

AGENDA
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 1, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers – 6:00 p.m.

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter	Action Requested
6:00 pm	1. Call to Order	Vice-Chair, J. Anderson	
	2. Agenda Changes		
	3. Public Participation of Non-Agenda Items		
	4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 5, 2016		Motion to approve
	5. Unfinished Business - Proposed 11 p.m. closure of Savikko Park - Savikko Park Fields update 1% for the arts waterfront art progress		
	6. New Business		
	7. Director's Report	K. Duncan	
	8. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports - Chair Report - Liaison to the Assembly Report - Liasons: a) YAB b) Jensen-Olson c) 1% for art - Other Partners: a) Eaglecrest b) TrailMix c) State Parks d) Aquatics - Other Member Business	M. Gladziszewski T. Rutecki E. Ouder Kirk J. Anderson O. Brudie G. Landry G. Landry T. Rutecki	
7:30	9. Adjournment		

DRAFT MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 5, 2016
CBJ Assembly Chambers -- 6 p.m.

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

Present: Josh Anderson, Odin Brudie, Frances Dowd, Traci Gilmour, Lindsay Hallvick, Gerry Landry, Eric Ouderkirk, Tom Rutecki;

Assembly Liaison: Maria Gladziszewski, absent;

Staff present: Kirk Duncan, P&R Director; Michele Elfers, Public Works Chief Architect

Agenda Changes – E. Ouderkirk strikes Jensen-Olson Arboretum Report. T. Rutecki strikes YAB Report. O. Brudie strikes Eaglecrest Report. J. Anderson strikes 1% report. Motion from C. Mertl to accept Agenda as presented, no objection, Agenda approved.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2015 – Motion by T. Rutecki to strike “written” insert “received” after “mayor he ran against was well” in his words for Mayor Fisk. C. Mertl Motion to approve as amended. No objection, Minutes adopted.

P&R Director’s Report –

Auke Lake Update

- K. Duncan – Upcoming meeting with group of triathletes interested in installing float next to boat launch and potentially putting more buoys in the lake. T. Rutecki, I think this was coming from you, does this answer your questions?
- T. Rutecki – No. Assembly member R. Wanamaker requested that an annual survey of Auke Lake use be conducted. There should be at least two years of data from trail cams in the trees around the lake. I'd like to see the minutes from that assembly meeting, the report on use, and the PRAC recommendations.
- K. Duncan – As far as the survey goes, we have captured two years of camera data. One year has been reviewed, the second year has not been reviewed. At this time we don't have the staff capacity to review that but you and I can get together and talk about this further.
- T. Rutecki – Please email what you have at your convenience. I'd like to look at the data collected and have PRAC talk over if they are happy with how things are going and go from there.

Advertising in Parks & Recreations Facilities

- K. Duncan – At this time there is no policy.
- C. Mertl – I brought this up because there are sponsored events and P&R facilities display advertising before/after the timeframe of those events and we are essentially offering free advertising.
- T. Rutecki – I would think the Treadwell and Aquatics Boards could go over this for those facilities. PRAC could go over it for parks/fields.
- T. Gilmour – I would love to come up with some sort of policy, because the city is missing a really good funding source

. . . .

It's a deeper discussion with the city on how the city would be able to receive this money. I'd love to brainstorm post meeting and come up with some ideas.

- C. Merti – I think if we as a PRAC want to tackle it post meeting, bring some ideas forward, ask the P&R staff to do some research and see what other communities are doing and bring it back to us. I think we need to have a policy and clear rules and guidelines. K. Duncan do we have staff to do that research?
- K. Duncan – Let me launch into my third item.

Comprehensive Plan/ Fees & Charges/ Cost Recovery

- K. Duncan – At this time we are going to roll all of those into one project, and higher a long-term temp to complete the project. It will be a two-year process with lots of public involvement. Signage issues and all of those things will be rolled into the fees and charges policy. We will be talking to other communities about what is reasonable cost recovery on our facilities.
- C. Merti – So it will be an issue we can deal with later. We can table it for now.

New Business

Kax Trail

- M. Elfers – The process to fix the Kax Trail should be to discuss the different routes. The first step should be talking with agencies. If we can figure out what the river is doing it will help us come up with a better plan, we will want to do different things if it is incising than if is moving laterally. The first step is more research.
- C. Merti – For some background PRAC wants a more meadow-oriented route, reasonably close to the river that will have longevity. The Wild Meadow Lane road idea was a definite thumbs down. Keeping as close to the river as possible is what we directed during our December meeting.
- M. Elfers – We will come back with some more information based on our findings and maybe some more alternatives to look at for routing, temporary vs. permanent alternatives.

5% Sales Tax Breakdown: 3+1+1

- M. Elfers – 1% of that is a permanent sales tax in our CBJ code, it generally goes to the general fund for government services. The 3% is approved by voters every four to five years, it is a temporary sales tax. There is also a separate 1% sales tax approved by voters and that term varies, you will see that the approval is generally on off years. A lot of government funding comes from sales tax. The 3% has never not been approved by voters and that funds things like street maintenance and snow plowing, without approving that 3% municipal government services would really be crippled. The 3% vote will be up again fall 2016. 1% vote will be up again in 2017. Area wide sales tax is in the 3%. General sales tax is from the 1% sales tax, and is a million dollars allocated for projects.
- C. Merti – we are a couple of years out but in the past PRAC and P&R were involved in getting together projects they wanted included to be considered for 1% and bond projects, it may be something we want to do again.

Accessible Tourism

- Joan O'Keefe, Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) – My name is Joan O'Keefe and I am the Executive Director of Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL), tonight with me is Tristan Knutson-Lombardo our Assistant Director, and two board members, Elizabeth Spence and Jason Burke. SAIL is an independent living center, and an aging and disability resource center. Our mission is to inspire personal independence and promote the full integration of seniors and people with disabilities into society. This fiscal year SAIL took an 11% budget cut, despite a growing demand for services. My board has charged our leadership with finding mission-aligned revenue streams so that we do not have to drastically reduce services to those who count on us or will count on us in the future. Two summers ago Bob Janes invited our consumers to try his new invention, a manually-operated trike with a quiet battery-assisted function that can be engaged when needed. Our consumers loved them -- they are easy to operate, quiet, and responsive. B. Janes came to us with a proposal to donate a number of the bikes to SAIL so that we could come up with our own tour as a mission-aligned revenue generator. We considered locations around the borough. The Kax Trail is the only paved and double-wide trail. It is the most viable

option for what we are trying to do. We want to work with the members of the neighborhood to come up with this solution.

- Tristan Knutson-Lombardo, Assistant Director, SAIL – As J. Okeefe mentioned, we are strategically looking for sound financial footing. With Bob Janes approaching us with his adaptive bikes and the concept for this tour we couldn't have better timing. As outlined in our letter we are proposing a one-way tour from the Brotherhood Bridge end of the Kax Trail to the West Glacier Trailhead, with tours also running the reverse direction. We are proposing 8 -10 users on the trikes per tour and about one hour for tour length. Currently in Juneau there are no shore excursions for visitors that are active adventure-based tours that are accessible or inclusive for people with disabilities, seniors, or people with mobility issues. It provides the least amount of interruption with local community users. It does address previous concerns brought up by the River Road neighborhood twenty years ago about having commercial vehicles driving up and down their streets, we will not have vehicles driving down their streets. We are rooted with Juneau and our aim is to develop this tour with the community and to maximize unobtrusive integration with local use.
- C. Merti – Can I ask K. Duncan what has to happen to allow commercial use on this trail and what the implications are?
- K. Duncan – There is an ordinance prohibiting this, so that ordinance would need to be repealed. PRAC would need to make a recommendation to repeal the ordinance, it would then go to the Lands Committee. The Lands Committee would have public input. I would imagine PRAC would have another meeting to gauge public input. PRAC would make a recommendation to the Lands Committee, Lands would have a public meeting. If it was forwarded there would be a new ordinance written. It would go to the Assembly for introduction, there would be no public comment at that time. During the second reading there would be public comment and it would be voted on at the Assembly level.
- C. Merti – For clarification it would be motorized use and commercial use, since these trikes are considered motorized?
- K. Duncan – That is my understanding. Once all that happens, then SAIL would apply for a commercial use permit for the trail and it would be my decision whether P&R grants that or not, but the ordinance would go through that multi-step process.
- Discussion

