PARKS & RECREATION AGENDA

April 04, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers/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. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. **Director's Report -** *presented by G. Schaaf*

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Meeting of March 1, 2022
3. Meeting of June 7, 2022
4. Meeting of August 2, 2022
5. Meeting of March 7, 2023

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

G. AGENDA TOPICS

H. NEW BUSINESS

6. **Sled Hill Lighting at Savikko Park** – *Presented by M. Elfers*

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. STAFF REPORTS

7. **35-Mile ORV Park Management -** *Presented by M. Elfers*

K. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

8. **Chair Report** - presented by C. Mertl
9. **Liaison to the Assembly Report** - presented by G. Smith
10. **Board Member Liaison Reports**

L. NEXT MEETING DATE: June 6, 2023

M. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.org.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY
PARKS & RECREATION

TO: Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director

DATE: March 30, 2023

RE: April 4, 2023 Meeting

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please find enclosed the information supporting your agenda topics for this meeting. The meeting is anticipated to last 60 minutes and will take place in person at City Hall and virtually via **Zoom Webinar**. To join the Zoom Webinar, go to https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385 or call 1-253-215-8782. **Webinar ID:** 941 8444 1385.

NEW BUSINESS

Sled Hill Lighting at Savikko Park – *Presented by M. Elfers*

The packet for tonight's meeting contains a letter to the Committee from Douglas residents Sandy and Suzanne Williams requesting that a light be installed to better illuminate the access trail to the sledding hill in Savikko Park. While minor projects are not typically presented to the PRAC for a recommendation, staff is aware that residents along St. Anne's Ave. may have concerns about this proposal. To alert residents that the issue would be coming before the PRAC, staff issued an information release, posted on social media, and delivered notices to homes located within about 100 yards of the proposed light location with information about tonight's meeting.

Recommended Motion:

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department install a light above the Savikko Park sledding hill access trail, taking reasonable steps to minimize glare for nearby homes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

35-Mile ORV Park Management – *Presented by M. Elfers*

Aquatics – Free open swims are being offered at Augustus Brown Pool ahead of its closure for renovations on April 4, 2023. "Dog Day at the Pool" happened on Sunday, April 3rd. Dimond Park Aquatic Center will be open for extended hours while Augustus Brown Pool is closed.

The Parks & Recreation Department is offering 98 slots for swim lessons this spring, with registration opening at noon on April 3rd. Additional lessons will be offered this summer.

We are excited to offer Chair Yoga at the Dimond Park Aquatic Center every Tuesday and Thursday from 11am – 12pm beginning April 4th. Chair yoga can help release tension and stress, improve physical agility, strengthen balance, and improve range of motion, focus, and coordination. No experience is necessary and all ages are welcome to join.

The Dimond Park Aquatic Center hosted the Southeast Championship Swim Meet March 31 – April 2, the second major swim meet hosted in Juneau in recent weeks.

Treadwell Arena – Treadwell Arena hosted the 12U A state tournament March 17-20, drawing rave reviews from visiting teams and locals alike. This tournament brought hundreds of hockey players, coaches, and parents to Juneau, and the Juneau Capitals hockey team played some great games.

Parks & Landscape – Every year, the City and Borough of Juneau relies on the generosity of local citizens to add beautiful flowers to Juneau's landscape through the Adopt-A-Flower program. All donations go into funding 200 hanging baskets, 60 flower barrels, and 50 flower beds and planters seen throughout town, from the Juneau International Airport to Downtown Juneau. Donate online here: bit.ly/registerCBJparks (look under Special Events). All donations received by May 7 will be recognized on an Adopt-A-Flower sign displayed at Marine Park Plaza. Donations for the Adopt-A-Flower program come in various funding levels:

✿ Seedling Sponsor $15 – $99
✿ Flower Bed Sponsor $100 – $249
✿ Flower Barrel Sponsor $250 – $499
✿ Hanging Basket Sponsor at $500 and up

The first seven people who donate $500 or above will receive a hanging basket from the landscape crew.

Sports & Community Recreation – Walk Southeast is returning this summer, and we're excited to once again partner with Alaska Airlines on this 297-mile virtual trek all summer long. Visit juneau.gov/parks-rec for all the details.

