

Wednesday, May 05, 2021 5:30 PM

Location: VENUE

## Parks and Recreation Meeting 5:30 PM

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/97920240985?pwd=UEVycklPd2VPL2FxQXE1UVd4NWFBZz09

Meeting ID: 979 2024 0985

Passcode: 352751 One tap mobile

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- 1. **CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. **ROLL CALL**
- 3. **AMENDMENT TO AGENDA**
- 4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 
  - a. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes attached from April 12th, 2021.
- 5. **CORRESPONDENCE**
- 6. **PERSON'S TO BE HEARD**
- 7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS
- 8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

a. May Director's Report

#### 9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- <u>a.</u> Community Collaborations (Planning)
- <u>b.</u> Access to Volunteer Park Update
- 10. **NEW BUSINESS**
- 11. **ADJOURN**

# WRANGELL PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING April 12th, 2021 5:30 P.M. ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to at 5:30PM

#### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Haig Demerjian, Joan Sargent, Liz Buness, Jeanie Arnold, and Cindy Martin

#### AMENDMENT TO AGENDA: None

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes attached from March 3rd, 2021.
  - a. Joan Sargent made a motion to approve the February Minutes. Jeanie Arnold seconded. Motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

PERSON'S TO BE HEARD: None

#### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

- ➤ Haig inquired about the Saturday facility schedule. Kate has not made any progress towards surveying the community and changing the operating hours.
- ➤ Cindy Martin would like to donate cross country skis.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- ➤ Written report is attached to the meeting packet. Further oral delivery was provided.
- ➤ Director requested that board members provide their volunteers hours for each initiative or task they are working on so they can be tracked accordingly.
- Representatives of "Boys on the Run" asked if the program can be a Summer Rec component. It does not directly align with summer goals, however Parks & Rec offered facility access. Having a male coach of Native descent is a requirement. It may be more suitable as a fall school program.
- ➤ Director sought board support to proceed with the concept of St. Frances Animal Rescue shelter at Lyons Park. The following steps are being deployed (1) Verbal Support from P&R Board (2) Public Comment (3) Assembly Approval. Park and Rec is not responsible for oversight. The unit is on wheels and can be relocated if needed. The 501C3, if disbanded, would give any funds to a similar cause. Liz recommends security lights and cameras. Animals will not have outdoor access unless someone is onsite.
  - Liz Buness made a motion to approve the concept for a proposed lease agreement with St. Frances Animal Rescue shelter at Lyon's Park. Jeanie seconded. Motion passed.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### A. Pet Waste Campaign

- a. Board members assisted in on-site clean-up at Volunteer Trail and manned a community market table.
- b. Ballparks will be secured during Little League season. Kate will follow-up with Kaelene Wilson.
- c. Park users will be given a forewarning before any temporary closure to dogs.
- d. Jeanie made a motion that May 1st starts the beginning of a Volunteer Trail shutdown period, not to exceed three weeks, if conditions do not improve. Haig Demerjian seconded. Motion passed.

#### B. Fee Assistance

- a. Changes are being proposed to the Fee Assistance Program.
  - i. Applicants do not have to write a short essay.
  - ii. Ideas included eliminating fee assistance; (1) pay what you can (2) donations or (3) suggested fee (4) excluding adults since they may be able to access other funding.
  - iii. SEARHC documentation /sliding scale and those receiving free lunch at school may provide candidates with eligibility.
- b. Kate will craft a revision based on her experience and the elements above.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Community Collaborations (planning)

- a. The first half of May, City departments, businesses and Parks and Rec staff/board will focus on refreshing and cleaning up the downtown corridor.
- b. The garden beds along front street are the area of focus for P&R during this time. There are 14 beds in total requiring people or groups to adopt a bed along Front St.
- c. Tasks include managing annuals, pruning, weeding, and soil mulch refreshment.
- d. Kate will need board support on the day of the event for items such as checking people in, providing masks and hand sanitizer, meal preparation and hand out, along with any priorities listed in the event details.

#### B. Membership Drive (discussion and approval)

- a. Membership sales are down. Largely due to COVID, although the department sees a need to improve this area of revenues and would like to strategize ways in which it can improve numbers for both memberships and punch cards. Kate would like to address some of the fee inconsistencies in the rates, along with some member perks that can be woven into the existing membership packages.
- b. The Board suggested that the department focus on Membership Drives in May. Additional input included, new members may be attracted by (1) Free 7-day pass (2) Bring a friend for free or (3) 25% Discount.
- c. Page 20 of the Agenda Packet, generated discussion from the suggested changes proposed by the Director, Kate Thomas.

