.

Howard Shepherd, 8108 Poplar Ave.: Folks talk about their liberty to be able to set off fireworks and the other folks who don't care for fireworks don't have any place to go. This year was the most active use of fireworks since I moved here in 1995. Juneau is the second largest city by area in the United States, if Parks & Rec could establish a place where during the daytime four-

wheelers and dirt bikes are used and then in the nighttime fireworks can be used, this would satisfy lots of needs in our community that are not available right now.

Eric Cole, 9375 N. Douglas Highway: I support the unrestricted use of fireworks in parks. I agree with everybody, we are seeing more and more fireworks in Juneau than we have in the past. This tells me that more people are supporting fireworks with their wallets. People in Juneau love fireworks, they're spending the money to buy them and they're finding a place to launch them. Fireworks are already restricted on Forest Service grounds and in State Parks, if we take city parks away, where are people going to go? I really think city parks are the solution. I am willing to compromise for certain dates where fireworks are allowed.

Joleen Langel, 9296 Stephen Richards Dr.: I live between two parks in the heart of the valley. I understand CBJ Law has concluded that legally there is no issue with Ms. Prussing sitting here today and making a decision as a member of the PRAC. Is it acceptable to ask that Ms. Prussing written submissions be excluded from the record?

T. Contreras: When she makes a statement, she has to designate how she is participating, either as herself or as a member of the PRAC.

I personally feel, morally that Ms. Prussing can't be a neutral party here today and listen and have an open mind to those of us that are not opposed to fireworks. I ask the PRAC to do sound testing and see how much the impact really is with fireworks. Not the perceived impact but the actual impact. Let's see how many decibels there really are a half a mile away. I would also ask to put fireworks in parks, if you want them out of the neighborhoods, put them in the parks. Give us an appropriate place to go and we will go there.

C. Mertl: What if we set up a fireworks permit, similar to a burn permit. Where you need to get permission, identify who the people are and set specific restrictions within it for use of fireworks.

J. Langel: Eric Cole and I are admins for a Facebook group with a following of 470 people, whose main goal is to save holiday fireworks. One of the things that has been floating around the group is a reasonable compromise with the anti-fireworks community. One of those things was an idea of a permit.

F. Dowd: Do any of the folks testifying today feel that anyone individual that walks into a park with a firework can be assured to light that off in the safest way possible? My number one concern is the safety aspect of having fireworks in parks.

J. Langel: I can't speak for the masses; I can only speak for myself. You can't guarantee safety in everything. The present fireworks usage to injury ratio is very low.

Red Langel, 9296 Stephen Richards Dr.: I am a CBJ employee and this is my testimony and has no reflection on CBJ. I would like to point out some noise decibels—the exhaust for a Harley-Davidson motorcycle is 92 decibels. The average scream of a child is 101.2 decibels. There should be a place where people can use fireworks and I think parks would be perfect. I understand that there are people out there with medical conditions, I'm a veteran, I know all about PTSD. I'm for unrestricted use of fireworks but in the interest of everybody, there has to be some compromise but realistically taking away the rights of people using fireworks, I don't favor that.

George Utermohle, 1970 Glacier Ave.: I'm here as President of the Grateful Dogs of Juneau and representing myself. GDOJ is a local advocacy organization speaking on behalf of responsible dog owners. Grateful Dogs has supported a ban on personal use/consumer fireworks since 2012. So many dogs/pets are affected by the use of fireworks that it's not warranted to increase the

amount of use of fireworks in the community. As a pet owner, I support a ban of fireworks in CBJ Parks. Our family is a daily user of CBJ park areas and we have been forced to leave park areas due to fireworks on more than one occasion. Dog owners use parks at all times of the day, no matter the time, weather, etc. There is no other group in the community that is as large or consistently present in parks as dog users. CBJ parks should be regulated in the same manner as state parks and as US Forest Land.