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:33 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: Josh Anderson, Alex Beebe-Giudice, Makayla Chappell, Kirk Duncan, Chris Mertl, Will Muldoon

Absent: Edric Carrillo, Emily Haynes

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager; Kristi West, EVC Manger, Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Trail Mix Director

II. Agenda Changes – W. Muldoon moves to approve agenda. C. Mertl adds farewell to Mr. Duncan and Mr. Carrillo. ***Agenda adopted with additions.***

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. From February 1, 2022 – M. Chappell moves to approve minutes, no objection. ***Minutes adopted.***

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items –

Joan O'Keefe, SAIL Director, thanked the PRAC and CBJ Parks & Rec Department for getting the Dimond Park Field House elevator added to the CIP list for the FY24 budget.

V. New Business

A. Trail Mix Annual Work Report

Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Trail Mix Executive Director (TM): TM develops a work plan as part of an MOU with CBJ that is updated every five years. Work is accomplished with a combination of paid staff and volunteers. The COVID-19 Conservation Corps program funded by CARES funding proved to be a successful workforce development and job skills training program. Trail projects in 2021 included construction, rerouting, and/or improvements to more than a dozen trails. In particular,

- Portions of Blackerby Ridge trail washed out in the mudslides were refurbished, rerouted or revegetated.
- Work on Lena Point trail improved access to the trail, replaced unsafe boardwalk planks with gravel and constructed a new staircase to replace one that was broken
- Treadwell Ditch Trail improvements included a 46-foot long bridge over Neilson Creek and several smaller bridges were installed or improved.
- At the Ball Lake Trail (Prince of Wales) crew members stapled netting to provide traction to the 1.8-mile trail.
- Bear-proof food storage lockers were installed at Mendenhall Campground
- The elevated walkway at Eagle Valley Center was replaced and the old walkway was demolished.
- Amalga Cabin access was regraveled and culverts were added to improve drainage
- Slippery boardwalk was replaced with gravel, a staircase was constructed, and culverts were added to improve drainage along the Point Bridget Trail.
- Perseverance Trail was damaged by rainstorms requiring rerouting and pothole repairs. Improvements will continue in 2022.
- Duck Creek Trail was impacted by the construction of a roundabout. TM created a new wetland.
- TM Partnered with The Rock Dump to improve access to bouldering sites at Tee Harbor

- A section of Switzer Creek Trail was rerouted to protect a streambank and salmon in the area
- Debris from beaver activity was removed and trail was improved.
- A viewing tower was built and a bridge was replaced at Pack Creek.
- Various other trails received general maintenance and upkeep.

Outreach, education and advocacy activities included:

- In Spring 2021, TM advocated for Trails Build Alaska
- Hike For a Pint fundraiser
- Online Auction in November raised $19,090

Priorities for 2022 include deferred maintenance on the Perseverance Trail and rerouting the lower portion of the Mt. Jumbo Trail.

W. Muldoon: In regard to volunteer compensation, are volunteer hours billed to CBJ at twice the minimum wage similar to regular staff time and does that go toward overhead costs?

Ryan O'Shaughnessy (TM): Yes. Volunteer hours are billed at $20.68/hour. In the planning and budget process, labor, materials and overhead costs are taken into consideration. Often, the difference between TM costs will exceed the CBJ labor reimbursement. In these cases, volunteer hours are used to make up the deficit. Volunteer reimbursement is billed up to but not exceeding any deficit amounts.

K. Duncan: Thank you for all that you and your staff have done.

B. Amalga Meadows Master Plan

G. Schaaf – *Explained the Master Plan process for Amalga Meadows and the Eagle Valley Center has been an ongoing process since 2013.*

Kristi West, Eagle Valley Center Manager (EVC): *Presented the Amalga Meadows Master Plan (AMMP) and gave an overview of the history and recent improvements at Amalga Park.*

M. Chappell: I am really loving what you are doing with the space and am excited for future plans for the area.

K. Duncan: Can you comment on the emails included in the packet and what you are planning to do about that?

Kristi West (EVC): Regarding the email from Chuck Smythe from Sealaska, we have added the Tlingit name for Eagle River (Twisted Tree Dam), Asx'ee to the trail maps for the Amalga Meadows Park. Regarding the email from Kaye Sullivan, the map for Pt. Caroline Trail to Amalga has been changed and does not go through the Huffman Area. One cabin has been built and another may be added. The plan for the trail is to discourage dogs on the trail rather than banning them altogether.

K. Duncan: I have not read the plan in entirety, if we approve it tonight are we addressing the concerns forwarded to us?

Kristi West (EVC): The things that came up were keeping things low impact and not putting a trail through Huffman Harbor. Did we address the suggestions regarding the meadow or cabin locations? No. Put those things are not yet decided and will be addressed in future meetings. The plan is a general direction to go.