- i. Children under the age of one FREE admission
- ii. Lower children's (under 5) rate from \$2 to \$1
- iii. Adjust rates for ages 5 to 13 \$2
- iv. Adjust rates for ages 14 to 17 \$3
- v. Establish a Dollar Dip Night, first Monday of every month
- vi. Establish a membership benefit, to bring a friend for FREE on the final Friday of every month
- vii. Establish a policy where the first visit for every person is FREE
- d. Jeanie Arnold made a motion to accept objective recommendations, #1-#7, and present to City Council for a first reading. Joan Sargant seconded. Motion passed.
- e. Other things to consider in the future include:
  - i. Consider establishing a family rate of \$550-600 for up to 4 persons within the same household.
    - 1. Kate said family is defined by 2 adults in the same household.
    - 2. Discussion should be held on the differences in rates for single parent families versus dual.
  - ii. Consider refining the facility rental rates. Increasing the hourly and establishing a fixed rate for add on such as the inflatable device and inner tube water polo gear. P&R would like to purchase an inflatable screen and projector to host Dive In movies as another alternative to rentals and events.

#### **CLOSING**

- A. Next agenda items.
  - a. Fee Assistance
  - b. Community Collaborations
  - c. Park Update
- B. Adjourn meeting @ 7:30PM.
- C. Next meeting is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

To: Borough Manager, Lisa Von Bargen CC: Borough Assembly, P&R Advisory Board

From: P&R Director Kate Thomas Subject: P&R Department Report

Date: May 5th, 2021

#### FINANCIAL & FACILITY ACCESS REPORT

COMPARISON	MONTH	2019	2021	%
ATTENDANCE	April	1390	518	37%
REVENUES	April	\$8,691.67	\$3,061.25	35%

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that facility access was restricted to Level 3 mitigation measurers in April which included closing the locker rooms.

#### FACILITY MAINTENANCE REPORT

Maintenance staff Lane Fitzjarrald has been tackling some parks-oriented projects over the past few weeks as the weather has allowed, in addition to his pool duties. Areas of focus have included Mount Dewey trail repairs and maintenance, Kyle Angerman basketball court maintenance and park clean up, seasonal opening of park bathrooms, tree removal at various park locations and more.

P&R hired returned staff Mason Dingwall to fill one of the park positions. Mason has done a stand-up job with his duties in the past and the department is pleased with his return. Recruitment is ongoing for the second position. While the department awaits hire for the second crew member, Lane Fitzjarrald is supporting the parks crew by inspecting restrooms three times per week and conducting the necessary cleaning duties, along with trash removal at all park and downtown locations.

Upcoming projects include the downtown community clean, improvements to the volunteer park tennis court and revitalization of the covered basketball court.

#### RECREATION REPORT

Lucy Robinson has successfully launched the Walk Southeast program in conjunction with Juneau and Petersburg P&R Departments. Lucy has been working to launch the program for a couple of weeks. The details are now available online with over 70 participants registered at this time. Board Members are encouraged to participate. At the very least check out the details on our website. Walk Southeast. It is important to note that this is a competition to see which community can walk the most miles. The participant with the most miles could win up to 25K air miles with Alaska Airlines.

Kate and Lucy are both working to finalize the summer schedule of programming. At this time staff interviews are being conducted and training is being scheduled. While the department may not have the capacity to run the full scope of programming hosted in 2019, there will be many opportunities for the community to engage in a variety of enrichment programming. The schedule of activities will include a full session of swim lessons which includes levels and camp style programming. Other opportunities may include Forest Explorers, Beach Explorers, Youth Sports Camps, Movies in the Parks, Music in the Parks, Paint by Numbers, Family Camp Out, Community Paddle, and Community Hiking Excursions.

Lucy is also working with maintenance staff to revitalize the covered playground. Lucy proposed a clean up project to create a little more incentive and personal accountability while recreating in that area.

