

MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, April 5, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6 p.m.

I. Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. – J. Anderson, Vice-Chair

Present: J. Anderson; O. Brudie; F. Dowd (telephonic); T. Gilmour; G. Landry; E. Ouderkirk; T. Rutecki;

Absent: C. Merti

Staff present: Kirk Duncan, P&R Director; Brent Fischer, P&R Facilities, Parks and Landscape Superintendent; Michele Elfers, Public Works Chief Architect

II. Agenda Changes – None.

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2016 – Motion by G. Landry to approve. No objection, Minutes adopted.

V. New Business

A. Engineering/CIP Update

Michele Elfers

- Seawalk and Bridge Park Project in phase one, the rock phase, putting the fill in under where the whale and Habitat Island will go. That is scheduled to be complete this summer. The whale will arrive in July. phase two, elevated Seawalk structure, will be completed next spring. Phase three, final landscaping and finishing surface, will begin next year.
- Dimond and Melvin Park Restroom and Concessions Buildings is out to bid right now. We expect to have bids back April 15th.
- Cope Park Improvements. The park is under construction right now. The park is closed right now. The plan includes new play equipment, moving the tennis courts, drainage improvements, water line replacement. Scheduled to be completed September 1st, scheduled to reopen May 1st with areas that are closed off where they are constructing.
- Addair Kennedy Master Plan. Taking time this summer to do a master planning effort, it should be completed in September. Once the master plan is complete we can then go ahead with that and the restroom design.
- Project Playground ADA Upgrades. Poured in place concrete going in. We're already under contract for that with Admiralty Construction, they will begin the project in May and by contract they have to have it completed by June 1.
- Project Playground Misc. Improvements. Putting that out for solicitation, hoping to have that done by August.
- Auke Lake Wayside. DOT is working on the construction project as part of the multi-use path project. The portion on the wayside is being paved. Also adding a bike path, which will connect the multi-use path to the bridge, it won't be connected by asphalt in this phase but in the next phase. This is to be completed in June. This is a piece of the Auke Lake Master Plan. We will come back to further explain the Auke Lake Master Plan in the next few months as we move along with things.
- Auke Lake Floating Dock. We have been approached by community members for a swimmer's float. We are looking into the best location for that. It is in the early planning stages.

- Ballfield Resurfacing. Engineering and P&R works together to figure out which ballfields will be replaced annually. Right now the next ballfield to be replaced is Addair Kennedy in Spring of 2017.

T. Gilmour: I am asking for Savikko Fields to be talked about, worked on, and fixed. My question is can we fix Savikko? We don't have dirt for it. It is past resurfacing, it needs to be looked at really hard. These fields are not done.

B. Douglas Cemetery Maintenance

K. Duncan: So you have a letter in your packet from John Delgado the President of the Douglas Advisory Board requesting Parks and Rec. assistance maintaining five historic Douglas cemeteries and you also have a response from me. The cemeteries in question are owned by the Diocese of Juneau, and a three-person trust, the Ross Trust. There is a report that was put together in 1995 *Report of the Survey and Inventory of the Historic Cemeteries in Douglas Alaska* and according to the report we reached out to the Ross Trust and there is no one there anymore. There is a general delivery mailbox in Douglas and no one has picked up the mail for decades.

J. Anderson: The property that Mr. Delgado is talking about is not owned by CBJ?

K. Duncan: Correct.

G. Landry: The city should not be taking care of private property.

J. Anderson: I don't see that it would be necessary to hold a vote. It is cleared that P&R does not own the property, that it is private property. I understand Mr. Delgado's point but it is out of our hands.

C. Election of PRAC Officers

E. Ouderkirk: Motion to take up election of PRAC Officers.

Nomination for Chair: T. Gilmour: I nominate C. Mertl, unanimous decision.

Nomination Vice-Chair: O. Brudie: I nominate J. Anderson, unanimous decision.

Nomination 2nd Vice-Chair: T. Rutecki: I nominate O. Brudie, unanimous decision.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Proposed 11 p.m. Savikko Park Closure

J. Anderson: Last month we took this issue up. We did have a quorum, and we did vote in favor of moving the closing hours of the park from 12 a.m. to 11 p.m. with the exception of special occasions as well as a sunset clause to be added into that. The motion was passed, however, upon further review a majority of the PRAC was not in favor of the motion. Since C. Mertl is not here tonight, it may be an issue to take up at another meeting so we do have a majority vote one way or the other. Does anybody from the public want to speak on this issue?

T. Rutecki: Since we had a quorum and it passed why is this on the agenda as unfinished business?

F. Dowd: It was my understanding that it was finished business as well.

J. Anderson: I am not in favor of rescinding the action. When it was taken up last there was not a majority vote one way or the other. I say we table this for another month and bring it up again at the next meeting.

K. Duncan: If I can address the issue. Any motion that comes before the PRAC has to have five votes to be passed. It's not a majority of members present it has to have five votes. So, if there are five members here there is a quorum and all five have to vote.