Mark Ridgeway, 4300 Glacier Highway: I would urge the committee as they look at this issue to not set a timeline for your actions. I'm a supporter of fireworks and rather going from 365 days a year down to 2 days a year, find some middle ground. If you're going to look at some restrictions, make them minimal. Start with something small and see how it works.

C. Mertl: What would be an appropriate level of allowable use?

M. Ridgeway: Some restrictions on time but if you restrict them from parks, where are they going to go?

Brett McCurley, 1503 2nd Street: I am for limiting the use of fireworks to certain dates and time. I do understand that dates outside of normal fireworks holidays, people might think it's a gunshot. If you do restrict use of fireworks in parks, they will bring them to your neighborhood. I also feel that people need to be respectable and safe with fireworks. I approve the dates, around 4th of July and New Year's being allowed for fireworks. The other thing I heard that I thought was great was permits, where people would know in advance when fireworks are going to be used and where. I just think if you take it away from parks, they're going to go into our neighborhoods.

Pam Crowe, 11560 Mendenhall Loop Road: I did participate on PlaceSpeak and I voted for unrestricted use. I have a long history and a love of fireworks in Juneau. I want to address safety, people are as safe as they're going to be and you cannot restrict stupidity. You can't punish the mass for other people who are ignorant that are putting off fireworks at all hours of the night. I proposed a compromise that we have the holidays, 4th of July and NYE, and that we have Friday and Saturday nights. That would allow people who like to celebrate with fireworks to go to a place. As for permitting it should be as simple as a burn permit, that would give the police an address, place and time but not restrictive. We need to stop saying no to everything.

Thane Kelly, 3440 Nowell Avenue: Fireworks are special to me because my birthday happens to be on the 3rd of July. I feel that a little bit of both would be reasonable with restricting fireworks to a certain day, size and locations. Maybe certain parks wouldn't allow fireworks and other parks that are farther away from residential areas would allow fireworks year round. Then for special occasions, like the 4th, they can be used in all parks. If you don't give people a place that is safe and legal to use fireworks, they're going to leak through the cracks in undesirable ways. The idea of having only a few days a year is a little too restrictive. I am against fireworks being shot off in residential areas and that is why there needs to be a place where people can go to light off fireworks.

Julie Sanbei, 3440 Nowell Avenue: I support unrestricted fireworks use and better neighbors. I think a lot of what is going on today could be solved by talking a little bit more. I'm a dog owner and appreciate the fact that it can be disruptive to animals but I also understand that a pet owner, socialization is also my responsibility. A Fox 40 whistle comes in at a 115 decibels, if I'm reading a book in the park, that whistle would be distracting and might ruin my experience. But if I'm there watching my nephew play a sport, it is what it is. Being predictable (noise) makes sense and

whether that's done through location, better communication or a permitting process. I just don't think it's reasonable to cut off fireworks to only twice a year.

Dave Hanna, 11495 Mendenhall Loop Road: I am a pro fireworks person. I would like to echo the comments of Miss Crowe & Miss Sanbei. If you're going to restrict hours, I would extend it out to 1 a.m. since on the 3rd, the main show doesn't begin until midnight. I think restricting the possession of the fireworks is a hopeless case. The least restrictive as possible, we already have rules that deals with safety, we have noise ordinances. Don't ruin the pleasure of many because of the complaints of very few.

7:41 – Recess

7:49 – Meeting called back to order

[PRAC Discussion]

M. Gladziszewski: The Assembly started talking about this issue of fireworks at the August Committee of the Whole meeting. We're just beginning to get educated on it as you are. There was a motion for the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for our review. They discussed time of day, dates, type of fireworks and locations. On October 10th, we will be receiving a draft ordinance for review and start talking about what is possible.

C. Mertl: Where does PRAC want to go?

T. Gilmour: I really like this compromise with the permitting discussion. People would be able to get a permit for an event and light off fireworks within a certain timeframe, back to back like the CBJ's show, not sporadically over a long period of time. We will restrict fireworks, but allow fireworks.

