

## **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 May 15, 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

**STAFF:** RECREATION MANAGER ILLG, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE OSTROM, LEAD PARKS TECHNICIAN FELICE, & DEPUTY CITY CLERK APPEL

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Lewis introduced the topic.

ARCHIBALD/PARSLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

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

Kevin Lahaie, city resident, expressed interested and a need for a more updated and safe skate park to be built at the new Recreation Center location.

## **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS** (10-minute time limit)

## **RECONSIDERATION**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes – April 17<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting

HARRALD/ROEDL 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:

- Electric is back on at the batting cages in Karen Hornaday
- Mobile restrooms at Jack Gist are installed and usable

- New ADA path installed at disc golf course
- Mowing
- Special Event Fees
- Serve the City

#### B. PARCAC Staff Report

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg recapped his report summarizing actions of City Council including a Resolution to support the interests of pedestrian safety, a resolution to amend the fee schedule, and a resolution for the City to establish a community recreation building non-endowment field of interest fund with the Homer Foundation.

#### 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:

- Working on MOU with the School District
- Free drop-in youth soccer program for the summer
- Zumba Kids
- New youth basketball program
- Safe and Healthy Kids Fair
- Youth voucher program
- HERC Building Update

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

#### A. Policies and Procedures- Recreation

Chair Lewis introduced the item by reading the title and deferring to Community Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg discussed the Youth Protection Policy, which was found lacking in detail and potentially requiring legal input. The Commission opened discussion within the entire Policies document with suggestions to add and remove certain sections.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Discussion of Location for New Rec Center

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to Community Recreation Manager Illg. Mr. Illg explained the background history of the project and the directive from City Council for the Commission to comment on this preferred location. The Commission had questions including:

- How would someone enter the building- from what side
- The owner of the lot coming off main street, where the right of way would be
- Is the lot potentially be too small
- What would the potential square footage of the building be

- Could an adjoining lot be purchased by the City
- Do utilities currently exist
- Amount of parking available

The Commission decided to postpone the topic for the next meeting when more information could be provided.

B. Silhouettes for NOMAR Wall

Chair Lewis introduced the topic and deferred to Lead Parks Technician Felice. Mr. Felice explained the silhouettes, the artist, and what groups were sent letters to submit potential names to make the list of selections. The Commission agreed it would be most fair to put all the names into a bag and draw four names from the Adult bag and four names from the Youth bag, with two extras from each as alternates, in case the original four were not interested. The Commission drew names from the bags and asked Lead Parks Technician Felice to make the phone calls to notify the individuals.

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. Annual Calendar 2025
- B. City Manager's Report  
April 28, 2025 City Council Meeting  
May 12, 2025 City Council Meeting

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

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE** (3-minute time limit)

Kevin Lahaie, city resident, expressed safety concerns about the current condition of the skate park, particularly the deteriorating metal ramps and blacktop.

Rae Krakowski, city resident, added to think of the skate park as a separate entity from the HERC building. She stated she feels the skate park is put on the back burner due to it's proximity to the HERC when it's unrelated.

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

Deputy City Clerk Appel thanked the Commission for the fun meeting and announced that the meeting in June would be her last meeting as the Clerk

Public Works Technician Felice thanked the Commission for the meeting.

Community Recreation Manager Illg thanked everyone for the meeting and encouraged the Commission to attend the Safe and Healthy Kids Fair.

**COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL**

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**

Student Representative Ostrom said it was a good meeting.

Commissioner Keiser said she would like to see the skate park on the agenda as a new business item. She also mentioned the transportation safety action plan and whether Public Works was successful in putting that together.

Commissioner Stephano thanked everyone for the awesome meeting as well as the art tour worksession.

Commissioner Archibald stated Chair Lewis makes a meeting fun. He commented that he felt like they accomplished something at this meeting.

Commissioner Harrauld suggested doing a park walk through of the skate park.

Commissioner Roedl said Commissioner Harrauld had said it all.

Commissioner Parsley thanked everyone for the great meeting and mentioned the Kachemak Bay Running Club had an amazing 5k race with about 150 people showing up.

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The next regular meeting is **Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 5:30 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.

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Ashley Appel, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_