K. Duncan: I have tremendous respect for you and what you have done. George, if we approve this plan tonight, are you comfortable with what we will be doing.

G. Schaaf: Yes. The plan provides high-level guidance for future improvements and how to manage the area. The comments and emails were included to become part of the record. This goal of the plan is not necessarily to incorporate every comment. That said, it would be great to get a motion on the plan this evening. If it is decided to take a meeting to decide, that would not be the end of the world either.

A. Beebe-Giudice: I really appreciated the modification of the general proposed route Pt. Caroline trail. I think the neighborhood would like some official commitment included in the master plan to ensure the trail will not be put within the vicinity of the neighborhood.

DRAFT

Kristi West (EVC): If you could email me some wording for that. I think that is reasonable and I would like to move forward with that.

C. Mertl: It might give you some flexibility if you call this a 'management plan' rather than 'master plan'. That might help relieve some of the confusion that this is a more high-level plan.

A. Beebe Giudice moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department approve the Amalga Meadows Natural Area Park Master Plan. ***Adopted.***

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Staff Reports – None

K. Duncan - How did the surface of the Treadwell ice weather last winter?
G. Schaaf – Due to the cold, dry weather, the ice fared better than in previous years.
C. Mertl – Asked for an update on Augustus Brown
G. Schaaf – The bids received for the renovation far exceeded funding and the bid was canceled. There is slightly more than $3 million dollars available. Boiler repairs costing about $60,000 will be the first priority. Next will be the heat exchanger.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report — Annual report presented to Human Resources Committee. There are two new appointees Danika Swanson and Taylor Murph. Additionally, Will Muldoon will remain for another term. One vacancy remains. Please encourage people to apply.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— None

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – W. Muldoon: They are currently petitioning HRC for a code change regarding the number of members allowed to be affiliated with swim clubs. They hope to have the pools fully open in March or April.

YAB – J. Anderson: Grant applicants attended the last meeting for Q&A.

Eaglecrest – A. Beebe-Giudice: Recently awarded $2M to fund the gondola.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— E. Carrillo: None

Lands, Economic Developing, Housing – C. Mertl: Gunakadeit Park has been sold. The Parks Department may be able to request the proceeds from that sale and purchase land elsewhere. Revisions to downtown parking regulations were also discussed.

W. Muldoon – Can you expand on the parking revisions?

C. Mertl – It removes the parking requirement in the downtown historic district.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: They are looking for members.

Treadwell Arena Board – K. Duncan: None
Trail Mix— E. Haynes: None

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None

Other Member Business –

C. Mertl and W. Muldoon – Thanked Kirk Duncan for his service to the PRAC.

Adjournment – 7:03 p.m. ***Having no other business before the board.***

Respectfully submitted by *Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134*

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:36 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: Makayla Chappell, Emily Haynes, Chris Mertl, Will Muldoon, Taylor Murph
Absent: Josh Anderson, Danika Swanson

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes - None

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business

A. JMBA Thunder Mountain Bike Park

Reid Harris (JMBA) – Presented their proposal to build and maintain biking trails in the area south of Under Thunder Trail. JMBA has been working with Department staff to develop the plan. They have approximately $10,000 to cover costs and plan to self-fund the development.

W. Muldoon – Describe the up tracks. Will this be only for mountain biking or will other uses be allowed? Is this an expansion of the current existing MOA?

Reid Harris (JMBA) – There is an existing up track that needs some improvement to be ready. Insofar as use, these are being built as biking trails. Pedestrians are allowed but they need to be aware that it is a biking trail. The black diamond (advanced) trails should not have walkers as that would be a safety issue but the novice trails would be acceptable. ORV should not be allowed as they are damaging to the trails. This would be an expansion of the current MOA.

E. Haynes – There are trails are on Forest Service and DNR land. Will CBJ or JMBA be getting the authorizations for those?

Reid Harris (JMBA) – JMBA will be responsible for that.

C. Mertl – Expressed concerns that the Under Thunder trail system is a key trail segment. Is it possible to put in a parallel trail to separate walkers and bikers or some way to safely slow bike traffic at the bottom?

Reid Harris (JMBA) – The trail is already pretty flat and mucky at the bottom so bikers will be slowed by the time they get there. We would not be opposed to a parallel trail.