Public testimony on Accessible Tourism

Bob Janes, 4478 Mountainside Dr., Creator of Scootfit – This is an issue that P&R Boards and municipalities are going to have to deal with because when these “no motorized use” regulations were passed two decades ago, the motorized use we were all fearing was four-wheelers, motorized ATVs. Technology has completely changed in ten or fifteen years where we have a completely different type of motorized or motor-assisted use that needs to be dealt with by all our agencies -- the forest service, the city, state parks, nationally. There is probably some precedence in other areas that have dealt with this issue. Secondly, you have to define what commercial use is. Is one of our non-profit agencies serving the public and looking for funding a commercial use or not? In one definition they are and in another they are not a for-profit company. You are going to have to define what “commercial use” is. My recommendation is not necessarily to open up that trail to commercial use but to open it to this particular use that is a support of a non-profit of Juneau.

Kanani Ray, 9481 Eagle St. – My first thought when I heard about this was thank you SAIL for giving our city the opportunity to have something accessible for our tourists, I think that's a really beautiful thing for us. For most people until you experience it yourself or you have a family member who becomes disabled in some way, you have no idea what it is like to do anything in a world that is designed for people who walk on two feet. One thing I think is beautiful about using the Brotherhood Bridge Trail specifically is that it is a normal trail that we use in our community and when you become disabled the things you get to do are often so different than what everyone else is doing. If you picture yourself on the trail and there is a string of ten bicyclists, how long does that really affect you for? Minutes. They are gone in two minutes. Waiting for bicycle tours on the road is already an aspect of living in Juneau, we are used to that, overall it is a positive thing for our community so we deal with those nuisances.

Elizabeth Spence, 2208 Muir St., SAIL Board Member – I used to walk the Brotherhood Bridge Trail three times a day with my husky dog so I know this trail well. Three years ago I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis so now I have a very different outlook when I walk on trails. Many trails around town that are considered ADA compliant are not ADA compliant. When I think about where I live and what trails I walk on I think about my community and wanting it to be more inclusive so it's not a normal vs. non-normal kind of use. I realize that a majority of the people in the valley use the Brotherhood Bridge Trail, as do I, I think we could be a lot more inclusive. I think this is a way for SAIL to raise money and it is making us inclusive and a majority of the people we serve live in this community.

Bob Spitzfaden, 4627 Sawa Circle – I live around two blocks from the end of the trail. It seems like every ten years I come down here to protect this trail. We resolved this question 20 years ago, the Assembly decided and there is no good reason to go back and change that. River Road is a straight shot to the trailhead off of Backloop it has not curbs, no gutters, no sidewalks. Anyone who walks down River Road walks right down the road. You can get two cars down River Road but it's tight. There is only one way in or out. In terms of actual use of the trail it does not have straight views. If somebody comes down the trail on a bike you have to jump out of the way. It is not conducive to safe use of the trail to have these kind of things on there. Our fear is that you give an inch they take a mile. These people want to make money for themselves, and though the use of the profits is for good, we will have another hundred non-profits in here saying if they can use the trail why can't I? Our fear is once you start allowing one, you allow everybody. I think that everybody in favor of this is suggesting you solve their money problems on the backs of our neighborhood by introducing an unsafe use along River Road. I just don't think that's the kind of solution that works. I think the better solution is to let it stay the way it is and let them run the tour from Brotherhood Bridge to Montana Creek Bridge.

Jason Burke, 412 Gast. Ave., SAIL Board Member – Former ADA state coordinator. Part of what I prepared for is reviewing what is required by the U.S. Department of Justice. The newer revision of the ADA regulations that came out a few years ago allows for the use of other power-driven mobility devices on any trail. This type of device could be put on a trail by anybody on any trail in our system. The question really is, is there a policy that governs the use of those? It's not required that you have a policy, but they are fairly strong in the way they word the regulation and provide guidance that city governments should have a policy regarding the use of other power-driven mobility devices in public areas, including on trails. You can be very specific on what your policy states, the speed you want them to go, the type, safety and other concerns. That would be an appropriate way of governing whether or not this is an appropriate use of that. The other point they make clear in this regulation is that you can say that it's not allowed to have one of these devices on the trail, if SAIL or some other group wanted to make use of them they are going to request a reasonable accommodation to allow them to use that trail because of people who have mobility differences. We are not allowed to ask somebody if they have a mobility disability. If somebody is traveling with someone who has a disability they are allowed to travel with that group. If you're going to deny somebody the use of that you are breaking the law, the reason would have to be important. The reason would have to be important so what they are going to say is does it cause a fundamental alteration in the way this program, and the trail system is a part of the city program, is run? You see people bicycling on the trail, and walking and using horses and you say is it a fundamental alteration to that system? The answer is probably no. So it really does come down to safety concerns and the commercial issue, it is not something you can really prohibit on the trail system. Unless you specifically say we aren't allowing any mobility devices on our trails within CBJ and then you would have to allow for reasonable accommodations as needed. It's going to happen one way or another so it's just being prepared for it. The point I am trying to make here is that it's important to think about creating a policy and find a good middle-ground with this purpose here. This SAIL project improves the community's relations with people with disabilities it also improves relations with the tourist industry.

End of Public Testimony

C. Merti – if you have some examples of policies could you please share them with K. Duncan?

C. Merti – maybe we have a couple of special meetings targeted on public testimony for a couple of issues. Just to make it official we did get two letters regarding the SAIL Kax Trail tours, one from Karen Keen, and one from Karla Hart, add those to the record as correspondence related to this.

Discussion

K. Duncan – We are legally obligated to go down this road, but not commercially.

Discussion

C. Mertl – if you could get us the ordinance dealing with the Kax Trail, let's chew on this informally next time, and decide if we want to have a PRAC meeting where we take public testimony on this.

Unfinished Business

Pet Projects.

- T. Rutecki – 1) Revisit Auke Lake issue; 2) establish parking authority out of CBJ/remove parking from P&R; and 3) make Auke Cape Park more usable.
- L. Hallvick -- Access online to trail database, basic description, width, surface, photos, length.
- O. Brudie -- Open space downtown, improving flow, plans to include more/better open space.
- T. Gilmour – 1) Savikko ballfields; 2) improvements to Rotary Park (tentative, possible CIP).
- J. Anderson – 1) Motocross Park/Trails; 2) identify all motorized user groups, promote responsible motorized use.
- E. Ouderkirk – Open space issue downtown.
- G. Landry – TBD.
- F. Dowd – TBD, sounding board to community.
- C. Mertl – Parks Foundation.

Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

Liaison to the Assembly Report – None.

Liaison Reports -

Aquatics

- T. Rutecki – There is a new fee structure, idea to get people to buy long-term passes. Mostly all positive feedback. Duel in the Pool was a great success, look forward to seeing how it grows in the coming years.

Lands Committee –

- C. Mertl -- New subdivision by Dzantiki'l Heeni Middle School. Discussion of West Douglas road extension, and whether lands should put in pioneer road. Could be great for recreation, but maintenance could be difficult.

Treadwell –

- K. Duncan – The Treadwell Board is working on a report due in May to the Assembly.