Improvements include Pressure wash court, Cut back brush/alders near fence, Replace missing backboard, Paint existing backboards, Replace rims, Replace nets, Re-paint court lines, Paint additional lines for 4-square + hopscotch, String lighting: fence perimeter, Set up benches, Install basketball cage, Provide basketballs (used, from surplus supply), Clean up surround area: garbage, etc., Host a dedication ceremony, naming the space and honoring those that helped facilitate the project, Launch 3x3 Basketball Series, Clean up adjacent parking area.

#### LIFEGUARD & SWIM INSTRUCTOR SEMESTER COURSE

P&R is currently working on outlining a semester long Lifeguard and Swim Instructor Course to be facilitated in the high school next year. Classes would be offered in the morning, with theoretical components taught in the classroom while in water sessions would be hosted in the pool. Lucy would be the primary instructor, and Kate would be prepared to step in as needed throughout the year. Classes of this nature have been incorporated into the school back in late 1990's and early 2000's. P&R hopes that this will help drive staff recruitment and maintain positive engagement with High School students that are not already apart of the staff team. Likewise, this would enhance the school's extracurricular roster of classes. While this is not confirmed, P&R has discussed this at multiple levels internally and with the school over the past five years. The current philosophy is "you don't know until you try." Community courses will still be necessary to keep the flow of incoming lifeguards consistent to help offset attrition. Although they may be able to be offered less frequently depending on the enrollment of the school program.

#### **COVID MITIGATION PLAN**

The department reduced facility capacity and limited access to areas of the building during the April surge of COVID cases. Attendance seemed to drop off substantially, due to the concern around cases, but more specifically due to locker room access which was closed for a period. Patrons reported that they preferred to use the facility only while the locker rooms are accessible.

The surge in cases has plateaued and dropped down to 3 cases as of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The department is currently operating under Level 2 mitigation measures.

#### REVIEW OF EFFORTS TOWARDS THE PET WASTE CAMPAIGN:

- 2019 installed two new dog waste bag dispenser units
- 2020 summer outreach through Facebook
- Summer pet photo contest
- Fall pet photo contest
- December pet calendar sales
- January board meeting discussion
- Directors report January, February, march, and April
- March KSTK air advertisements for one month
- March and April sentinel newspaper advertisements
- March community market outreach and poop pledge efforts
- Spring staff cleanup of dog waste
- April advisory board and director clean up at volunteer park
- Spring public announcements
- Face to face outreach at park entrance on April 19, 20, 21 & 22
- April 26<sup>th</sup> clean up and park inspection for closure

- Little League park clean up
- Public notice on Park Update

#### VOLUNTEER HOURS LOGGED FOR PET WASTE CAMPAIGN:

Joan Sargent 20 Hours
Haig Demerjian 4.5 hours
Kaelene Harrison 4 hours
Briana Schilling 4 hours
Cindy Martin 6 hours
Jeanie Arnold 3 hours
Liz Buness 3 hours

Kate Thomas 6.5 hours, plus 20 hours of administrative time

#### SAINT FRANCES ANIMAL RESCUE SHELTER UPDATE

Thanks to the Advisory Board for their approval to proceed with the steps necessary in lease land for the Saint Frances Animal Rescue shelter. The proposal for development has been included in the Directors Report packet for the record. Below are the steps necessary following P&R approval. No further action is required of the Advisory Board at this time.

- 1. P&R motion and approval to proceed with site development process. ✓
- 2. WCA Tribal motion and approval to proceed with site development process.
- 3. Planning and Zoning Conditional Use Permit Application and Public Hearing
- 4. Establish a Lease Agreement with Associated Insurance Requirements

### **THAND**

St. Frances Animal Rescue Relocation Project: Description, Supporting Data, Needs and Land Assessment Tebruary 2021

#### History

As of March, 2020, the shelter that was used for St. Francis Animal Rescue was closed. It was located in the garage of a private home, 3.5 mile Zimovia Highway. It was initially closed to COVID-19 precautions. By June, the health of the owner deteriorated to the point that it was evident that the shelter could not continue in it's current location. Board members Kelly Decker and Joan Sargent had a meeting with Lisa Von Bargen to discuss the situation and to see if the city had any structures or places that the shelter could move to. Although Lisa indicated that their 'buildings were full', the city would seriously evaluate and consider a request for land for us to place a structure on. Lisa encouraged us to do everything we could to maintain the 501(c)3 status of the corporation and to draw up a plan to present to the borough if we found borough land that would be appropriate for our needs.