J. Anderson: Personally, fireworks are a big treat for my family but we only shoot them off at the 4th of July. It's unfortunate that the few people that aren't responsible have brought us to the point we are at now where we're going to have to impose regulation. I would like to keep it unrestricted and keep it simple. We need to teach people that we have to be respectable to our neighbors.

C. Prussing: CBJ is responsible to any resident of Juneau that wants to use a park and activities that deter or possibly endanger other parks users need to be looked at very carefully. We also need to keep in mind the impact of parks on surrounding neighborhoods. It's a little more restrictive user environment that needs to be dealt with that needs to balance a whole lot more of interests and activities. Emphasis on avoiding disturbing the peace and endangering public safety. Simply allowing fireworks on certain holidays does not address the problem. It's not a question of liking or not liking fireworks, it's a question of noise and safety to property and people. To minimize the impact to neighborhoods and park visitors, the PRAC should take a more restrictive approach to fireworks management in parks. As a government agency the best practice now would be not to allow fireworks in parks until a decision is arrived at on a higher level. This is an issue with parks and if people are being disturbed in parks than this is a problem that needs to be solved.

B. Farrell: I agree with Mr. Anderson, it has taken many years for us to get to this point and it has become problematic. I don't think that just acting neighborly will fix anything even though I would love to see that happen. The permitting could potentially be a good idea but would need to spell out some sort of restrictions. I agree that parks are different than residential areas and parks are a government responsibility. Our job is to recommend what we think is appropriate or not appropriate in parks with the greater good in mind. The problem I have with restricting size, I

believe that would be tough for JPD to enforce. I'm leaning toward the initial motion with some minor corrections.

E. Ouderkirk: Safety is about risk. Part of the role of the PRAC is to think about the safety issue and where the risk is. There's four things that we just heard that we can put in the regulations—time of day, date, location and type. I don't think it's impossible to regulate type. If we're going to move forward with some sort of recommendation to the Assembly, these four pieces need to be looked at. I don't think I heard anyone say that they will not compromise. We have a lot of options in front of us to bring everyone together into a workable compromise.

T. Rutecki: My first choice would be to have a designated place near the rifle range where folks could set off fireworks. That would satisfy everyone. The problem we have is with the noise, people object to noise. There's plenty of noise at the rifle range and that would be the park for that type of activity. Parks are places where people should be able to go without fear of being exposed to disturbing noise. Police Chief Johnson said that it's nearly impossible to cite someone for the noise ordinance with fireworks without enforcement compactly for possession. In summary I would like to see us start with the draft ordinance and go from there.

F. Dowd: I think safety and fireworks are related to one another. I do think that compromise is important when considering the issues involved around fireworks. I am open to the idea of permits to not only remind people of the responsibilities involved and but also have them posted so park users are aware the on this day/time a group/organization has the authority to use fireworks there. We have a responsibility to the park users to ensure we're doing what we can to protect them in the park areas. I would like to see us come up with some proposed ordinance on fireworks in parks, but I just don't see there being room in parks for fireworks.

C. Merti: This boils down to noise & safety and balance & compromise. I would love for these two groups on both sides of this issues to get together and find that balance and compromise. My personal take on it is that if we can eliminate the noise aspect, we could deal with most of the concerns from the public. I think that having specific days where people knew it was going to happen and set some parameters makes sense. People who are affected by it can then be prepared. Maybe a permit for special activities would be an option so we could know who is responsible, where it is happening and the area is aware. I'm in the middle, I don't want unrestricted use but I don't want a complete ban. I don't have enough background knowledge to understand what is too loud. I don't have the information to make a clear recommendation at this point about noise.

T. Rutecki: I make a motion that we forward the draft motion in our packet to the Assembly.

J. Anderson: I don't agree with that motion, we need some more discussion on this.

T. Gilmour: I also don't agree with this motion. I don't agree with the complete ban. I would like to see more discussion with the community.