J. Anderson: I say we table this until we do our homework on the Parliamentary issues.

K. Duncan: The other issue is that the Douglas Advisory Board wrote two letters one about the Douglas Cemeteries and one about their opposition to closing Savikko Park at 11 o'clock. I didn't see either one of those letters through a glitch in my office so I am responsible for that. I have a real issue with going against the Douglas Advisory Group and so at the Douglas Advisory Board Meeting in early April they are going to take this up because the person asking for early closure and the DAB never got together.

T. Gilmour: I motion that we table this until we have more information next month.

J. Anderson: Before we move on was there anybody from the public here who would like to speak on this issue?

Mary Kay Pusich, Douglas Advisory Board, 1407 1st St., Douglas: My only request is that there is more input from the whole community not just Douglas, because you are setting a precedence. I think more advertisement would be beneficial. Parks and Rec. signage on the beach is weathered and the font is small so better signage saying what time the park closes may alleviate a lot of the problems to begin with. I would like to see this have more public input should it be put to a vote again.

K. Duncan: We are addressing the signage. We are getting new signage that is very specific we are also getting signage that outlines the ordinances of what can and can't happen so the police can more easily cite people. We are looking at cameras for the parking lot as well.

I. Director's Report

A. Comprehensive Plan Update

K. Duncan: We have hired a long-term temporary employee who is a professional planner, she will be running the comprehensive plan project. Her name is Alexandra Pierce. I envision working on this through the summer and having the planning process roll out after Labor Day. I envision having the Comprehensive Plan completed the Spring of 2018. We will have lots and lots of public input going forward. We are going to form a steering committee of approximately 15 people, they will be critical stakeholders in the community. The PRAC will be one of those stakeholders so you can be thinking about who would like the task of being on the steering committee.

B. Twin Lakes Water Quality

J. Anderson: Do you have any updates on the water quality at Twin Lakes that we discussed last meeting?

K. Duncan: I'll start out and B. Fischer can correct me if need be. Every spring we flush the lake, we open the gates and the salt water comes in and kills the milfoil. We have a problem with fecal coliform, we cannot find where it is coming from. We dye tested all of the toilets on Wire Street and they all came back clean. There is the possibility that Twin Lakes will be closed for swimming this summer. We have tested all 18 outfalls that feed into the lake and we have narrowed it down to one outfall, we just simply don't know where it is.

VII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Liaison Reports

Assembly Liaison – None.

Chair Report – None.

YAAB

T. Rutecki: We have scored all the annual grant requests and two weeks from today we will meet to see who gets them. We have around \$700,000 in requests and about \$350,000 to give out so we will figure out how to disperse that \$350,000 among around 30 different groups.

Aquatics

T. Rutecki: Things are going well with the pools. There was a big swim meet in town this past weekend, the air temperature was really good in the pool. There have been some concerns that the air temperature and the water temperature can vary at the valley pool but it seemed like everything was working quite well this past weekend.

Jenson-Olson Arboretum

E. Ouderkirk: Nothing from the Board. However, we should be looking for a new liaison, they like to meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Valley and I work until 5:30 most nights so that is kind of a problem. We ought to be considering a new liaison for Jensen-Olson.

B. Fischer: I had a staff meeting with Merrill Jensen today and everything is at least four weeks to six weeks ahead of schedule. It is going to be interesting to see where everything is at the end of the summer.

1% for the Arts – None

Lands – None.

Parks Foundation – None.

Urban Foresetry – None.

Eaglecrest – None.

Traillmix – None.

B. Pet Projects

K. Duncan: Is anybody waiting for me to get them any information for their pet projects?

J. Anderson: I'm not. Anybody else? [Silence.] Okay, I will quickly go over my pet project about OHV and motocross. I did get on the radio last week. I got a little bit of response from the public via email. I think I might try to make that an agenda item next month if I get enough response, if not, I will wait until I have more responses. I will hopefully get something on the agenda in the next month or two.

T. Rutecki: I need to look over the first year of the reports on the Auke Lake videos, and try to look at the other years of video and get them written up like the first year. The secondary thing I'd like to get into kind of ties into the Savikko Park proposed closure. To my knowledge it is wide open if you want to shoot of fireworks in our parks. Is that right, K. Duncan?

K. Duncan: There is no fireworks ban in the city.

T. Rutecki: I'd like to see how fireworks fall into the Savikko Park closure discussion the next time it comes up. And generally, fireworks in our parks as an agenda item.

F. Dowd: That is one of the agenda items I'd really like to see pushed forward as well. I think there is a big liability issue with fireworks in parks.

E. Ouderkirk: I am working with B. Fischer and K. Duncan to have a handy map that identifies the parks. By having that O. Brudie and I can then begin to look at where we have parcels downtown versus where we have parks downtown as part of the downtown public open space issue.

G. Landry: No pet projects right now. I will think about that over the next couple of weeks.

O. Brude: Are there any updates on Pocket Park downtown?

K. Duncan: There is an informal proposal to put in parking. However, at this point it will stay what it is right now. There will be a four foot high fence and the area will be hydra ceded. The big issue is that this is where the electrical vault that runs half of downtown and it's very expensive to relocate that.

J. Anderson: maybe we can have an update on the Auke Lake wayside next meeting.

G. Landry -- motion to adjourn.

Adjournment – 7:29 p.m. Having no other business before the board.

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