



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PRAC) AGENDA

September 06, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385> or +1 253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 941 8444 1385

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Christopher Trail Reroute – Presented by Michele Elfers, P&R and Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Trail Mix

A modification to the Christopher Trail route is being proposed with a bridge repurposed from the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail. This trail reroute will avoid a steep, erosive and difficult to maintain section of trail and reduce bike traffic and bike/pedestrian user conflicts on the Flume Trail.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department pursue obtaining leases with AELP, AJT and DNR for the Christopher Trail Reroute.

2. Amplified Sound Policy – Presented by G. Schaaf

The Parks & Recreation Department offers Amplified Sound Permits for persons and organizations that wish to use sound amplification equipment in parks and outdoor facilities managed by the Department. Presently, there are no guidelines or policies to help staff determine whether to issue a permit or require any conditions. The Department receives a number of complaints every year due resulting from the use of sound amplification equipment in parks throughout the year.

Parks are “public forums” that are afforded some of the strongest First Amendment protections. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that governments may impose only limited restrictions on the time, place, and manner of speech in parks, including the use of sound amplification equipment. Governments may not restrict or restrain the content of speech, which includes things like music, dance, and other forms of expression in addition to spoken words.

This policy provides general guidelines for issuing Amplified Sound Permits in parks. Assuming a permitted activity is conducted in compliance with any conditions imposed by the Department, the activity would qualify for an exemption pursuant to CBJ 42.02.095(e) (Disturbing the Peace).

3. Board Assignments – Presented by C. Mertl

The PRAC needs to elect a new board Chair and Co-Chair.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

H. STAFF REPORTS

4. Aquatics – Terra Patterson will be our next Aquatics Manager! Her first day will be September 28, 2022. Ms. Patterson joins CBJ from Astoria Parks & Recreation in Oregon, where she has worked for over 20 years, the last five as the Aquatics & Recreation Supervisor where she oversaw a large staff and budget.

Ms. Patterson holds a number of aquatics certifications, including Lifeguard Instructor Trainer. She is currently an officer in the Aquatics Section of the Oregon Recreation & Parks Association, and is a graduate of the National Recreation & Parks Association's Revenue Management School. We are excited to see where her leadership will take the Aquatics Division in the future.

Treadwell Arena – Treadwell Arena opened for its 19th season on August 1. New dasher boards and glass greeted the Arena's first customers, as well as Alaska's first hockey vending machine offering an assortment of hockey sticks, pucks, and other gear. We are excited to continue offering free skating to every 3rd grade student in Juneau all season long, including Open Skates, Family Skates, Stick 'N' Puck, and Pond Hockey.

Parks & Landscape – Progress continues on Capitol Park, and we are on track for a soft opening later this fall. The poured-in-place playground safety surfacing is nearly complete and the play structures have been installed. The turf field, lighting, and central staircase are scheduled to be installed next.

Our Park Maintenance staff and Park Rangers completed many large and small projects in preparation for Alaska's first IRONMAN race on August 6: They pressure washed the floating boardwalks at the Auke Lake Trail and replaced a damaged section; swept the entire length of the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei (Brotherhood Trail), and cleared over an acre of alder in Dimond Park. The race was a huge success and we are excited to help deliver a great experience to these athletes again over the next two years.

As the days get shorter, you will notice that the Twin Lakes path is a little brighter. We have partnered with AEL&P to install LED lighting along the entire length of the paved path, from Project Playground to the Juneau Pioneer Home.

The draft Master Plan for the Montana Creek Recreation Area was presented at a public meeting on August 10. The draft plan is available at bit.ly/MontanaCreekMasterPlan and comments are being accepted via email to parks.rec@juneau.org through September 10.

Sports & Community Recreation – "Walk Southeast," our regional hiking contest, wrapped up on September 2 and the drawing for two roundtrip tickets from Alaska Airlines will be held on September 9 at 9:30am. live on KINY. We had a great turnout this year, including participants from Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Ketchikan and other small southeast communities – this year's trophy will be sent to the community with the highest average of miles walked per participant! We will release full details after the drawing.

August is our "Month of Play" and chock full of fun – and FREE – activities for kids and families in Juneau. The free Passport to Play grants every kid and up to two guardians free swimming at both pools, free admission to the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, a free public skate at Treadwell Arena, free access to the Dimond Park Field House, the ever popular Trucks n' Stuff, and access to fun self-guided activities all month long. Every activity completed earned an entry to win things like pool passes, free ice skating, and even a night at the Eagle Valley Center. Big thanks to our friends at the Juneau Park Foundation, Discovery Southeast, and SAIL for hosting a sunny Community Day at Amalga Meadows Natural Area Park for over 200 people!

Dimond Park Field House – We are delighted to announce that Jamie Thill has been selected as the new Dimond Park Field House Supervisor! Jamie will start her new position on September 12, just as the facility ramps up for the busy fall and winter season. We are also moving forward with a project to replace dozens of sodium-vapor lights with high-efficiency LEDs that will reduce operating costs and improve lighting on the field.

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

J. ADJOURNMENT