C. Prussing: There has been a constant topic of discussion in the public. I don't believe it's a good idea for the committee to be stalling on this issue saying we don't have enough public input or information.

T. Gilmour: What we learned from this meeting specifically, there were 11 people who spoke that were for unrestricted use/use with compromise and only 4 that were for banning fireworks.

J. Anderson: If we voted on where the PRAC sits, it would not reflect what we heard from the public tonight and what the online poll says. This particular motion does not leave room for compromise and we keep hearing that over and over. We should table this until next month and work together to come up with something that is more consistent with what the public says.

F. Dowd: Tonight we heard a lot on compromising and I cannot turn a deaf ear to that. As much as I feel strongly that there is no room for fireworks in parks, I also feel that the community has a

voice in this. I cannot support submitting that recommendation to the Assembly without further discussion on what we can do to compromise.

T. Rutecki: I would entertain an amendment on the current motion that spoke to fireworks being permitted on certain days and times in parks.

C. Mertl: Do you have an amended motion Mr. Rutecki?

T. Rutecki: I would say "The PRAC requests that the CBJ Assembly limit the use of fireworks in parks based on certain dates and times."

[Discussion on motion wording]

J. Anderson: I think we're working towards a compromise but I think we're trying to force something to work just to get a vote out. Now that we have heard from the community tonight and now as a group we're started to talk about it. I would like some time to hammer down on this myself and try to write something worth saying.

C. Mertl: We're somewhat passing this off to the Assembly and we need to provide some sort of guidance. The straw pull from what we heard from the public pretty much matches what we heard from PlaceSpeak. This is the first time we, as a group, have been discussing this. I think that we tackle this next month and give our motion some more teeth.

[Discussion]

L. Verrelli: The amended motion before us is "The PRAC requests that the CBJ Assembly limit the use of fireworks based on date, times, size and locations within CBJ parks."

Yay: *T. Gilmour, F. Dowd, C. Prussing, B. Farrell, E. Ouderkirk, T. Rutecki*

Nay: *J. Anderson, C. Mertl*

Motion Passes.

C. Prussing: Can we schedule a discussion in October to discuss when, where and what type of fireworks are suitable in parks?

J. Anderson: That is why if we didn't make a hasty vote after just hearing about these things we would have time to discuss these things and to work out those details. I don't feel this vote reflects what we heard tonight. I ask for reconsideration on this motion.

T. Rutecki: I would like to ask for clarification if we need to vote on reconsideration.

T. Contreras: It is not required to be voted on but to be brought up at the next meeting.

[Discussion on when to hold special meeting]

C. Mertl: The special meeting will be this Friday (9/9/16) at 6 p.m.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

C. Mertl: Given the time, we will table committee, liaison and board member reports until October.

Adjournment – 9:22 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, September 9th, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6 p.m.

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

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

Absent: O. Brudie; C. Prussing

Staff Present: Brent Fischer, FP&L Superintendent; Lauren Verrelli, Staff Liaison

Guests Present: Amy Mead, Municipal Attorney; Trinidad Contreras, Assistant Municipal Attorney

II. Agenda Changes –

T. Rutecki: I would like to add to a future meeting more extensive training on rules and procedures for the PRAC board.

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

IV. Unfinished Business— Continuation of discussion from the September 6th PRAC meeting

C. Mertl: We had a reconsideration of the amended motion before us which was “The PRAC requests that the CBJ Assembly limit the use of fireworks based on dates, times, size and locations within CBJ Parks.” We go back to our discussion just before we called the vote. We have two options, we can continue our discussion and make amendments to the motion before us or we could call the vote of the motion before us.

A. Mead: A reconsideration happens in two ways, either by a motion at the time the item was voted on or a member can give notice of reconsideration which means at the next meeting, the member who gave notice must make the motion for reconsideration or withdraw it. Then the body would vote on whether to reconsider and if that motion passes, then the motion you voted on (Tuesday) is back in front of the board.