Other partners -

Juneau Parks Foundation –

- C. Mertl – Putting the funding in place to put in non-profit information.

Other Member Business – None.

Adjournment – 8:12 p.m. Having no other business before the board.

Respectfully submitted, Lindsey Daniel, P&R Administrative Assistant II 1/22/2016

Brett Farrell
504 St. Ann's Ave
Douglas, AK 99824
907-957-0692
brettfarrell@mxak.org
August 31, 2015

Mr. Kirk Duncan
Director
CBJ Parks & Recreation Department
155 S. Seward St.
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Thank you for meeting with me recently, and your interest in addressing my concerns regarding the regular misuse of Savikko Park. Please accept this letter as a formal summary of these concerns, and an update as to our progress to date.

I currently own, and have resided at 504 St. Ann's Ave since 2003. This property is located immediately above the Savikko Park parking lot and picnic shelters, the misuse of which has caused many disturbances over the years. These disturbances are usually noise-related, involve excessively loud music and/or yelling/screaming and other inappropriate behavior by irresponsible users of the park. In addition to this behavior disturbing those of us living adjacent to this park, I have personally witnessed numerous instances of vandalism, broken glass bottles/other garbage strewn about, and other destruction of CBJ property as the result of this misuse. The vast majority of this behavior occurs late in the evening, and often well after the advertised closing time of this park (which is currently 12:00am). As I stated during our initial contact, I feel this continued behavior is the result of this park's existing "rules" not being adhered to or enforced, as well as several other existing ordinances (primarily the Noise Ordinance) not being actively enforced by CBJ.

I have canvassed my neighbors, all of whom also reside adjacent to Savikko Park, and have enclosed a document titled "*Petition to Control the Misuse of Savikko Park.*" This petition has been signed by at least one member of *every* residence adjacent to Savikko Park, and asks for the following actions to be taken in the interest of reducing the disturbances arising from the misuse of the park:

- 1) Officially change the park's closing time from 12:00am to 11:00 pm (with exceptions for certain special events/holidays, as approved by the Director of Parks & Recreation).
- 2) Actively close the park at its designated closing time (at a minimum, this should include notifying the users of the picnic shelters that the park is closed and to vacate the shelters), and close vehicular access to the parking lot using gates or other means.
- 3) Increase JPD patrols of the park, specifically around closing time and during closed hours, and increase the enforcement posture of the various codes/ordinances that are routinely violated by irresponsible users of the park.

Mr. Kirk Duncan
August 31, 2015
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Please note that several of my neighbors who signed this petition feel that a gate preventing *vehicular access* to the park's parking lot is an "extreme" measure and should be considered a last resort. While I disagree that a gate to *control vehicular access to a park after its designated closing time* should be considered "extreme," I do agree that this measure *might* be unnecessary if the park were to be patrolled on a more regular basis, and if the enforcement of *all* the existing park rules and city codes/ordinances became more aggressive. I spoke with JPD, and was advised that the department will have nine additional officers available in the near future. Once these officers are fully trained, JPD felt that Savikko Park could be patrolled more often through the use of "directed patrols." Unfortunately, I remain skeptical that the disturbances my neighbors and I experience on a regular basis, specifically the impromptu "tailgate parties" that occur in the parking lot at all hours of the night/morning, will ever be effectively dealt with by patrols alone. As such, I, and the majority of my neighbors remain proponents of a vehicular gate *in combination with increased JPD patrols*.

Thank you again for your willingness to listen to my concerns to date. I look forward to attending the September PRAC meeting and providing the committee with details of the concerns my neighbors and I share.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett Farrell', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Brett Farrell

Petition for CBJ to Control the Misuse of Savikko Park

Petition summary and background	Savikko Park and its associated parking lot have been, and continue to be sources of daily disturbances to the residential area adjacent to this park, specifically the Medium Density Residential (MDR)-zoned portion of St. Ann's Avenue. Routine and unchecked misuse of this CBJ-owned property results in frequent violations to the following CBJ codes/ordinances: 42.20.095 - Disturbing the peace, 20.25.080 - Public possession and consumption of intoxicating liquor, 42.20.090 - Disorderly conduct, and 72.10.010 - Driving while under the influence. Furthermore, the majority of the frequent code violations noted above occur after the Park's established closing time.
Action petitioned for	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens residing on St. Ann's Avenue, regularly affected by the misuse use of Savikko Park, who urge the CBJ Parks & Recreation Director and Juneau Police Department to take the following actions: • Change designated park closing time from 12:00 am to 11:00:pm (with exceptions for certain special events/holidays, as approved by the Parks & Recreation Director) • Actively close the Park at designated closing time (e.g. notify users that park is closed, close parking lot with a vehicular gate) • Increase JPD patrols of the Park, specifically upon designated closing time and during closed hours, and increase the enforcement posture of the codes/ordinances noted above.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
BRETT FARRELL		504 St. Ann's, Douglas, AK		8/21/15
Jean Doris		417 St. Ann's		8/21/15
Margaret Rames		508 Saint Ann's	I am ok with a gate not being in place	8/21/15
Jake Quarstad		306 St. Ann's	No gate	8/21/15
JESSY POST		306 St. Ann's		8/22/15
KRYSTON CALVIN		404 ST. ANN'S	NOT IN FAVOR OF GATE	8/22/15
RYAN FARRELL		504 ST. ANN'S AVE.		8/23/15
Pat Noel		420 Saint Ann's		8/26/15

Mark L. Halsted
400 St. Ann's Ave.
Douglas, AK. 99824

March 1, 2016

To CBJ

Parks and Rec Advisory Committee

I have come to this meeting too show whole-hearted support for any measure that will curtail the disturbing behavior that occurs on Sandy Beach. It is disturbing to watch and it is even more disturbing to have to live thru it.

I have lived directly above the large shelter on the beach since the late '60's and have serious reservations when it comes to thinking that after suffering thru 45 plus years of poor management by the CBJ that something is actually going to change. I say this because there are ordinances and rules on the books now that are routinely ignored on a daily basis and have been for as long as I can remember. It is an unfortunate fact that the City and Borough of Juneau makes for the absolute WORSE neighbor, and Parks and Rec cannot even manage a sand box that is within sight of their own office.

If a common citizen were to allow the same activities to take place on their own private property that are common place on Sandy Beach they would probably end up in jail. Yet the CBJ chooses ignorance over enforcement and somehow thinks this is constitutes proper management. Unfortunately continual ignorance is not the path to change.

As an example of how well ignorance and the lack of enforcement works consider Auke Lake. According to the PRAC minutes from February 4th, 2014. The CBJ Assembly had passed ordinances in 2007 regarding allowable activity in that area. However it took a tragic fatality in 2012 for any enforcement to begin. Studies were conducted using video cameras and many hours of good old boots on the ground by city staff in 2013. This was followed in 2014 by the strict enforcement of the ordinances that had been in place for 7 years.

In regards to Sandy Beach there are ordinances on the books that govern allowable activities in this area as well, and they have been in place far longer than the 7 years it took to clean up Auke Lake. You can find references to the problems at Sandy Beach documented in several places on the CBJ website dating back into the 90's and yet the CBJ remains ignorant. If it takes another tragic event similar to Auke Lake to spur the CBJ to pay attention then consider this. According to police reports in the local newspaper the recent stabbing death in West Juneau was preceded by a drinking party at Sandy Beach.

While changing the park hours is certainly a positive step forward it must be followed up with strict and TIMELY enforcement or it is meaningless. Since JPD has proven themselves unwilling to enforce CBJ ordinances in the past then I suggest that Parks and Rec fully utilize the \$44,800 Park Ranger position allocated in 2016 Parks and Landscape budget. This could be augmented by the City staff that insists on cleaning the beach restrooms at midnight, and dumping trash cans between 4 and 6 a.m. With over \$700,000 budgeted for Park Maintenance staffing this surely can't be that difficult.