W. Muldoon moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee support the maintenance of existing trails and the development of new mountain biking trails, as illustrated in the Thunder Mountain Bike Park Plan, and recommend that the Department continue working with JMBA.
E. Haynes moves that the motion be amended to include a condition that JMBA obtain and maintain all required authorizations. ***Adopted as amended.***

B. Juneau Disc Golf Proposal

James Houck (Juneau Disc Golf) - Presented their proposal to build a temporary 9-hole Pitch and Putt course at Treadwell Mine Historic Park.

Shannon Crossley (Juneau Disc Golf) – Presented the outreach activities of the Juneau Disc Golf club with the goal of teaching new players and making Disc Golf accessible to others.

W. Muldoon – Most of the holes are straight shots. Are there any dog legs in the proposal? How much of the 4 acres would be used?

Shannon Crossley – Does not know the percentage of land usage. There are no dog legs on the proposed putt course.

E. Haynes – Is there a plan for regular inspections or reporting of how things are going during the trial period or would JDGC be willing to comply with such if they were required?

Shannon Crossley and James Houck – Absolutely.

C. Mertl – What do you mean by 'temporary'?

Shannon Crossley – Temporary means the equipment would be installed during the summer and removed by September. If it is successful and is considered an acceptable use of the park, then it could be reinstalled in the spring.

C. Mertl – So you are looking for a seasonal or long-term seasonal course.

Shannon Crossley – It would depend on the success of the park and the will of the JDGC board. They may decide to try another location.

James Houck – If the PRAC or the Department ask for the goals to be removed early, we would comply immediately. We would love for this to become a permanent course. If it becomes 'non temporary' then it would be available to the community year-round.

W. Muldoon – How does this comport with CBJ 67.01.90(c) prohibiting missiles in public parks? Does a thrown disc qualify as a missile? Would CBJ be liable?

G. Schaaf – Many people throw baseballs, frisbees, or chuck-it balls in our public parks and these are allowed. This could be considered similar to that. Additionally, there is a provision allowing them in areas as designated by the director. A disc golf course would be an area designated by the director.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Sudie Hargis – Spoke in opposition saying Disc Golf may not be a compatible use for this location. Proposed Cope Park as an alternate location.

Joyce Vick – Spoke is support saying this is an excellent idea. Disc Golf is an easily accessible sport and the course appears to be well laid out.

Carolyn Minor – Spoke neither in support or opposition. She has concerns that dogs might be spooked by disc golfers.

Kayla Mount – Spoke in support of JDGC but expressed concerns with the location. The course is proposed to be situated in the middle of a heavily trafficked area and people may be misplaced.

Sophie Lager – Loves the idea of an accessible course but opposes it in this location. Would prefer to see it further from the entrance to the trail and to be more spread out.

Michael Carow – This is a large park. You have to consider the impact on other users.

Matt Davidson – Spoke in support of the proposal saying as a pitch and putt course, throws would be short distances and chance of injury is low.

DRAFT

Joe Luger – Is a 5th grade teacher and father to an 8-year-old who loves disc golf. This proposed course should not be feared but embraced.

Jake Quorstad – Spoke in support of disc golf and JDGC but opposes this location. The things that make the sport great also make it dangerous at this location (low barrier of entry, no experience needed). He spoke with 150 people and 125 of them were opposed to the location. Somewhere else in the Treadwell Park might be better.

Kassie Strubel – Spoke in support. She is a recreational disc golfer and feels this is a great opportunity for the community and the young children in the area.

PRAC DISCUSSION

W. Muldoon – There has been a lot of public testimony on this issue. Public parks are for everybody. He understands the concerns with location and mixed uses. He is willing to give it a chance and see how it goes.

E. Haynes – Feels that having a trial period to test out the course, is a good option.

M. Chappell – Spoke in support of the sport and thinks this is a good idea. This is a good option for kids to keep them out of trouble.

T. Murph – Likes the idea of a multi-use park. He disagrees that this is too close to the entrance. This is a well-used park but there is enough room for regular users and disc golfers to share the space.

T Murph moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department approve the installation of a temporary 9-hole "pitch and putt" disc golf course at Treadwell Mine Historic Park, with the conditions recommended by staff.

Objection by C. Mertl – He loves the idea and loves that it is in the park but does not love that it is in the busiest part of the park. If it were permanent, he would not support it. Since it is temporary, he will support it.

Objection removed.

Motion Adopted

C. Temporary 1% Sales Tax Projects

G. Schaaf explained the temporary 1% sales tax funds P&R projects based on the priorities in the Department's Six-Year CIP plan. Funding for public use cabins was inadvertently left out of the plan and he intends to add funding for public use cabins back into the list of projects.