J. Anderson: I would like to move to reconsider the underlying motion before us. We're here to discuss this further and clarify our motion.

Yay: J. Anderson, T. Gilmour, B. Farrell, E. Ouderkirk, C. Mertl

Nay: F. Dowd, T. Rutecki

Reconsideration passes.

T. Gilmour: I wrote up what I would like to see fireworks based on where, when and time. For where, I came up with 7 parks that fireworks would be permissible; for when, I didn't leave it to specific dates but added permitted functions; with time, I would like to see it differentiated between seasons, 6pm-10pm September – April and 6pm-12:30am April-September. Permits must follow safety precautions which would be detailed, stay in the area permitted, clean up any and all trash created by the event, and respect any neighbors, etc. that might be affected.

J. Anderson: After hearing public testimony and consideration being given to written letters, social media, PlaceSpeak and discussion between PRAC members it's clear that compromise between both sides of

the issues must be made. As a result I drafted the following motion for your consideration—"In regards to use of fireworks on CBJ parklands the PRAC respectively recommends that CBJ allow unrestricted use of fireworks on all CBJ parklands for the date and times listed: July 3rd & 4th, no later than 1am, December 31st & January 1st, no later than 1am. Additionally, a fireworks permit system will be established to allow permittees to hold special events." I feel this would be a compromise for me for both sides.

B. Farrell: I have prepared the following potential substitution as a starting point—"The PRAC requests the CBJ Assembly prohibit aerial fireworks in CBJs parks at all times, to align with CBJ 67.01.090 (c), which currently states, "No person shall carry or discharge an air rifle, firearm or slingshot or throw stones or other missiles within the limits of any area designated in section 67.01.030, and no person shall hit a golf ball or launch other missiles within such areas other than in areas designated by the directors." The PRAC further requests that all other types of consumer (1.4G), non-aerial fireworks be limited to appropriate time periods on July 3rd, July 4th, Winter Solstice and New Year's Eve, as these are holidays traditionally celebrated with the use of fireworks in Juneau. Public comment received regarding consumer fireworks use within CBJ parks has led us to suggest this as a proactive measure to enhance the safety of all park users, and to limit noise disturbances to other park users and surrounding residential areas." The numbers, polls and comments show for the most part, that majority of the people are looking for a compromise. My motion for fireworks is more liberal than even the existing prohibition on amplified music in parks. I think it's a reasonable approach.

C. Mertl: I would prefer us not to pick and choose which parks would allow fireworks. I went and talked to American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) and unfortunately there is not clear classifications other than 1.4G (consumer) and 1.3G (display), in other words there are no classifications for the size of the boom. Maybe non-aerial fireworks could be allowed year round within parks and aerial fireworks could be allowed in parks on special occasions. I like how people have been talking about a special permit that is approved by the Director. Let's break this down and see where we have common ground. Is everyone okay with deciding if it's all parks or no parks?

T. Gilmour: No, I think it should be certain parks.

B. Farrell: We should keep it simple.

Board: All parks.

C. Mertl: Do we have general consensus to allow fireworks July 3rd & 4th and around New Years?

F. Dowd: Is there any language that states the State allows fireworks anywhere?

A. Mead: No, there is no law stating CBJ allows fireworks and there's a lack of prohibition.

T. Gilmour: I would like to add permitted functions that are approved by the Parks & Rec Director.

Board: Yes.

C. Mertl: The next issue is time, if our parks close at 10 or midnight depending on the park, I would say that park closure times sets the time with exception of New Years and 4th of July, since those are midnight events.

B. Fischer: We could repost closing times during those certain holidays in our parks stating that they will be open longer than normal park hours. We wouldn't have to redo the ordinance. Historically, they have always been allowed to stay open.

C. Mertl: For special permits, permit holders will have to abide by park closure hours.

[Discussion on times]

C. Mertl: Is there any desire to allow non-aerial fireworks year round in parks?

J. Anderson: If we're not going to do fireworks unless for special holidays days, then let's not do fireworks except on those holidays.