In closing I would like to say that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the CBJ needs to come to grips with the fact that they have just as much responsibility to property owners adjacent to their facilities as they do to the users of those same facilities.

The improper management of Sandy Beach has gone on far too long and it needs to be corrected. Turning your back on this situation is not going to make it go away. Choosing ignorance over action is not a solution.

I think the observations outlined in the 2014 review of the Parks and Recreation Dept. Final Report conducted by JRH Public Administrative Services states the problem very well.....it reads in part.

I request that this letter be placed into the public record.

Mark L. Halsted

City Manager. I also toured the department's indoor facilities and many of the parks, under the guidance of key staff.

In addition to interviews, meetings, and site visits, I also assembled copies of the City and Department budget, documentation of agreements, memos and letters from stakeholders, advisory committee agendas, and meeting minutes. I reviewed facility schedules and operating hours, a number of employee position descriptions, read the 2012 CBJ Budget Survey from the McDowell Group, viewed staff and organizational charts, read numerous responses to questions I posed to P&R staff, and reviewed web documents and sites. I also received a copy of the Assembly Strategic Plan documents, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and several current policies the department utilizes to manage the \$12 million dollar operating budget. I also conducted separate phone interviews with three members of the Assembly and the Mayor.

KEY FINDINGS:

Having previously served 28 years ago as Juneau's Director of Parks and Recreation and as Deputy City Manager, it was important that I stayed objective in the review of department abilities, functions, and outcomes as I developed this report. Although the department has increased in responsibilities with the additions of the Dimond Park Aquatic Center and Treadwell Ice Arena and with new functions such as parking and building maintenance, the primary tasks of maintaining parks, operating recreation programs, and managing facilities has stayed consistent. On the other hand, recreation program offerings appear to have shrunk in both numbers and participants. It was, however, heartwarming to see the success and contributions that the Zach Gordon Youth Center has been able to consistently provide to the community over its many years in operation.

There are several areas where I am concerned that the department is not doing the best they could, and these include: the upkeep and maintenance of

the parks, the decline in the popularity of the department, the extreme lack of positive public relations, a failure to understand the need of the user, and the overall lack of creative and visionary leadership. The primary focus points of any Director and the leadership team should be on the direction in which the department should head, how to get there, and who they can find to support that vision. My view is that these focus points are lacking in clarity and are inadequate for a department of this size and complexity. This has helped create an untenable situation where the department is at risk of failure, unless immediate changes are made to get the department back on the right course.

Below, I have outlined my key findings in detail:

Leadership: The department needs to be led in a positive and collegial manner in order to address the challenges it is currently facing with the budget, creating a department vision, understanding what the public needs, preventing conflict, and once there is conflict, with how to solve it. Through my observations of several key staff and through my discussions with members of the public and several major partners, there appears to be far too much negativity, a lack of creativity, and in some limited cases, a lack of accountability by department leaders. The department must change to a "positive led culture" focusing its time and energy on making supporters out of those who they may have offended or disagreed with. To help assist in creating this new paradigm, each and every employee in the department should have a refresher course in public relations, conflict management, problem solving, and what it means to be accountable. I found that the majority of the employees in the department that I had contact with were dedicated to the citizens of Juneau and were very capable of turning the organization around with training, encouragement, and sound leadership.

Planning: The department comprehensive plan is outdated. Lacking money to complete a new long-range plan is not a justification to stop planning or to

Date: February 24, 2016

To: Kirk Duncan, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: John DelGado, President
The Douglas Advisory Board

Subject: Savikko Park

Dear Mr. Duncan,

Thank you for the information pertaining to Mr. Farrell's request for changes to Savikko Park in order to address his concerns regarding excessive noise and vandalism after closing hours. We have reviewed his letter along with the associated petition.

Mr. Farrell suggest the following (paraphrased):

1. Change the closing time of Savikko Park from 12:00 midnight to 11:00 PM
2. Actively close the park at the new designated closing time and install gate or other means to prevent vehicular traffic during closed hours.
3. Increase JPD patrols of the park, specifically around closing time and after closing hours.

Though we empathize with Mr. Farrell's concerns, we don't support his recommendations, as we do not believe they will have a significant impact on the issues he is raising. Here are our reasons as to why we don't support this.

1. By closing the park at 11:00 PM, we would be punishing all the residents of Juneau who use Savikko Park responsibly in order to address improper behavior from a few residents. Many Juneau residents, not just those living in Douglas, use Savikko Park. Some people walk their dogs through the park late at night and are not a disturbance to anyone. This is especially true in the summer when many local residents enjoy the late night sunsets from the park. In Mr. Farrell's letter, he states, "The vast majority of this behavior occurs late in the evening, and often well after the advertised closing time of this park." If this is true, then closing an hour earlier will have no impact.
2. We are adamantly opposed to constructing a gate or any other mechanism to prevent traffic. If Parks and Rec is seriously considering such solution, then greater due diligence is needed on behalf of the city and public notice to all

Juneau residents should be provided. Many residents live in the harbor and park their vehicles in the area, as do those that have homes passed Sandy Beach. These residents cannot have their access restricted at any hour. Also, in order for JPD to access the area, they would then need to stop, open the gate, and then close it again behind them every time they patrol the area. In reality, if people still want to access Savikko Park, they will simply park outside the gate or above the steps on St. Anns and enter by foot, thus not solving the problem.

3. We do not have any data as to the extent of this problem, other than the comments from Mr. Farrell. It would be good to know the extent of the damage that has actually occurred, amount of broken glass, vandalism, number of calls to JPD, etc.
4. In reviewing the petition, the 15 signatures come from only 9 households, and 5 of those are opposed to a gate. Clearly there are mixed beliefs on creating a barrier.
5. In doing a bit of research, it appears that state and federal parks do not close until 12:00 midnight as well. So allowing the park to remain open until 12:00 is not unreasonable and certainly not unprecedented.

We discussed this issue to think about how we can help resolve Mr. Farrell's concerns and still keep the current operations status quo. We recommend the following for consideration.

1. Increasing JPD patrols and closing time and having a greater JPD presence would be the single best option for deterring those from gathering there after hours. In Mr. Farrell's letter, he also states that JPD will be adding 9 new officers in the near future. If this is the case, this could significantly help with "directed patrols" in the park.
2. The formation of an organized neighborhood watch group, in combination of increased JPD patrols, could have a significant impact. If done correctly, after hour visitors will get the message that they are being watched and that JPD is responding. Eventually, they will quit coming to Savikko Park.
3. Along with the above suggestions, the city could also improve park signage by making it clear to the public that people are in violation of city ordinance if visiting the park outside of established hours. Signs could be posted in more conspicuous areas. Residents of the harbor could also be part of a neighborhood watch and work with the residents of St. Anns to identify those disturbing the peace outside of regular hours.
4. The CBJ parks and rec staff can perhaps play a greater role by monitoring and reporting inappropriate behavior while they are cleaning the cabins for rental and while in the area. We realize this would primarily be during open hours of the park, but the more personnel there are monitoring the area, the better the reporting and identifying problem groups.

We understand that Mr. Farrell wants to see the city "fix" this problem, but before we jump into solutions that may or may not work, more work needs to take place and other less restrictive solutions need to be identified.

Page 3 of 3
Savikko Park

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD' followed by a long horizontal line.

John DelGado
President
Douglas Advisory Board

Cc: Kim Kiefer, City Manager
Molly McCormick, President, Douglas 4th of July Committee

Amanda Lovejoy

From: Devita Writer <devitawriter@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 12:36 PM
To: Parks Rec
Subject: COMMENT: PRAC proposed SAVIKKO PARK hours changes.