Much of the design of this project is modeled after the development of the Petersburg Humane Society shelter. A copy of the contract that the Borough lease agreement between the Petersburg Humane Association and the City of Petersburg is attached in the Appendix.

#### Assumptions and Supporting Data

Based on animal statistics for the year 2020, the following statements are made:

- 1) The average stay for adult cats is approximately 12 weeks.
- 2) If the mandated altering of kittens prior to adoption is maintained, the average stay for kittens is 4-5 months (ideally 2 months in the shelter and 3 months foster)
- 3) The expected capacity of the animal shelter is 6-10 cats.
- 4) The expected capacity of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase dog shelter is 1-4 dogs.
- 5) The expected operation cost is approximately \$500/month

#### Description of the Development Process

- 2) Structural drawings of the cat shelter and footprint of the complex
- 2) Land selection
- 3) Borough approval and contract for the land
- 4) Project cost estimate
- 5) Timeline

Item a.

6) Application for grants and fundraising

Phase 1: Construction of a Cat Shelter (2021-2022)

- T) Ground prep and installation of utilities
- 2) Construction of the energy efficient cat shelter

or purchase of existing structure

Phase 2: Construction of a dog shelter: As per Phase 1, steps 1-6, resulting in the construction of a dog shelter (2023-2024)

#### Needs Assessment for the Cat Shelter

The needs assessment is based on experience from working at the 3.5 mile shelter and consultation with the Petersburg Humane Society (PHA) shelter. In 2012, the Board of Directors of the PHA initiated a plan for a permanent shelter and completed the development in 2013. It is reasonable to model their project given the size of their community and the dynamic of the cat population (controlled feral population, high capacity of pet ownership, etc.).

The following list presents the 'wish list' for the new shelter:

- 1) An energy efficient structure of approximately 400 square feet that is easily cleanable and reasonably 'cat proof'
- 2) ???An outdoor area and access to that area????
- 3) Desk for reception
- 4) File cabinet
- onodnoloT (3
- 2) Telephone
- 6) Bathroom with one toilet
- 7) Industrial sink
- 9) Storage space for animal bedding, cat litter, litter pans, food, office supplies, transfer kennels
- and cleaning supplies
- 10) Comfy chair
- 11) Small refrigerator 12) Minimum of 2 areas that car

Clothes washer and dryer

- 12) Minimum of 2 areas that can be (flexibly) cordoned off for multiple, communing cats
- 13) Area for two "entry" and "recovery" cage (4'x2')
- 14) Non-fabric cat trees, play items
- 15) Dehumidifier
- 16) Heat pump
- 17) Security System
- 18) 10-12 gallon on demand hot water heater

A draft floorplan of a Park Model type construction and a dog/cat shelter complex

is attached in the appendix.

#### St. Frances Animal Rescue Land Assessment

Over the past 10 months, St. Frances Animal Rescue volunteers have canvassed properties in the Borough/City of Wrangell in terms of availability and appropriateness for a new shelter. The properties were evaluated in terms of access to water, sewer, and electric, quality of the subsurface, ease of placement of a structure, access and safety for volunteers, safety for resident animals, parking, winter road maintenance, external noise control, proximity to subdivisions and private housing and the possibility of an associated dog park. A rating of each characteristic ranged from poor to fair to good to excellent. The following properties were identified and are listed in order of their appropriateness.

#### Lyon's Park Ballpark

This property received an overall rating of good. The property has excellent access to water, sewer and electric. The concession stand on the property is plumbed with both sewer and water and an electrical pole is in close proximity. The subsurface will have to be further assessed for suitability for a park model unit as this property is filled with boulders, stumps, etc. Subsidence may be a problem. Access is excellent and a park model unit could easily be placed on the property. This site also has easy access for volunteers, is close to town, has adequate parking and would be a safe place for volunteers and going. Because the property is not near homes, a barking dog would be less volunteers coming and going. Because the property is not near homes, a barking dog would be less solutively to be a nuisance. There is a concern about external noise control due to the proximity to the city park where celebrations may involve fireworks, etc.

#### Hospital Southeast Parking Lot

This property also received an overall rating of good. There is ready access to water, sewer and electric. The subsurface appears to good fill and there is easy access for the placement of a mobile unit. Access for volunteers is excellent and safe. Parking is readily available and road maintenance consistent. Property use around this site did not appear to be a concern when considering animal safety. However, the caveat of this property is the question of its future use. Should the existing artructure on the property be torn down or construction occur, it could be a stressor for the resident arimals. Other concerns are its proximity to the school and housing should the shelter house a barking dog. This site does not currently have room for a dog park but has access for walking resident dogs.