W. Muldoon – Other than the omission of public use cabins, is there anything else of which we should be aware?

G. Schaaf – There are some projects included in the packet that are not on the 1% sales tax list. These are unscheduled projects for which we expect to receive grant funding. Building maintenance projects are not on the list as they have other funding.

C. Mertl – How much are you planning to allocate for the public use cabins?

G. Schaaf – $650,000. This would increase the request to $8.7M.

C. Mertl – What are you looking to do at Twin Lake Park?

G. Schaaf – Parking lot repaving, trails and drainage improvements.

E. Haynes moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Assembly fund the projects proposed by the Parks & Recreation Department for the Temporary 1% Sales Tax (2022-27) including $650,000 for public use cabins, contingent upon the extension of the tax by voters in October 2022. ***Adopted.***

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Staff Reports – Information on Commercial Use Permits issued to date have been provided to the committee.
C. Mertl – How does the CBJ collect data on understanding the impacts of the Commercial Use Permits and how visitation impacts local facilities?
G. Schaaf – That is part of what we will look at as we update the Commercial Use regulations. Currently, we rely on recommendations made by an ad hoc committee formed by the department many years ago.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— Wrote a letter to Mayor Weldon, Assembly member Treim and Manager Watt asking that they fund an additional full-time position at the Dimond Park Field House. That was denied a month ago but it appears there may be partial funding to allow it. Thank you to Will for chairing last month's meeting. There are three vacant seats on PRAC. They will remain open until at least July. In person meetings are at least a few meetings away.

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— Alicia Hughes Skandijs reported last evening was COW meeting and accepted the 1% list. The process will take two more meetings before funding is finalized.

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – W. Muldoon: Aquatics manager left CBJ last month. AGB pool boiler repairs have been completed.

YAB – J. Anderson: None

Eaglecrest – None

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— None

Lands, Economic Development, Housing – C. Mertl: Met yesterday. Passed a motion to accept Mayflower Island from BLM. Travel Juneau MOU was discussed.

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: None

Treadwell Arena Board – None

Trail Mix— E. Haynes: None

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None

Other Member Business – None

Adjournment – 7:53 p.m. ***Having no other business before the board.***

Respectfully submitted by *Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134*

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:31 p.m. – W. Muldoon, Co-Chair

Present: Josh Anderson, Makayla Chappell, Brandie Hofmeister, Christina Mounce, Will Muldoon, Taylor Murph

Absent: Emily Haynes, Chris Mertl, Danika Swanson

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – None

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business

A. Trail Mix Stewards Program

Meghan Tabcek (Trail Mix): Presented on the Trail Stewards Program and gave an update on their activities. Trail Stewards is a program whereby groups can 'adopt' a trail to help with upkeep and trail improvements.

W. Muldoon – The packet shows 'hours worked' and 'hours remaining'. Is that a target goal for the season?

Meghan Tabcek (Trail Mix) – Yes. We have set a goal of 2,300 volunteer hours this season and we hope the Trail Stewards program will cover about 1,000 of those hours. As of today, we are half way to that goal.

B. Updated Alcohol Policy

G. Schaaf: Presented a proposal to update the CBJ policy governing possession, sale and consumption of alcohol at CBJ properties and events. He explained the department has received permit requests to allow hard liquor at events. This policy update will clearly limit the permits to beer, wine, and other fermented beverages containing 15% alcohol by volume or less.

W. Muldoon – This applies to hard liquor. Have there been any issues with caterers or wine/beer tasting events?

G. Schaaf – The vendors have been responsible and there have been no issues that I am aware of.

J. Anderson moves that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department adopt Policy No. 100-001, as updated. ***Adopted.***

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Staff Reports – None other than to welcome new members

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report— Welcome Brandie Hofmeister and Christina Mounce to the PRAC

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report— A. Hughes-Skandijs reported the Assembly met and discussed the Human Resources committee looked at the ordinance change requested by the Aquatics committee to reduce the size of the committee and to loosen the limitation on the number of board members with a single affiliation. The Ordinance was amended to reduce the size to 7 members and to increase the number of affiliated members to 3. The Human Resources committee also discussed restructuring P&R committees. The Assembly approved to include $6,000,000 bond proposal in the next ballot to fund P&R activities.