Dear PRAC

We are an older couple (over 70) that uses the "parking lot, restrooms, shelters, playground, Treadwell Historic Mine Trail, and beach" areas of SAVIKKO almost daily and, often, after dark.

We are also Alaska Residents, CBJ Residents, Voters and Tax Payers living in Douglas, AK.

We have 3 Serious questions and One Request about this that we respectfully submit for action before a decision is reached by your committee.

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What is going on in Savikko between 11-12 PM that is so dangerous or illegal that you must close the park early?
- (2) what difference will an hour earlier closure do to increase the safety of the area?
- (3) What alternatives have you considered, for example why not have a CBJ Police Officer walk through there in the late evening every night?

and ONE REQUEST Up until now we have not felt threatened or endangered when using the area, and we want to know... and believe the public has a right to know... what is going on, therefore, we request a list of the problems be released to us regarding problems at SAVIKKO "parking lot, restrooms, shelters, playground, Treadwell Historic Mine Trail, and beach" areas before PRAC goes forward with any changes.

Respectfully,
Ross Writer
Devita Writer
2201 Crow Hill Drive
Douglas, AK

(If you need a phone number and precise mailing address to respond fully to this e-mail please let us know.... didn't want our personal info published in unless necessary.)

Lindsey Daniel

From: Bride Seifert <hibride@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 2:01 PM
To: Parks Rec
Cc: Jason Seifert
Subject: Savikko park proposed closing time change

Please do not adopt the proposed change and allow Savikko to stay open to midnight, like other Juneau areas. In particular, it should stay open until midnight during the summer, when people are much more inclined to stay out and recreate late into the evening.

The CBJ website does not note what the one hour earlier closing is trying to accomplish. Perhaps I would feel differently if I did know.

Thanks,
Bride Seifert
6490 N. Douglas Hwy.
957.7981

Lindsey Daniel

From: Frances Compton <jnofran@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 11:05 PM
To: Lindsey Daniel
Subject: Fwd: Savikko Park

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Savikko Park
From: From Susanne Williams <swill38776@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 10:36 AM
To: parksrec@juneau.org
CC: dinaalaska@gmail.comhide

I am protesting the proposed change of closing Savikko Park from 12:00 Midnight to 11:00PM.
All CBJ parks hours should be the same. People tend forget special times for this one and that one.
We walk the park on nice evenings when the tides are low, day light is long, boats passing, moon is bright & etc.
We enjoy this urban open space within a short walk of our town.
Maybe we just need more lights.



Regards,
Susanne Williams
640 Fifth Street
DOUGLAS AK 99824-0765
907 364 2243
swill38776@aol.com

Amanda Lovejoy

From: Chris Day
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 8:26 AM
To: Kirk Duncan; Amanda Lovejoy
Subject: FW: Savikko Park

Here is an email from our parks.rec email for the PRAC meeting.

Chris Day
Administrative Assistant 1
Parks & Recreation
(907) 586-5226
chris.day@juneau.org

From: Shirley Dean [<mailto:srdean007@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 2:36 PM
To: Parks Rec
Subject: Savikko Park

I would like my comments submitted as part of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) public comments on the Proposed Change in Park Hours.

I support this change. I have lived in Douglas over Sandy Beach on St Anns for 30 years. Last night is an example. At 11:05 p.m. fireworks were being shot off either in the parking lot, or the beach. It is very loud and disruptive to the neighborhood as well as terror for many of the animals who live in the neighborhood. Also, during the summer months not only is there constant fireworks, but many parties that go on until the wee hours of the morning.

I think closing the Park at 11 p.m. is a good compromise for both the residents and the people using the park. I fully support this measure.

Thank You all for the hard work you do on behalf of the Juneau citizens.

Shirley Dean/505 St. Anns/ Douglas, AK 99824
907-364-3581

Amanda Lovejoy

From: Chris Day
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 8:27 AM
To: Kirk Duncan; Amanda Lovejoy
Subject: FW: Comments on Proposal to close Savikko Part at 11pm

Here is the second comment submitted.

Chris Day
Administrative Assistant 1
Parks & Recreation
(907) 586-5226
chris.day@juneau.org

From: Kyle Hebert [<mailto:kylehebert8@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 7:50 AM
To: Parks Rec
Subject: Comments on Proposal to close Savikko Part at 11pm

To Members of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee:

I am in support of the proposal to change the closing time of Savikko Park from midnight to 11pm. I am a homeowner on Saint Anns Avenue, and my house is located directly above the ball field adjacent to the parking lot.

From my house, I routinely hear loud noise coming from the park area late at night, which is disruptive and wakes me up at times. Noise I hear includes explosions (I assume from fireworks), loud music, roaring engines, and people yelling. I live on the uphill side of St. Anns Ave and hear plenty, but I know those who live on the downhill side really suffer, as their houses are situated perfectly to catch all the noise that comes from below.

Changing the park closing time one hour earlier is a reasonable step toward helping to address the problem. Although a one hour change should not be a major inconvenience to park users, it could make a very big difference to help those who live in the area. I urge you to accept the proposal and change the closing time to 11pm.

Thank you for your consideration.
Kyle Hebert
509 St. Anns Avenue
Douglas

Josh Anderson

From: Gary Gillette [Gary.Gillette@juneau.org]
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 9:09 AM
To: Josh Anderson - PRAC member (josh@chathamelectric.com)
Subject: Emailing: Aquilean Final Design-1-21-16.pdf
Attachments: Aquilean Final Design-1-21-16.pdf

Josh - here is the latest graphic on the art for Cruise Berth project.

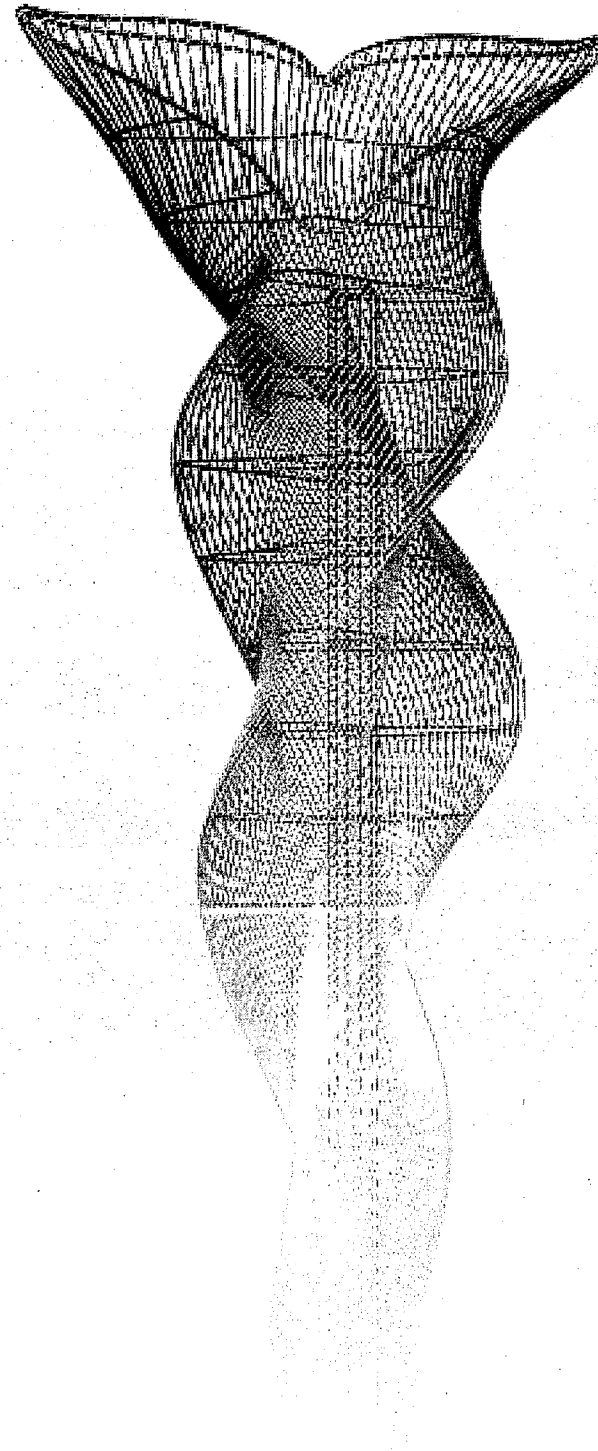
The artist, Cliff Garten, is under contract and has completed final design of the sculptures and is now finalizing the design of the mounting hardware and lighting. Fabrication of the sculptures is scheduled to begin early in March. The art work is scheduled to be placed following completion of the cruise berth project in May 2017.