#### Schumacher Harbor Parking Lot

Parking area south of covered basketball court

This property received an overall rating of fair to poor. Although the site has excellent subsurface, easy access, safe for volunteers and the placement of a structure, the access to water, sewer and electrical appears to be limited. The primary problem with this site is that this is a busy and it is a highly utilized site. The basketball court has been used a lot this spring. The parking lot is currently split up to provide a safe place for sledding off the hill and the assure parking for those utilizing volunteer park.

Schumacher Bay dog shelter

Although the city has invested a lot of money in the facility, it is the least favorable site evaluated. Currently there is no access to water and no sewer. There appears to be power supplied to the earthquake monitor on site. The ground preparation is adequate but access to the area where a could structure could be placed is very limited. There is no parking and just turning around is hazardous. The access road under winter conditions is 4 wheel drive. Two years ago, Delores Klinke was told she could no longer have a shelter/feeding site at this location due to bear activity. Due to the lack of public visibility of this sight, it isn't safe for volunteers or resident animals. Finally, significant work would be necessary to assure phone access at this sight.

Other locations considered:

Private property – The private properties considered were located in subdivisions or very close to housing. Although this would be acceptable for a cat shelter, if we were to expand to taking dogs, it is highly possible there would be barking complaints. One of our board members is a dispatcher for the police department and indicated that this is a regular call out for officers. Realistically, unless the police department and indicated that this is a regular call out for officers. Realistically, unless the owner of a selected piece of private property was willing to donate the property to the non-profit, purchasing a piece of property would delay this project at least 2 to 3 years.

The Armory - Not available. Going up for sale.

The industrial district - Further discussions with the city are needed to assess properties available.

## **APPENDIX**

#### KEZOTUTION # 1939

#### **LOK NEE AS A COMMUNITY ANIMAL SHELTER AND DOG PARK** A RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO LEASE LAND TO THE PETERSBURG HUMANE ASSOCIATION

property located at the old Tent City area for use as a community animal shelter and dog park; and WHEREAS, the Petersburg Humane Association has made application to the City for a long term lease of

WHEREAS, all work performed by the Humane Association is by volunteer labor and donations, and

maintain and operate the community animal shelter and dog park; and WHEREAS, securing a long term lease, with minimal or no annual rent payment is required to construct

Commission and Advisory Boards support the lease application. has been determined that the land being sought for lease is zoned properly for the intended use and the Planning Advisory Board and Public Safety Advisory Board, was further reviewed by the City's Planning Commission and it WHEREAS, the lease application, after review from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; Utility

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PETERSBURG:

operation and maintenance of a community animal shelter and dog park; and Petersburg Humane Association for less than the full and true value of the land for the construction, development, 1. It is in the City's interest to lease up to 3 acres of tent city land (legal description pending survey) to the

shall be exempt from the public auction process. 2. The proposed use of the land is a beneficial use in terms of highest and best use of the land and the lease

five years of a standard long term lease agreement. 3. The land will be leased to the Petersburg Humane Association at the rate of \$1.00 per year for the first

Waiving the utility hookups fees for water, sewer and electricity; 3) The City will participate in the project by:

time and manpower permits); and Providing snow removal services from the drive area of the property only (and only as (9

fill, free of charge. Allow the Association salvage options and disposal of demolition refuse at the city's land ()

#### :3. The Association will:

ior the intended purpose; Make all necessary repairs, upgrades and improvements to the property so it can be used (8

Maintain the property in a clean and sanitary manner in accordance with all applicable (0 Develop the property in accordance with all applicable state and local laws; (9