W. Muldoon – What is the status of the restructuring and how much will it affect the PRAC?

A. Hughes-Skandijs – This is in the very early stages and is currently a concept more than a plan. It will affect the PRAC with potentially more work. It would also make PRAC participation more consequential.

C. Liaison Reports—

Aquatics – W. Muldoon: The board will hold an executive session on the 4th to discuss selection of the new Aquatics Manager. School is starting soon. Swim club and scheduling will be a hot topic of the next meeting.

YAB – J. Anderson: Next scheduled meeting on 8/9/2022

Eaglecrest – None.

Jensen-Olson Arboretum— None.

Lands, Economic Developing, Housing – C. Mertl: None

Park Foundation— C. Mertl: None

Treadwell Arena Board – None.

Trail Mix—E. Haynes: None

1% for Art— J. Anderson: None

Other Member Business –

Adjournment – 6:12 p.m. ***Having no other business before the board.***

Respectfully submitted by *Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134*

DRAFT

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PRAC) DRAFT MINUTES

March 07, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Mertl called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chris Mertl, Makayla Chappell, Taylor Murph, Christina Mounce, Josh Anderson

Absent: Brandie Hofmeister, Will Muldoon, Danika Swanson

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Eric Moots, Administrative Assistant

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Unanimously approved

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Unanimously approved

1. Meeting of April 5, 2022
2. Meeting of May 3, 2022
3. Meeting of January 4, 2023

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

F. AGENDA TOPICS - None

G. NEW BUSINESS - None

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

I. STAFF REPORTS

4. Montana Creek Area Plan Comments *presented by M. Elfers*

Ms. Elfers presented the Montana Creek Area Master Plan, as worked on by the Parks and Recreation Department, US Forest Service, State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and Trail Mix Inc.

Ms. Elfers discussed the goals of this project, and what the guidelines were. She then presented maps of the trails that were being proposed for the area. Mr. Anderson asked about proposed trail #9, a trail extending 25 Mile Road. He asked if that was meant to be an off-road vehicle trail to replace the Montana Creek trail. Ms. Elfers stated that it was not meant to replace anything, but instead be a new trail that would allow for longer winter access for motorized recreation in the area. Ms. Mounce asked if proposed trails #1 and #2 would mean nearby existing trails would be decommissioned. Ms. Elfers explained that it is possible if resources are put into reconstructing a trail or improving a trail that are 300 feet away from the creek, that then the main stem of the trail could be moved away from the creek to protect the stream banks. Ms. Chappell asked for clarification on why there was confusion for which areas allowed and didn't allow motorized use. Ms. Elfers explained that at this time, there is no confusion, but that previously there was confusion due to the nature of different agencies co-managing the land.

5. Board & Committee Reorganization *presented by G. Schaaf*

Mr. Schaaf discussed an ordinance recently adopted by the CBJ Assembly that would repeal the ordinances that established the Aquatics Board, the Treadwell Arena Advisory Board, the Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee on April 30, 2023, and then reestablish

the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee with a permanent Arboretum subcommittee, and a permanent Facilities subcommittee. Mr. Schaaf explained that with the re-establishment of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee that all current members of the committee would need to reapply to continue serving, as the dissolution of the board would end all terms of those on the committee.

6. Staff Reports *presented by G. Schaaf*

Mr. Schaaf gave updates on the maintenance closing of Augustus Brown Swimming Pool, as well as events that are going to be taking place there before the closure.

Mr. Schaaf also commented on the problem facing the Parks and Recreation Department's ability to meet the demand for youth activities in Juneau.

Mr. Mertl asked Mr. Schaaf about the department's snow removal priority for their facilities. Mr. Schaaf responded that the priority list begins with the Building Maintenance shop, followed by the high-use facilities such as the pools and Treadwell Arena. Mr. Mertl expressed concerns specifically about the snow and ice removal at Centennial Hall, the Savikko Trailhead, and the Treadwell Arena parking lot. Mr. Mertl commented that it seems it would be helpful for the department to have another FTE for winter maintenance.

J. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

7. Chair Report - *presented by C. Mertl*

Mr. Mertl congratulated Mr. Murph and Mr. Schaaf on their newborns. He also expressed appreciation to all of the current PRAC members and urged them to reapply.

8. Liaison to the Assembly Report - *presented by G. Smith*

Mr. Smith confirmed the amendments to the board consolidation ordinance discussed by Mr. Schaaf. He also added that the Assembly moved forward a E-Bike proposal for Pioneer Road, which is not a Parks and Recreation land, but has Parks and Recreation affiliation. Mr. Mertl asked Mr. Schaaf how the Parks and Recreation department classifies e-bikes. Mr. Schaaf stated that if the bike requires you to pedal, even if it gives you a boost, it is classified as a non-motorized bicycle; if the e-bike is able to propel the rider without any effort, it is considered a motorized vehicle.

