

CALL TO ORDER

Session 25-02, a Regular Meeting of the Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Lewis at 5:30 p.m. on April 17, 2025 in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS ARCHIBALD, LEWIS, HARRALD, KEISER, PARSLEY & ROEDL

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER STEPHANO (UNEXCUSED)

STAFF: RECREATION MANAGER ILLG, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE OSTROM, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KORT, LEAD PARKS TECHNICIAN FELICE, CITY CLERK KRAUSE & DEPUTY CITY CLERK APPEL

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Lewis introduced the topic.

ARCHIBALD/KEISER MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA BY MOVING NEW BUSINESS ITEM A TO IMMEDIATELY AFTER VISITOR PRESENTATION.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

ARCHIBALD/KEISER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3-minute time limit)

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS (10-minute time limit)

A. Woodard Canyon Trail Group

Catie Bursch asked the Commission if PARCAC or the City would be interested in working with a group called Woodard Canyon Trail Group. The group bought the land behind Karen Hornaday and are interested in forming a volunteer group to work on the trail system.

B. Pier One Theatre

Jennifer Norton, Executive Director of Pier One Theatre, gave a slideshow presentation detailing historical information about the theatre, community involvement, finances, hope for either a new building or repairs to the current one, and different program opportunities for all community demographics.

RECONSIDERATION

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes – March 20th Regular Meeting

KEISER/HARRALD MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS (5-minute time limit)

A. Parks Monthly Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Lead Parks Technician Felice, who provided the following summary:

- Karen Hornaday Park is prepped and mostly ready for the summer camping season
- Jack Gist Park has power installed to the pole and is getting set up for a concrete pad for the mobile bathrooms
- The signs for the Library Story Trail are installed
- Actively working on the policies document
- Received nominations for the newest addition to the Nomar wall silhouettes

B. PARCAC Staff Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg recapped his report stating there wasn't much action from City Council in regard to PARCAC's interests.

C. Community Recreation Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg, who provided a report on the following:

- Programming and Special Events
- Summer Field Use meeting to coordinate KPBSD field use
- HERC gym is getting painted and new volleyball nets brackets installed
- New Pickleball Ladder League and Family Pickleball Time was brought back
- Year round Youth Basketball opportunities- possible camps, rec league, open gym, etc
- Looking into offering summer programs with partnering agencies, contracted instructors, and volunteers. Activities would take place at Homer High and HERC facility
- Title 21 update process
- City of Homer Budget outlook, possible termination of four City positions, and effect on Community Recreation programs/finances

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. Policies and Procedures- Recreation
- B. Policies and Procedures- Parks

Chair Lewis introduced the items by reading the titles and referred to Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg reminded the Commission of the importance of creating one cohesive document, as asked by City Council Members Erickson and Davis. He also explained the idea was to document policies that is user friendly to the public and to also identify areas where a policy may be missing.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. ADA Transition Plan- Parks

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to City Clerk Krause to provide a summary. The Commission acknowledged that many existing parks and facilities are not ADA compliant and this is an issue that needs to be addressed. The Commission also agreed to the need for a prioritized list of projects with a focus on the low-hanging fruit that can be completed within the current budget. The Commission also discussed the need to focus on one park at a time, tackling larger items incrementally.

- B. Transportation Safety Action Plan

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to Commissioner Keiser. Commissioner Keiser explained the purpose of the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Transportation Safety Action Plan and that it identifies high-risk accident locations and recommends mitigation measures. She stated the City of Homer has 3 projects currently included in the plan and suggested developing a list of Homer specific priority projects to be added as a supplement to the Borough's plan.

KEISER/ARCHIBALD MOVED THAT PARCAC RECOMMENDS TO CITY COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A LIST OF HOMER SPECIFIC PRIORITY PROJECTS TO THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH AND ASK THE BOROUGH TO INCLUDE SUCH LIST AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE BOROUGH'S TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ACTION PLAN.

There was no discussion

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Annual Calendar 2025
- B. City Manager's Report
March 24, 2025 City Council Meeting

Chair Lewis noted the informational materials included in the packet. Commissioner Harrauld volunteered to deliver the Commission's report at the next City Council meeting.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3-minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Appel thanked everyone for the meeting and also reminded the Commission of the upcoming Work Session before the May meeting.

Public Works Director Kort thanked everyone for the meeting

Public Works Technician Felice stated Public Works will need a seasonal staff to help with summer work.

Community Recreation Manager Illg thanked everyone for the meeting. He also mentioned negotiations for a joint use agreement with the school district. He said he is hoping for a 3 year agreement and is budgeting for an increase to use the facilities in the field.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Student Representative Ostrom said it was good being there and being able to comment on things he knows and just absorb knowledge on what he doesn't.

Commissioner Keiser said it was great to have the Student Rep present and encouraged him to keep commenting and providing perspective. She also thanked the Commission for the great meeting.

Commissioner Archibald also encouraged Student Rep Ostrom to not be afraid to speak his mind and provide perspective.

Commissioner Harrauld commented that she loves everything the Commission does and that there are amazing people serving on the Commission.

Commissioner Parsley suggested expanding the shoulder on Kachemak Drive and adding a shoulder on East and West Hills to include into the Transportation Safety Plan document. He also notified the Commission of a track meet for the High School that next day.

Chair Lewis thanked everyone for the work they do.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at p.m. The next regular meeting is **Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.** A Worksession is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

Ashley Appel, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved:_____