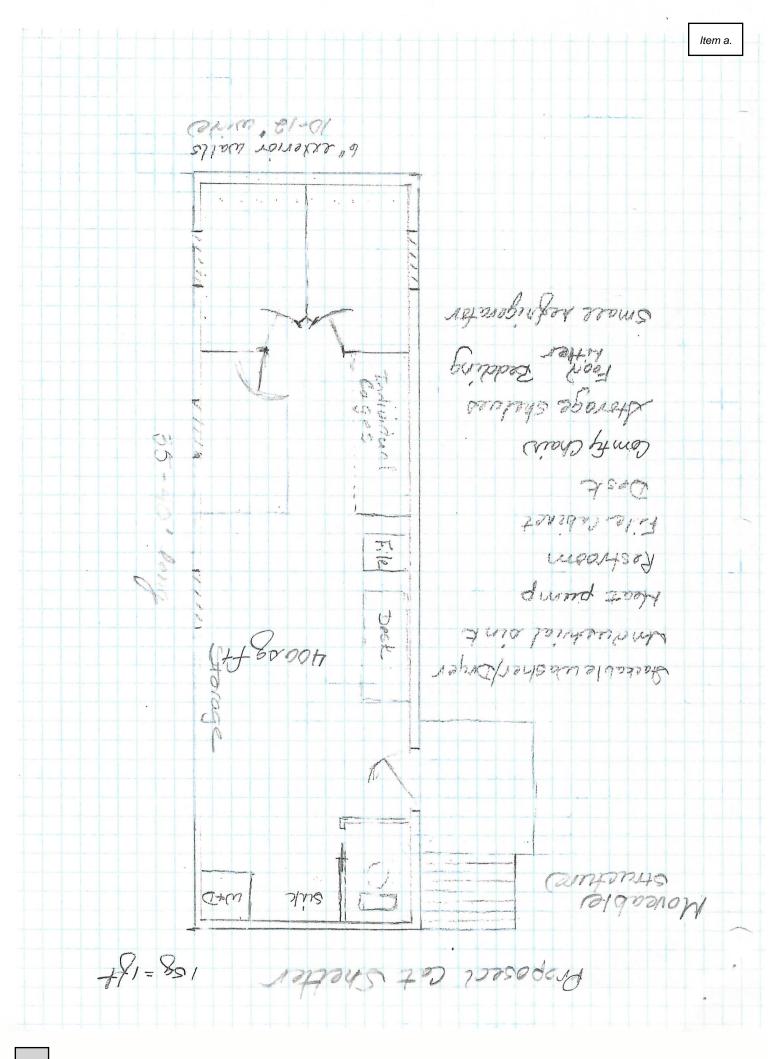
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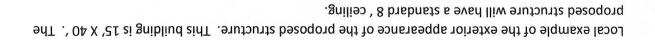
consideration a lease agreement that addresses all other lease and development concerns.

Provide public liability insurance coverage Staff and operate the facility

RESOLVED FURTHER, City Staff is directed to prepare and bring back to the City Council for final

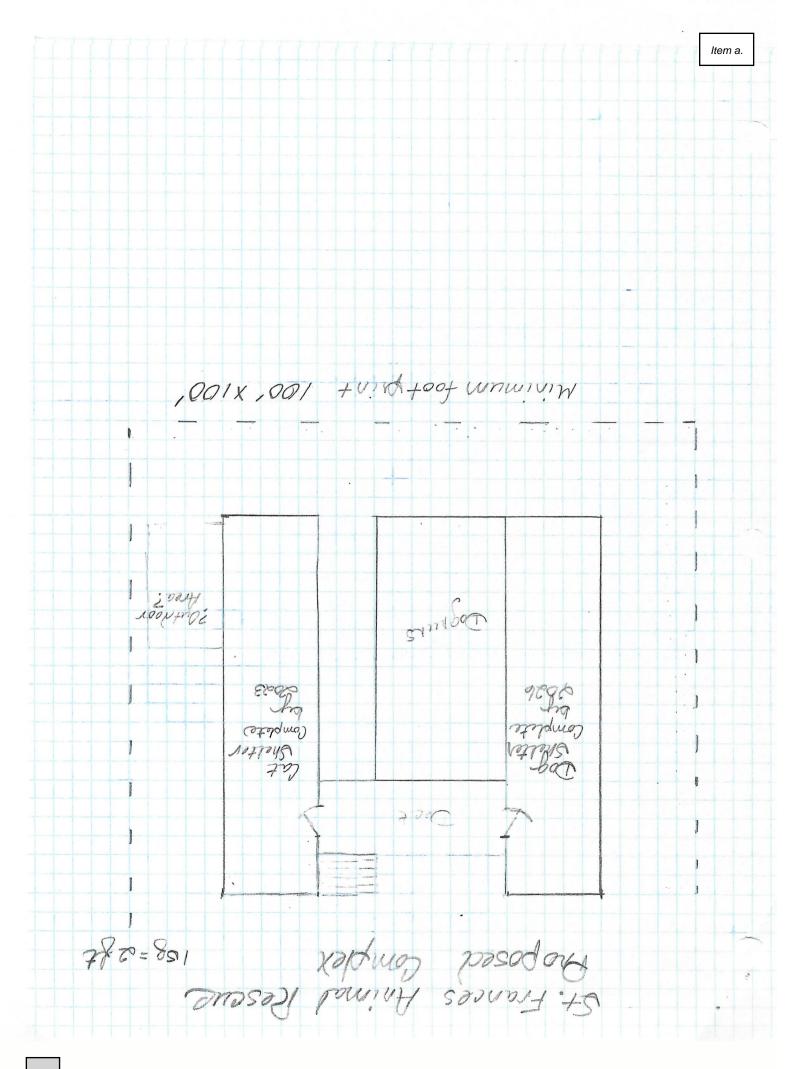
2010. Passed and Approved by Roll Call Vote by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska on August