C. Mertl: These are the dates I specifically heard requests for: July 3rd & 4th, Solstice, Christmas, New Years, Alaska Day.

[Discussion on motion wording]

B. Farrell: Mr. Chair I would like to make a motion to amend the current motion that is on the table to read: "The PRAC recommends to the CBJ Assembly that the use of all fireworks on CBJ managed parklands are prohibited at all times with the following exceptions (1) July 3rd & July 4th (2) December 31st & January 1st, (3) and other dates permitted by the Parks & Rec Director. During these periods the use of consumer fireworks (1.4G) is allowable on all CBJ parklands consistent with park open hours."

Yay: J. Anderson, T. Gilmour, F. Dowd, B. Farrell, E. Ouderkirk, T. Rutecki, C. Mertl

Motion passes unanimously.

C. Mertl: Mr. Rutecki has added one agenda item.

T. Rutecki: You can see from tonight, we all would benefit with more parliamentary education. If the city attorney could come up with some dates the board members could get some more training. We're all in need of further education on rules and procedures.

C. Mertl: One last thing, our October meeting lands on Election Day. Options are the following Tuesday, following day or a different venue.

T. Rutecki: Following Tuesday on October 11th.

C. Mertl: Tentatively put October 11th in your schedules.

Adjournment – 7:34 p.m. Having no other business before the board.

From: [Allison Gillum](#)
To: [Lauren Verrelli](#)
Cc: [Mike Hekkers](#)
Subject: Parks & Recreation Letter of Support
Date: Monday, October 03, 2016 4:29:40 PM
Attachments: [2016 Project Information Sheet - Huizer.pdf](#)

Hi Lauren,

As I mentioned on the phone, the Southeast Alaska Land Trust (SEAL Trust) is working on a public access enhancement project at 2.7 mile of North Douglas Highway (see attached Information Sheet). We are currently fundraising and seeking grants for this project, and we are planning to submit a grant application for the Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Recreational Trails Grant Program (Due November 1). As part of this grant, we are required to obtain a resolution of support from a local governing body (which can include a citizen's advisory board). We thought the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee would be a good fit since our project's focus is public access and recreation.

Please review our attached information sheet, and we'll plan to follow up with you in the next few days to see if this might be a possibility.

Thanks!

--

Allison Gillum

Executive Director
Southeast Alaska Land Trust
119 Seward Street, Suite 2
Juneau, Alaska 99801
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907-586-3100
www.southeastalaskalandtrust.org

Marjory & Edgar Huizer Fishing Access Site

Project Information Sheet - 2016



INTRODUCTION

The Southeast Alaska Land Trust (SEAL Trust) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to conserving lands in Southeast Alaska with significant natural, recreational, and cultural values for the benefit of the general public. This includes purchasing or accepting donations of land and interests in land to accomplish SEAL Trust's conservation purposes.

Since 1995, SEAL Trust has partnered with communities, landowners, agencies, and others to ensure that vital habitat, recreation, open space, and historic areas remain in place for the benefit of each generation. Today, SEAL Trust protects and stewards nearly 3,500 acres throughout Southeast Alaska.