9. Board Member Liaison Reports

There were no updates from the Treadwell Arena Advisory Board, Aquatics Board, Jensen-Olson Advisory Board, or Eaglecrest Board Liaisons, as they were not present for this meeting. The Youth Activities Board failed to make quorum at their previous meeting and so they did not meet. The Trail Mix liaison informed the board that Trail Mix did not meet. Ryan O'Shaughnessy of Trail Mix Inc. confirmed this and commented that they are preparing for the summer season.

Mr. Mertl asked Mr. Schaaf about the Jim Parise land request. Ms. Elfers responded that the request is closed, because CDD found that there was no legal way to give the lease that was requested.

Mr. Mertl also asked Ms. Elfers about the Marine Park design. Ms. Elfers answered that the department is scheduling meetings with the public about the project in the near future, and that work will be done throughout the spring and summer.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Anderson moved to adjourn at 6:38p, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Moots on March 9, 2023

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY
PARKS & RECREATION

TO: Chris Mertl, Chair Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Michele Elfers, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation

DATE: April 4, 2023

RE: Street Light for Savikko Park Sledding Hill Access Trail

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has received a request from a citizen to add a light at the top of the access trail to the sledding hill in Savikko Park. The Douglas Advisory Board has also discussed this issue with staff and requested additional lighting. The access trail starts on St. Ann's Avenue and continues down the slope and through trees to the top of the sledding hill. There are street lights on St. Ann's on every other pole, and the light pole at the trail does not have a street light on it. This request is to provide better lighting at a popular crossing point on the street and on the trail which is often slippery and icy in the winter.

The light would be installed by AELP on pole #10758 facing Savikko Park and would be set lower than the street lights on the adjacent poles. The light would be LED and similar to the recent installation at Twin Lakes Park by AELP. Parks and Recreation staff are supportive of this request as the street already has lighting and the proposed light will provide a safer path for users of Savikko Park.

Staff recommends the following motion:

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee supports the addition of a street light on St. Ann's Avenue to light the trail access to the Savikko Park sledding hill.

155 S. Seward St O Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 586-5226 O Fax: (907) 586-4589 O Email: Parks.Rec@juneau.org

Savikko Sledding Hill Access Trail Street Light

"Essential Partners in a Healthy Community"

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY
PARKS & RECREATION

CBJ PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
155 SOUTH SEWARD ST
JUNEAU AK 99801

MARCH 23, 2023
PO BOX 240765
DOUGLAS AK 99824-0765

AGAIN: On St Anne's Ave, top Savikko Park Children Sliding Hill there needs to be a LED LIGHT on an arm over facing the Hill. This light could be lit from November to March on AEL&P pole #10758. It could be turned on at the same time as the Treadwell Arena parking lot.

This additional light arm can be place lower on the pole facing the path and not as bright as a regular street light.

Families with preschool children come in the mornings and early afternoon play and slide on the Hill. After school the older grades arrive walking & usually without parents. Later the Hill is popular with families during early evenings before bedtimes.

The Hill top is dark in the short days. The bottom is well lit by the Treadwell Arena lights. Some parents turn their cars to the Hill and turn on their head lights. The head lights do NOT reach the Hill top. Parents cannot see what is happening up on top.

We have enjoyed watching this favorite spot for over 35 years from our Douglas home. Children and adults behave better when good lighting is in place in popular used areas. The St Annes path to the Savikko Park *is safer thanks to P&R keeping to the tree trunks trimmed.*

We believe keeping Savikko Park **SAFE FOR THE PUBLIC IS A FIRST CONCERN.**

Susanne Williams

Susanne & Sandy Williams
640 Fifth St
Douglas AK
907-364-2243

cc: Assembly
Douglas Advisory Board
Parks & Landscape

Eric Moots

From: Carol Coyle <treadwellhouse@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:14 AM
To: Michele Elfers; Parks Rec
Subject: Please NO MORE LIGHTS!!!!! They are ruining our town!
Attachments: IMG_1071.jpg

Light and amplified noise from the "park" crosses property lines and disturbs quality of life..