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## COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

You're invited to participate!





Small acts when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world.

- May 7th, Friday 9:00AM-
- May 8th, Saturday 9:00AM-3:00PM



## Spring has sprung!

Help us spruce up the downtown corridor

Over the course of the past year our economy has been stunted and its affects have been felt throughout our community. Let this summer be a time for rebuilding. We would like to come together and ensure that our most cherished attractions, waterfronts, and greenspaces are looking refreshed, inviting, and beautiful.

While Wrangell may not see the full sailing of ships throughout southeast this season, the community will still benefit from out of state independent travelers and our friends and families that visit the island. We want to make sure we are putting our very best foot forward as we move into a new season of opportunity. This will foster new energy for private businesses, encourage visitors to return and give rise to our sense of community pride.

To that end Wrangell Parks & Recreation has invited all borough departments to come together in a collaborative effort to spruce up the downtown corridor. To expand the impacts of our efforts, we are inviting community members, organizations, and businesses to lend a hand in ensuring this is a fabulous summer for all of us to enjoy.

Contact Kate Thomas kthomas@wrangell.com 907-874-2444

# **COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS**

Clean communities, encourage healthy citizens!





### **Event Details**

Here is the run down...

- Logistics & meals will be based out of the downtown pavilion. Meals & refreshments will be provided to staff & volunteers who support the effort.
- Volunteers should check in at the pavilion to sign up for specific tasks & retrieve any materials & supplies needed. Tasks may be assigned prior to the work event or on the day of the event.
- Tools will be provided, although volunteers are encouraged to bring their own garden tools to assist with the efforts as appropriate.
- Downtown businesses are encouraged to make suggestions & join in on the efforts.
- P&R staff will assist with staging materials & supplies for specific task oriented action, such as refreshing the garden beds along Front Street.
- Some tasks may require city staff oversight or labor to complete.
- As the priority tasks are completed in the downtown corridor, efforts may expand beyond front street.
- Volunteers who are unavailable on the event & wish to contribute during a different time frame should check in with P&R.
- Safety mitigation measures will be applied where necessary. PPE will be available.

### **Task Oriented Action**

Schedule and priorities...

#### Schedule:

- May 7th, Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM
- May 8th, Saturday 9:00AM-3:00PM

#### Priorities:

- Wash benches & exterior of trash cans
- Trash & cigarette pick up
- Grass & weed removal along sidewalks
- Dog waste pick up
- Clean bases of lamp posts
- Clean up around the downtown pavilion
- Remove built up debris around storm drains
- Straighten street signs
- Paint parking barriers
- Refreshing the downtown garden beds; weed, prune & trim shrubs, extract & replenish vegetation, install annual flowers, add mulch or rock media

This effort is supported by the City & Borough of Wrangell. We hope you will join us in this time for unity and action.

To: P&R Advisory Board

From: P&R Director Kate Thomas

Subject: Community Collaborations Update

Date: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

- ✓ Public works assignments may include straightening street signs, sweeping streets and/or installing Mount Dewey trail directional signage.
- ✓ Electrical department assignments may include assisting public works, cleaning lamp posts along Front Street, and/or pressuring washing walkways, drive paths or municipal buildings.
- ✓ Harbor Department has schedule one staff per day to assist with pressure washing and other assignments as needed.
- ✓ Library has recruited a group of volunteers to overhaul one of the downtown garden beds.

