

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 3, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6 p.m.

I. Call to Order at 6:02 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: J. Anderson; O. Brudie; F. Dowd; T. Gilmour; G. Landry; C. Mertl; T. Rutecki;

Absent: E. Ouderkirk

Staff present: Kirk Duncan, P&R Director; Alexandra Pierce, P&R Project Manager

- II. Agenda Changes – J. Anderson:** I motion that we add the March 1, 2016 Minutes to Unfinished Business. O. Brudie motion to approve with change. No objection, approved.

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2016 – Motion by J. Anderson to approve. No objection, Minutes adopted.

V. New Business

A. Fireworks Policy in Parks

- Powerpoint Presentation *Proposing Fireworks Being Prohibited in Parks* by Chris Prussing, 4655 Thane Rd. (attached).
- Commentary on hazards/negative effects of fireworks in Juneau community by Cynthia Dow, 2335 Meadow Lane.

C. Mertl – Questions?

T. Rutecki – C. Prussing, in your handout (attached) you make a few suggestions, including a letter from PRAC to the Assembly requesting fireworks prohibition in parks. Do you have a preference on how you would want that to be worded if we wrote a letter to the Assembly?

C. Prussing: I have a hard time telling people they can't use sparklers and fire crackers. Though, those are dangerous. . . . I think kicking this around in the proposal it should say no fireworks in parks.

Discussion.

C. Mertl: How do you feel about fireworks on Fourth of July and New Year's?

C. Prussing: The thing with designated holidays is that people know it is coming and they know they need to keep their pets under control and be mindful of their children. It needs to be very specific though. I have a hard time asking people not to use fireworks on holidays that traditionally include fireworks.

C. Mertl: At this point this is just an informational session.

T. Rutecki: I'd like to see us follow up on their request for us to write a letter to the Assembly. What do we need to do to do that?

C. Mertl: I think we need to have this go through the public process before we take any action. I think allowing the community to weigh in before we write a letter is important.

T. Gilmour: This is great information but I would like to talk about our feelings and what we feel, as well as getting more information from the public. It needs to be on the agenda and really be fleshed out before we move further.

O. Brudie: I agree with T. Gilmour. I have some questions, for example, regarding limiting the size of fireworks. Maybe there's a gradation of the products we are talking about what is limited in parks.

C. Mertl: K. Duncan can you make that happen, please?

K. Duncan: Consider it done.

Discussion.

C. Mertl: have we had any discussion with law about whether we have the ability to manage the use of fireworks within CBJ parkland?

K. Duncan: We can certainly craft an ordinance for that. The Assembly has to pass the ordinance. If we don't have a couple of Assembly Members who are going to drive the bus on this thing this conversation will just go around and around. Anyone that wants to get anything done in this town needs to start talking to Assembly Members and start convincing them that we have a viable and enforceable plan.

C. Mertl: I am going to ask F. Dowd and T. Rutecki to begin crafting some language you would like us to chew on.

Discussion.

VI. Director's Report – K. Duncan

A. Introduction of Alexandra Pierce, P&R Project Manager for P&R Master Plan Update

B. Ocean Center Update (see attachment)

C. Whale Park/Seawalk Update

D. Auke Lake Wayside Update (see attachment)

E. Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail Update

K. Duncan – On April 27th we received the core permit for the Kax Trail erosion, so we will be putting a new trail from the parking lot out to where it joins the tree line again. The trail will be about forty feet inboard from the existing trail. On June 6th Trail Mix will be doing that work as part of Trails Day in Juneau.

F. Cope Park Update

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Juneau Park Foundation Update

C. Mertl – We now have a Board of Directors in place. We are now incorporated as a domestic non-profit in the state of Alaska. Presented in front of the Finance Committee requesting \$75,000 in seed funding, that request is pending now.

K. Duncan – The \$75,000 funding would be to match Rasmuson for something like \$200,000 or \$300,000.

B. Savikko Park Proposed 11 P.M. Closure

K. Duncan – Met with Douglas Advisory Committee as well as the people interested in the closure, they need to come to a conclusion amongst themselves about how to move forward. We enclosed the Savikko #2 Shelter and close it at 10:00 P.M., and I received a call from Mark Halstead stating there is a noticeable reduction in problems. New signage is at the sign shop and we are installing cameras. Some progress is being made.

J. Anderson – Regarding the March 3, 2016 Minutes. I'd like to strike that the motion to close Savikko at 11 P.M. passed because the motion did not pass.

T. Rutecki – I'd suggest that we revise them to reflect what happened with a qualifier that notes that the motion did not carry because there we did not have the minimum amount of votes to make a motion carry.

C. Mertl – Let's formally request that March 3, 2016 Minutes be changed to add a note explaining that the motion did not pass due to insufficient votes.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Liaison Reports

YAAB – T. Rutecki

Aquatics – T. Rutecki

Lands – C. Mertl

Treadwell – C. Mertl

Urban Forestry – C. Mertl

Eaglecrest – O. Brudie.

B. Other Member Business – None.

Adjournment – 7:43 p.m. Having no other business before the board.

Respectfully submitted, Lindsey Daniel, P&R Administrative Assistant II, 4/22/2016