PURPOSE

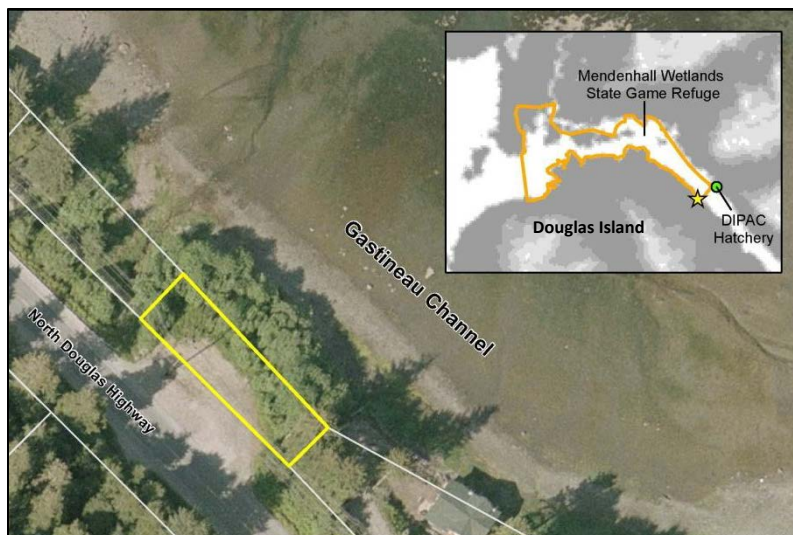
To provide public access to Gastineau Channel and the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge for public recreation and fishing access.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2015, SEAL Trust partnered with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), Division of Sport Fish to purchase a quarter acre parcel located at approximately 2.7 mile of North Douglas Highway in Juneau, Alaska. This small, but important parcel, is strategically located next to Gastineau Channel, the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge, and is also located directly across the channel from the DIPAC Macaulay Salmon Hatchery. Public access is extremely limited along this northeast stretch of North Douglas Highway, as the properties abutting Gastineau Channel are almost exclusively privately owned.



View from the future recreation area looking north along Gastineau Channel



PHASE 1: Site Acquisition (COMPLETE)

With funds from a major donor and the ADFG Division of Sport Fish, SEAL Trust purchased the property on March 31, 2015. The property was named after the major donors.

PHASE 2: Site Enhancement (IN PROGRESS)

Improve the site to allow for easy and safe public access to Gastineau Channel. The property is currently vacant and needs extensive site work to prepare the property for daily public use, including:

- Creation of a public trail down to Gastineau Channel
- Creation of a public parking area (for roughly 5 parking spaces)
- Bank restoration and stabilization
- Property kiosk and signage providing educational information and fishing notices to the general public, as well as recognition of the financial supporters.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

SEAL Trust needs to raise a total of \$115,000 for site enhancement. To date, \$40,000 has been raised. We need to raise an additional **\$75,000** to begin construction.

NEXT STEPS

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| • Finish Fundraising | December 2016 |
| • Final Design Complete | January 2017 |
| • Site Construction | March – May 2017 |
| • Ribbon Cutting Ceremony | June 2017 |

This project is an exciting opportunity to provide public access to Gastineau Channel and the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge for public recreation and fishing access. We hope that you will join us in protecting and enhancing this important public recreation site!

Date: September 26, 2016

To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: Alexandra Pierce, Project Manager

Subject: Steering Committee Membership for Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The CBJ Parks and Recreation Department requires a steering committee for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Below are the terms of steering committee membership and the role of the PRAC in steering committee selection and administration.

Notification & Planning Team Appointment:

Upon completion of the initial round of public consultation, a Steering Committee should be established. Parks and Rec should notify the public via a newspaper of general circulation, the City and Borough's website, and other means appropriate that a steering committee is being formed and that any member of the public fitting the criteria of the desired membership is encouraged to apply. The Director, with input from Parks and Rec staff, should recommend a slate of stakeholders, demographically representative of Juneau and able to consider the needs of the community as a whole. The steering committee should be comprised of no more than fifteen members depending on the planning initiative. A PRAC member may act as liaison to the steering committee, and should not be considered a voting member.

Steering Committee Member Job Description

Talented steering committees create remarkable communities. Your consideration to share your expertise and experience with the City & Borough Juneau is appreciated. As a steering committee member, you may look forward to the rich and challenging experience to strengthen the character, livability, sustainability, and diversity of your community. Through your involvement, service, and fair approach, you will shape Juneau's future, and balance the public good with private rights and interests. This is your opportunity to serve the common good of all the residents of Juneau to create enduring parks, trails, facilities and recreation programs that benefit all residents.