  Additionally, one staff member will be present to assist with cleaning the downtown pavilion.
- ✓ Capital Facilities has agreed to cleaning the exterior of trash cans and picnic benches along Front Street. Additional staff will be needed for this task.
- ✓ P&R staff will be focusing on staging materials, facilitating volunteer efforts and the garden beds.
- ✓ Police department will provide their 4x4 for material delivery.
- ✓ Other details about task assignments are being solidified throughout the week.

#### PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS EFFORT AS OF MAY 3RD:

Donation of \$500 received for expenses
Borough Department recruitment
Meal planning and coordination
Volunteer recruitment
Shrubs, flowers and surface media purchased
Tools and other supplies identified and staged
Sentinel Newspaper was provided details and photos for article
Media has been shared with stakeholders, businesses and posted to bulletins
Information is available on City and P&R websites
Diane O'Brien and Kate Thomas overhauled one garden bed adjacent to Groundswell
Cindy Martin and Kate Thomas overhauled garden bed adjacent to downtown pavilion
<ul> <li>Note that each bed has taken 2 people for 4 hours of labor</li> </ul>

#### ADVISORY BOARD ROLES AND RESPONSBILITIES:

- Sign up and check in station (masks and hand sanitizer)
- \* Removal of weeds and grass on sidewalks
- \* Refreshing the garden beds
- Meal pickup and distribution
- Volunteer recruitment

APRIL 29TH, 2021 PUBLIC NOTIC Item b.

# PARK UPDATE

Volunteer Park Dog Waste Management



ACTION TAKEN

## OVER A DOZEN HOURS OF TIME PICKING UP DOG POOP

## OVER A DOZEN HOURS OF COMMUNITY FACE TO FACE INTERACTION

### NEARLY 100 POUNDS OF DOG WASTE REMOVED

## ALL HOURS WERE LOGGED BY VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

### Dog Access to Volunteer Park

from Kate Thomas, Director of Parks & Rec

Volunteer Park was inspected on Aril 28th to evaluate the condition of the grounds. The Department has seen an increase in park stewardship and personal accountability in removing dog poop. Please note that while there was an improvement, staff picked up nearly 40 new piles of dog waste along the trail. It is just as critical to pick up your dog's waste around the trail as it is in other common spaces.

There are many health and safety reasons that encourage us to be responsible pet owners. Dog poop can host a plethora of bacteria and diseases, leading to illnesses in your pets and harmful side effects to humans. Dog poop is not a fertilizer, it does not breakdown quickly or easily, and it is against municipal law to leave dog poop behind in public spaces. Additionally, it costs considerable amounts of time and money to manage the issue if the public does not attend to it themselves.

At this time, the park will remain open to dogs and their owners. The Department will continue to evaluate the condition of all parks on a weekly basis. If staff identify a lapse in progress, resulting in an unmanageable amount of waste the park may close for a temporary period to conduct a thorough cleaning of the grounds.

Please make a commitment to clean up after your dog and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Thank you!

To: P&R Advisory Board

From: P&R Director Kate Thomas

Subject: Pet Waste Update

Date: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### REVIEW OF EFFORTS TOWARDS THE PET WASTE CAMPAIGN:

- 2019 installed two new dog waste bag dispenser units
- 2020 summer outreach through Facebook
- Summer pet photo contest
- Fall pet photo contest
- December pet calendar sales
- January board meeting discussion
- Directors report January, February, march, and April
- March KSTK air advertisements for one month
- March and April sentinel newspaper advertisements
- March community market outreach and poop pledge efforts
- Spring staff cleanup of dog waste
- April advisory board and director clean up at volunteer park
- Spring public announcements
- Face to face outreach at park entrance on April 19, 20, 21 & 22
- April 26<sup>th</sup> clean up and park inspection for closure
- Little League park clean up
- Public notice on Park Update

#### **VOLUNTEER HOURS LOGGED:**

Joan Sargent 20 Hours
Haig Demerjian 4.5 hours
Kaelene Harrison 4 hours
Briana Schilling 4 hours
Cindy Martin 6 hours
Jeanie Arnold 3 hours
Liz Buness 3 hours

Kate Thomas 6.5 hours, plus 20 hours of administrative time