I live next door to the sledding hill. I love watching all the fun but we don't need more lights. The lights you installed at the Treadwell Arena "temporary" parking lot are horrible! They are a blue color (called daylight), too bright and too tall. Please no more lights. As it is- the TA lights disturb my sleep. I had to install a barrier film in my dining room otherwise I was living in the parking lot. Lights are not helpful in the long term and are disconnecting us from the night sky and nature. It's supposed to be dark at night. It's a time of rest. I can no longer see the northern lights when they are out, and I could when I moved in over 15 years ago. Maybe you could cut down the tree growing in the middle of the sledding hill? Or mow the grass there more than 1x per summer before the 4th of July. Or pick up the trash that accumulates behind the arena. Or do something about the noise coming from the Pioneer Pavilion.That would be helpful. People in Douglas have sledded here and enjoyed it for many years without a light. More lights are a BAD idea.

The worst part is: You have already decided and the neighborhood "input" is just a box to check off. I have been through this before. It does not appear that P&R cares about the residents or our neighborhood. If you did, you would invite us in at an earlier point in the process. A process that could include thoughtful design of hooded attractive light in a warm white color (such as those in the Willoughby district and downtown). The bummer is that I love the sledding hill and it gives me joy to hear and see folks out enjoying it - and now you are taking that away too.

My favorite thing to do is to look out the window at Mt Roberts in the moonlight and daylight and watch and listen to neighborhood birds. I love to watch it snow. I love watching the neighbors walk their dogs and take their kids down to the Montessori school. I love watching the kids sled. I garden and work very hard to keep my place attractive and well maintained.

Since I purchased my house - a parking lot was put in front of my dining room one weekend without any notice, then came the Pioneer Pavilion (no notice there either) and a host of amplified noise (including a karaoke memorial service, the Bad Taste of Juneau which went on from 5pm Friday until 5 pm Sunday one weekend, the Salvation Army band, etc. etc. it's something every other weekend, and the last amplified event was on 9 am on a Sunday morning that my neighbors and I got to listen to a rock band), there was a backroom deal to move the Logging and Mining days to our park (no public input there either) which wouldn't be so bad but I can hear that Animal Austin won yet again whilst in my bathroom! due to the huge speakers, then it was the blue light special of the Treadwell parking lot lights (we got a few days notice on that from the TA manager) - now it's yet another light? This is development. It is invasive in the name of providing for the public. People can recreate without all these lights. There are 2 streetlights adjacent to the sledding hill and all those lights below it. I think the Space Station can see them.

Sigh. I thought I moved next door to a park. To me that means birds, green space, trees, kites, ball games, walking and running, "whunk of a ball being kicked", children swinging, the beach, picnics, seesaws, folks walking their dogs and playing with their kids. I am so disappointed - I basically live next to a huge blue light

parking lot in the winter and have the invasive amplified noise from the Pavilion all summer. Fred Olmstead is rolling in his grave.

Attached is a view from my living room the night I got the notice of yet another light.

Carol Coyle, 715 Saint Ann's Ave Douglas AK

--

What if the mightiest word is love? - Elizabeth Alexander

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY
PARKS & RECREATION

TO: Chris Mertl, Chair Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Michele Elfers, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation

DATE: April 4, 2023

RE: 35 Mile Off Road Vehicle Park Update

Staff continues to work on planning the 35 Mile Off Road Vehicle Park in collaboration with the Juneau Off-Road Association (JORA). Last April, the PRAC and LHED made a motion of support for the manager to negotiate an agreement with JORA for development of the park.

Since that time, the following items have been accomplished or are in progress:

1. A conditional use permit for the park has been granted to JORA and CBJ.
2. The Army Corps of Engineers permit is submitted.
3. The State Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant application received high scores in relation to other motorized project applications, awards will be announced in the next month.
4. CBJ is bringing the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council to Juneau for staff and volunteer training as well as park layout and design assistance.
5. Design will proceed this spring for the entry area and parking lot followed by construction.
6. Trail Mix will begin clearing, brushing and building trails this summer.

Funding plan for park development for the 2023 and 2024 season includes:

1. $225,000, previously allocated sales tax, 2012-2014
2. $250,000, voter approved bond funding for trails 2022
3. $200,000, CIP Request FY23
4. $300,000, pending State RTP grant

Items that remain to be accomplished include:

1. Finalize management agreement with JORA.
2. Begin operations at the park, the earliest the park could open for use is late season 2024.

155 S. Seward St O Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 586-5226 O Fax: (907) 586-4589 O Email: Parks.Rec@juneau.org