Role of the Steering Committee and its Members

The primary responsibility of the steering committee is to serve as the voice of the public, and the conscious of the plan; and when necessary makes recommendations on the draft policy directions developed for the Master Plan. Additionally, the steering committee may provide guidance to other CBJ Boards and Commissions. An ideal steering committee member must have a willingness and dedication to commit both time and energy to the steering committee; have an interest in planning and development, recreation, civic engagement, and the protection of the environment; and possess a willingness to encourage and accept input from residents and those affected by the actions made by the steering committee.

Below are the types of exercises and tasks that you may expect to participate in, or review, as a steering committee member:

- Participate in steering committee meetings
- Participate in forming the vision for the Master Plan
- Participate in community outreach sessions, such as
 - o Attend some, but not all, public participation sessions
 - o Attend some, but not all, public events related to the plan
- Review outcomes and policy directions and make recommendations to PRAC
- PRAC will review the final plan document at the recommendation of the steering committee

Steering Committee Membership

Steering committees shall be made up of no less than 9 and no more than 15 members consisting of a diverse group of community representatives. No more than one PRAC member shall hold a position on the steering committee.

Steering committee members are appointed by the PRAC, confirmed by the Assembly, and serve appointments for extent of the Master Plan (approximately 12 to 18 months). The steering committee members shall ensure and commit to the following:

Reside in Juneau and have an interest in improving local parks and recreation facilities, programs and services;

- Volunteer their time and commit to attending meetings;
- Commit to consider compromises that may assist in managing conflict and build consensus;
- Listen and consider testimony from the public and government agencies;
- Commit to develop a plan that represents the affected study area;
- Commit to distribute accurate information to other community members and clarify misunderstandings or misperceptions.
- Commit to advocating the planning process within the Juneau community
- Commit to putting aside personal interests for the greater community good

Should any steering committee member fail to meet the commitments outlined above, or miss 50% of the steering committee meetings, or miss three meetings in a row, he/she may be removed by the Director.

POSITION: Member of the Steering Committee for the Parks and Rec Master Plan

LENGTH OF TERM: 12-18 months approximately

TIME COMMITMENT: Variable, approximately one meeting every three weeks.



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

155 S. Seward Street
Juneau AK 99801
(907) 586-5226

To: Jesse Kiehl, Deputy Mayor, Chairman, CBJ Assembly Committee of the Whole
From: Chris Mertl, Chairman, Park and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)
Through: Rorie Watt, CBJ Manager
Date: 9-26-2016
Re: PARC recommendation on fireworks

The PRAC met on September 6, 2016 and received comments from 15 people concerning possible options for the use of fireworks in CBJ Parks and Recreation managed lands. In addition, via our internet portal, PlaceSpeak, 109 people voted on five possible courses of action. 33 wanted no ban on fireworks in CBJ parks, 22 wanted a complete ban, 3 wanted to restrict the size of fireworks, 18 people wanted to restrict fireworks to certain holidays and time of day and 33 wanted a ban based on size of fireworks as well as date and time. Findings graphically represented:

Choice #			
1	Allow unrestricted use of fireworks in CBJ parks	33	30%
2	Completely ban possession of fireworks in CBJ parks	22	20%
3	Restrict fireworks over a certain size	3	3%
4	Restrict Fireworks to specific holidays and specific times of day	18	17%
5	Combination of #3 & #4	33	30%
		109	

The PRAC met on September 9, 2016 to finish discussion of desired PRAC action on the subject of fireworks. A motion was made and passed which stated the following:

The PRAC recommends to the CBJ Assembly that the use of all fireworks on CBJ managed parklands are prohibited at all times with the following exceptions (1) July 3rd & July 4th (2) December 31st & January 1st, (3) and other dates permitted by the Parks & Rec Director. During these periods the use of consumer fireworks (1.4G) is allowable on all CBJ parklands consistent with park open hours.

The PRAC members feel this is a good course of action for the Parks and Recreation managed land.