Let me know if you have any further questions.
Gary

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Aquilean Final Design-1-21-16.pdf

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.



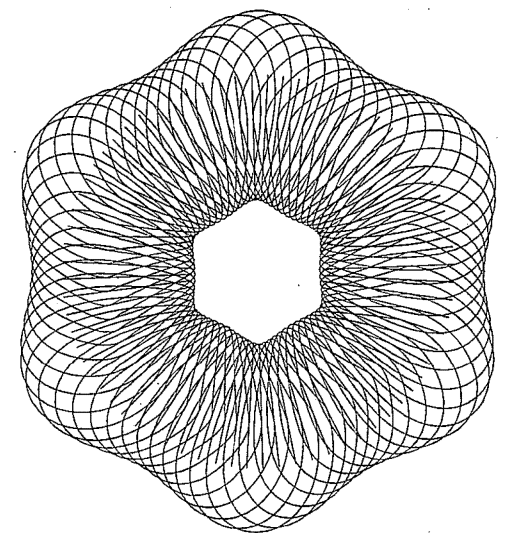
Aquileans

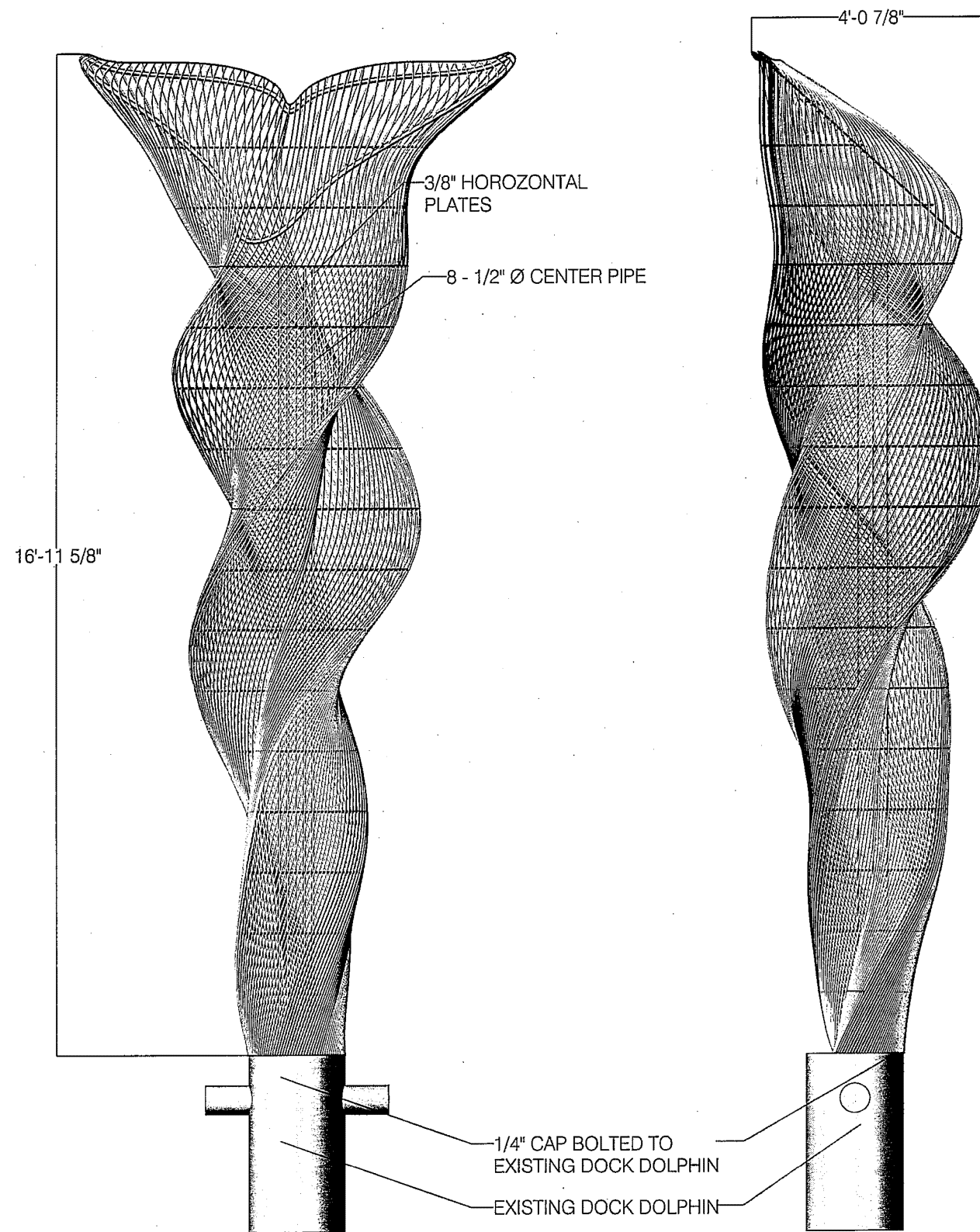
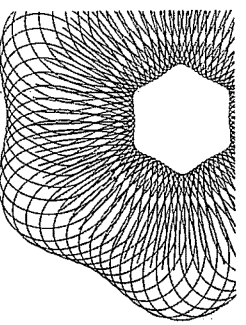
Juneau, Alaska

