



PARKS & EVENTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 21, 2023

This meeting was conducted in person and remotely using teleconferencing technology provided by Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair Sweum called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Commission Members: Chair Paul Sweum (remote), Co-Chair Heather Palmerini (remote), Ryan Prior, and Scott Vermeulen.

Council Liaison Ethan Benson was also present.

City Staff:

Mike Chambless, Parks & Public Works Director; Dylan Gamble, CIP Project Manager; Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison (remote); and Deana Dean, City Clerk.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Chair Sweum moved and Commissioner Prior seconded the motion to approve the agenda which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

MINUTES – Commissioner Prior moved and Commissioner Palmerini seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023, meeting which passed unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Bylaws: Discussion was held including adding SMC reference, number of unexcused absences at four in a calendar year based on a rolling twelve-month period, and no hard language on penalties rather leaving that to the mayor's discretion up to and including dismissal. Commissioner Palmerini noted difficulty in the past with members not attending and therefore no quorum. Councilmember Benson added input on absences. There was desire to reference order of business in the bylaws and add the paragraph referencing the municipal code. Chair Sweum to update the draft bylaws and bring it back for final review at the next meeting.
2. Splashpad Update: Parks and Public Works Director Mike Chambless reviewed the status of the splashpad noting architectural and engineering drawings are being created, next it would go out to bid, and then they will work with the King County Department of Health for approval. Review of placement of tennis ball courts with an option for pickle ball court done by presentation. Discussion followed regarding additional pickle ball courts, and placement of the soccer fields, walkways, and spectator area. The next step is landscape architect contract for design. The idea is to bring it back and look at it holistically with the community center expansion although this is a separate project. Brief discussion on fences between splashpad and parking lot.

3. Riverview Park Update: The park is closing this week for construction to commence next month. The plan is to get it completed as quickly as possible although that is subject to the weather. Anticipated opening is July 1, 2023. A sign will go up shortly.
4. Community Center Expansion Update: Permission has been obtained from the state to use an alternative build method for expansion to the facility. Selection of a contractor and designer is in process. The project is expected to go back to council in May or June with a recommended decision. There will be a walk through on Wednesday with interested parties. Director Chambless noted there is no design finalized yet.
5. Park Plan Discussion: CIP Project Manager Dylan Gamble reviewed the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan which is a chapter within the comprehensive plan which calls out the needs, existing volumes, and number of trails. The request for qualifications will post soon which will allow the department to hire a consultant to look at services, data, work within the current parks plan, update it, and work through public and citizen engagement. He noted there will be more public engagement and there is a strict deadline for the end of 2024. Questions and discussion regarding public engagement followed.

SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Community Liaison Nicole Wiebe provided an overview of special events for the year including The Real Twin Peaks this weekend which is a celebration that the Chamber of Commerce and North Bend Downtown Association are spearheading although the Arts Commission and Snoqualmie are participating. She noted there will be an insert in the March utility bill with a survey from the Arts Commission, and a printed version of Save the Date calendaring of events this year that the city is coordinating including the two egg hunts, and big truck day at Jeanne Hansen Park, two movies, two music events, a block party, and tree lighting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

1. Status and review of fees
2. Discussion of online park reservation system

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Minutes taken by Deana Dean, City Clerk

Recorded meeting audio is available on the city website after the meeting.

Minutes approved at the March 20, 2023 Parks & Events Commission Meeting.