Submitted by Cliff Garten Studio

+ CLIFF GARTEN STUDIO

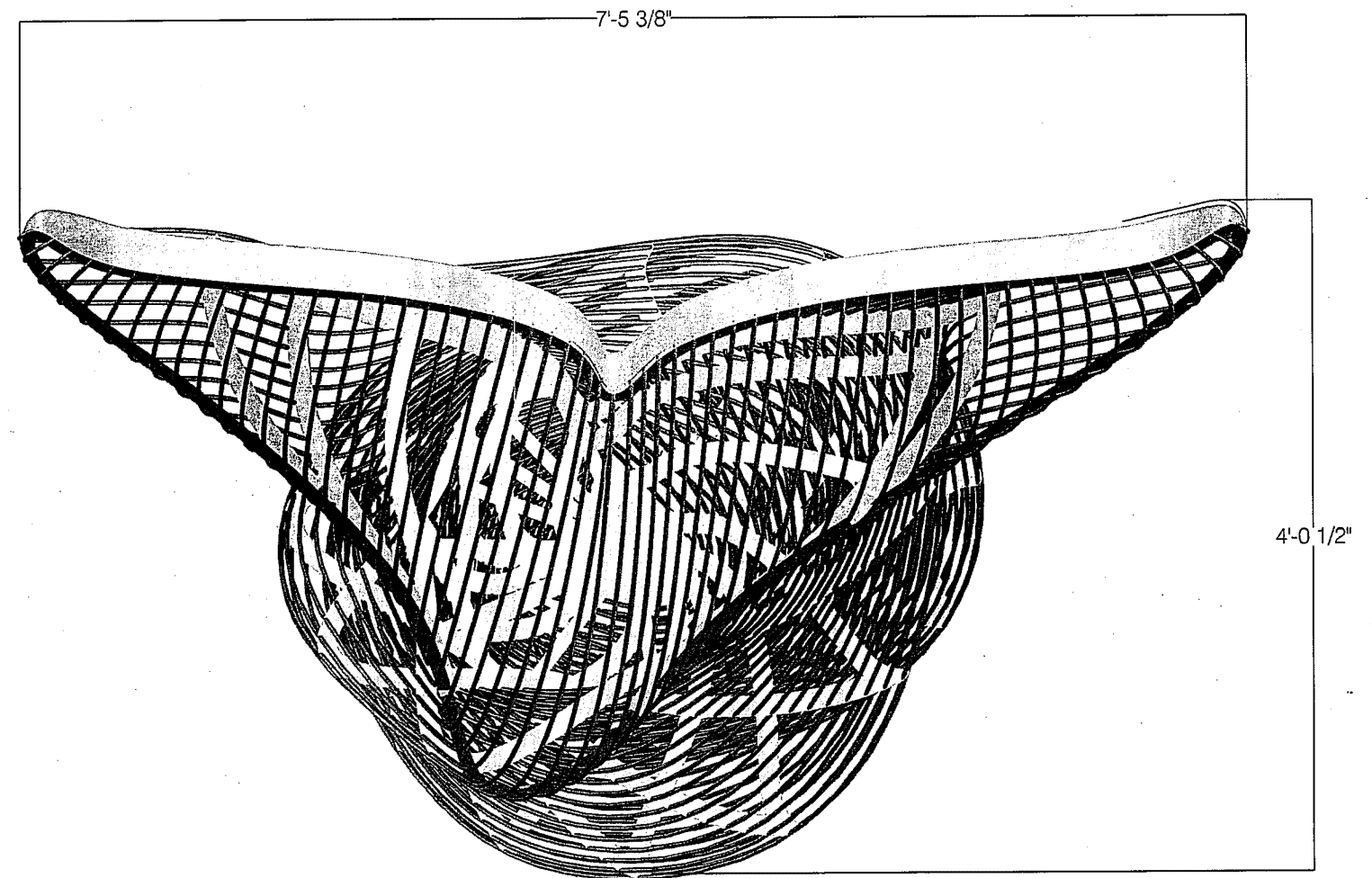
cg@cliffgartenstudio.com
1315 PRESTON WAY VENICE, CA 90291
T. 310.392.2060
CLIFFGARTENSTUDIO.COM





FRONT ELEVATION

SIDE ELEVATION



PLAN

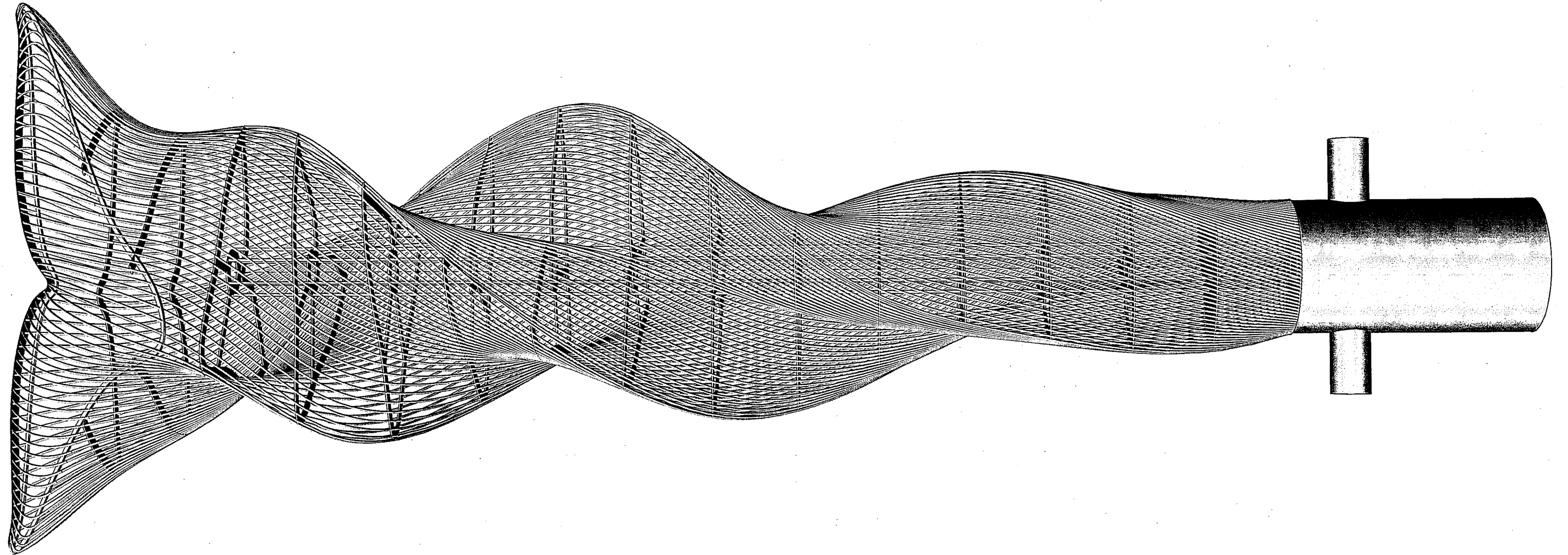
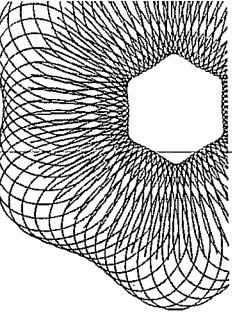
Whales Tale Sculpture Specs:

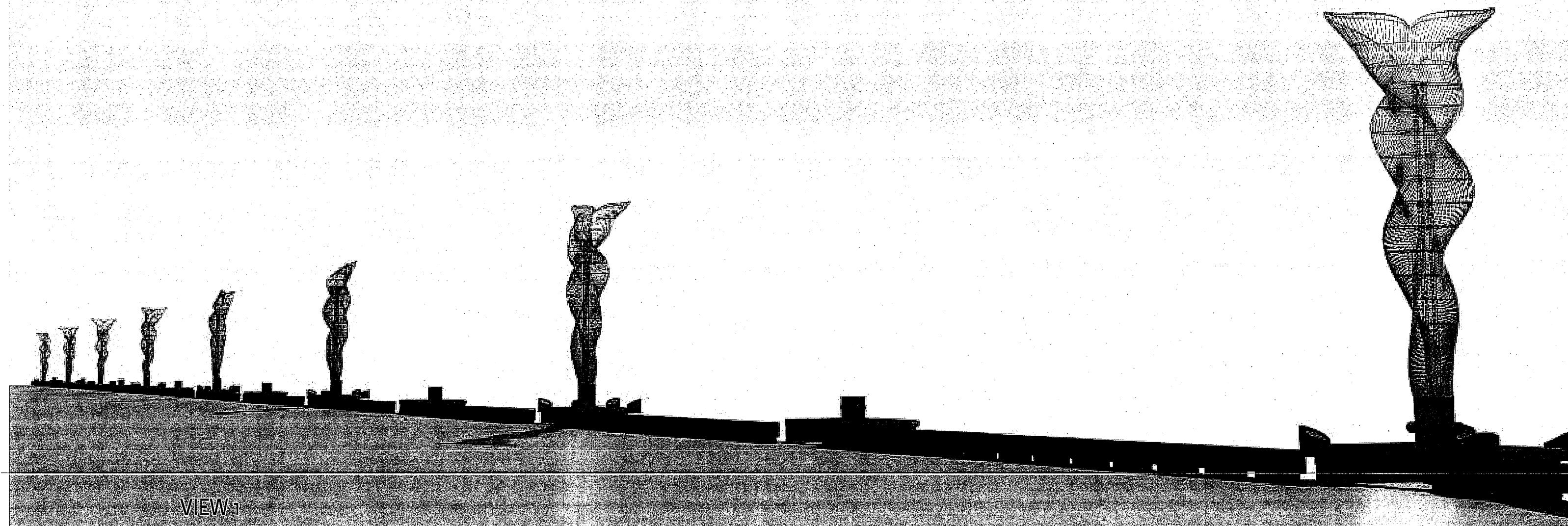
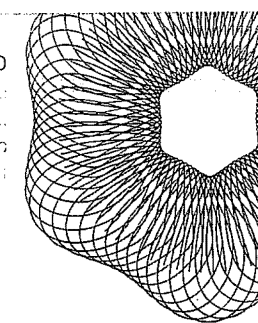
Rod Size: 3/8"

Total Rods: 101

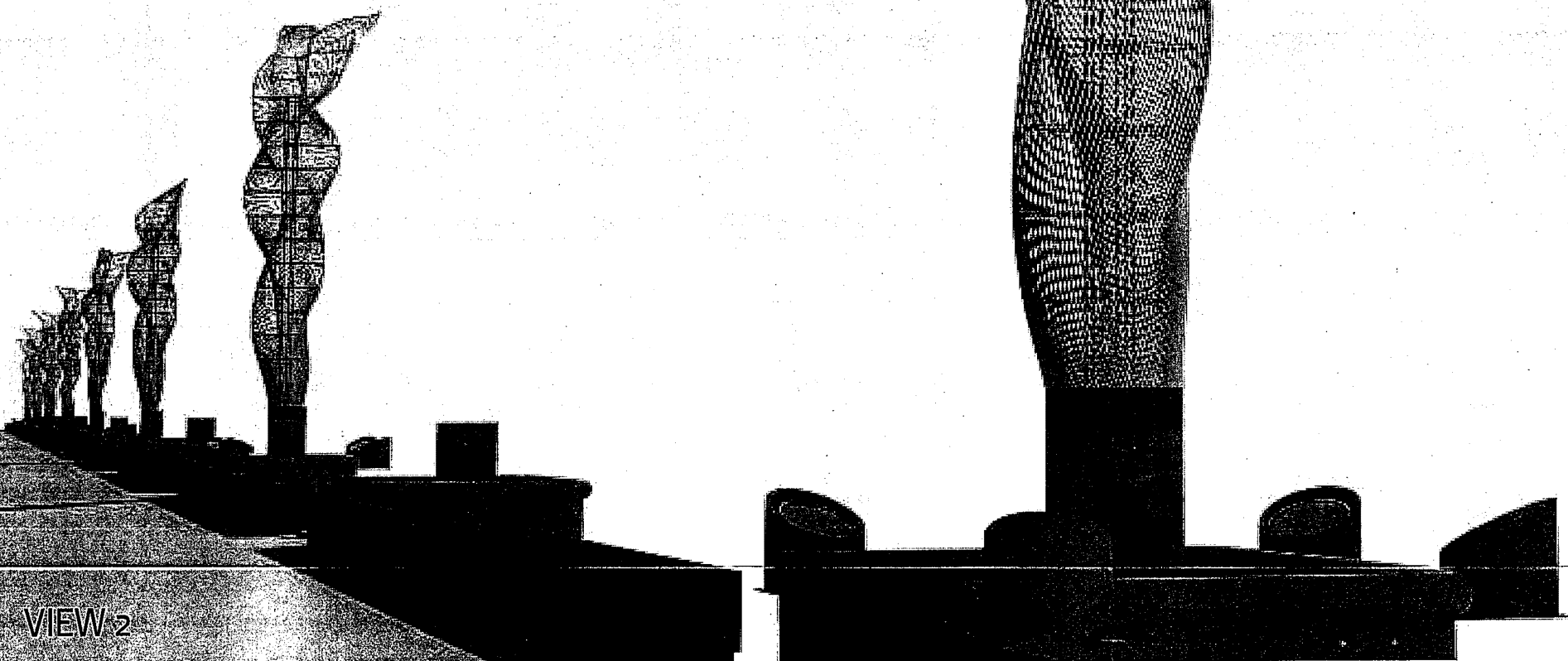
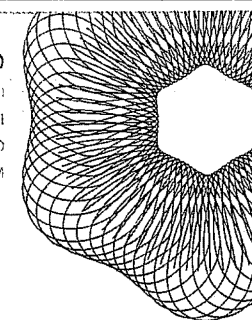
Total Linear Length of Rods: 1841 linear feet

SCULPTURE PLAN AND ELEVATION





VIEW 1



VIEW 2

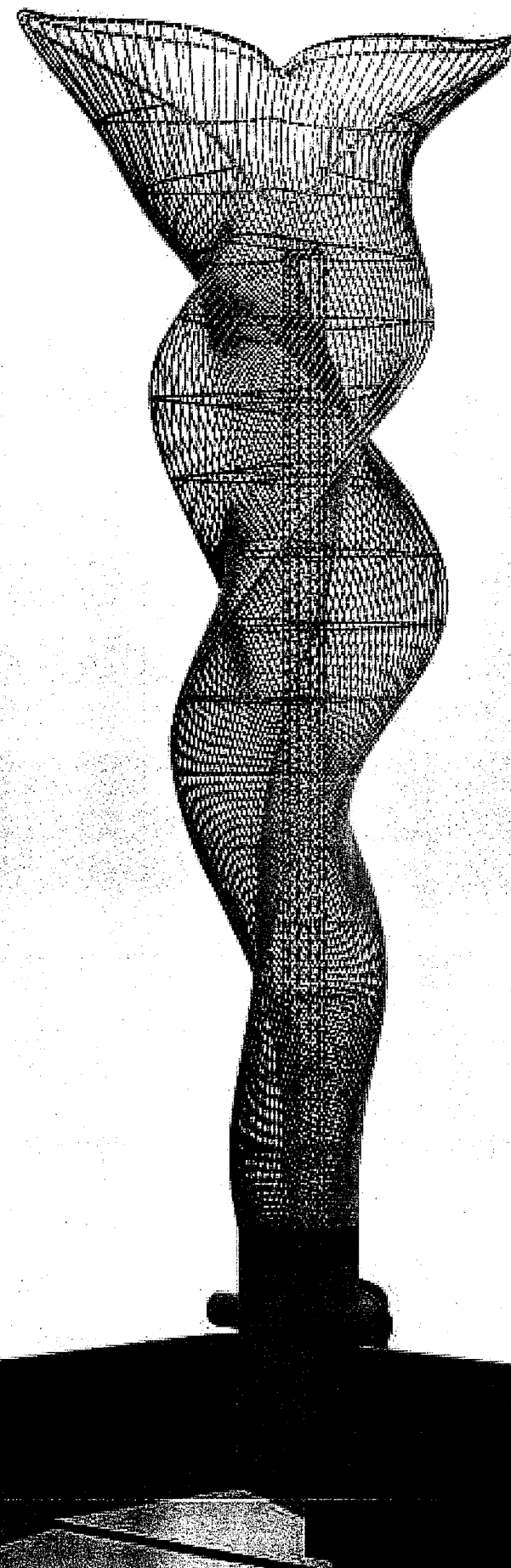
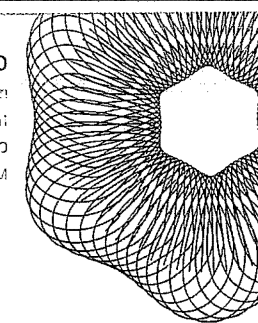
+ CLIFF GARTEN STUDIO

cg@cliffgartenstudio.com

1315 PINESTON WAY VENICE, CA 90131

T. 310.392.2050

CLIFFGARTENSTUDIO.COM



VIEW 3