

Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

May 30, 2017 DRAFT

- A. **Wendy Ranney** called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm
- B. **ROLL CALL:**  
**In attendance:** Wendy Ranney, Miriam Dunbar, Dave Zastrow, Kara Johnson, Marvin Van Den Broek, Susie Herschleb. Heather Brannon, Cathy Sherman and Tony Schinella.  
**Absent:** Karen Hallquist, Stephen Phillips.
- C. **Approval of Agenda:** **M/K.** Johnson to approve. **S/D.** Zastrow. **V/**Unanimous Approval.
- D. **Visitor Communication:**  
none
- E. **Consent Calendar:**  
Minutes of 3-7-17. **M/** D. Zastrow to approve. **S/** K. Johnson. **V/**Unanimous Approval.
- F. **Director's Report by S. Herschleb:**
1. **X-Swing--** This is a parent/toddler swing that was donated by the company that makes it, but has been slow in coming due to transportation issues. It is in Oregon and is expected here soon.
  2. **Odiak Campground--** M. Van Den Broek confirmed that there is not baled garbage underneath. The city put lots of fill in. There are old cars and motors underneath the fill.
  3. **Bidarki After-hours Access--** This has been a learning process to figure out the best policies to make it run smoothly. Less money coming in with drop-in fees, but many passes were sold earlier. The front desk is open fewer hours to save money in staffing.
  4. **Skater's Cabin--** Vault toilet is in service and the roof was installed. Overhang and privacy panel will be added soon. \$5,000 was raised at DTK and will be used to repair the back wall. Beach expansion is on hold right now. We have a possible donation of clean fill valued at \$6-7,000. Probably won't need to get a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers because it will be put above the high-water line.
  5. **Summer Programming--** Due to staff cuts, it will be greatly reduced from past years. May be able to have one week of programs for older children in August. It would need a staff of 3, who would need to be trained beforehand.
  6. **Beautification Account--** It was reduced to \$600, so the prizes for businesses cannot happen. Mrs. Hottinger's class planted 8 barrels of plants donated by Clay Koplín and Neva Nolan. The class will be able to provide more plants and labor in future years.
- G. **Unfinished Business:**
- Nirvana Park/Spit Update--** The "Nirvana Park Cemetery and Burial Restoration and Preservation" report was given to the Commission. C. Sherman explained that this was the list of recommendations from the core committee. It will be presented to the City Council on June 7. More GPR mapping will happen in June and July. Applied Archaeology will come back with better equipment this time. W. Ranney added that Native Students from around the state will be joining the project to help with archaeological digs in 4 different sites in the region. S. Herschleb said the committee meetings have been a bumpy ride. Managing Nirvana Park will be difficult if some activities that the public usually enjoys are being prohibited. M. Van Den Broek asked whether the prohibition of motorized vehicles was still in the document. C. Sherman noted that it was in the fifth bullet point. W. Ranney added that motorized access has to be restricted until the policies are decided, but this might not be permanent. K. Johnson wondered where the cemetery near the high school was located. M. Van Den Broek explained that it is between his and Thea Thomas' houses. There is one gravestone and one wooden frame left. C. Sherman will add the cemetery to the map. S. Herschleb said she has started to research protocol about uncovering cultural remains. C. Sherman doesn't know if that is a good thing to do right now.

W. Ranney noted that erosion control projects cannot start until after the GPR studies are completed. Special permits will be needed. T. Schinella explained that float planes need a state permit to put a landing dock on the lake, it is not part of the City of Cordova Harbor Department's jurisdiction. The Core Committee should contact the pilots who already have docks at the Spit to see if they have state permits. M. Van Den Broek wondered who will police the jet skis at the Spit. Chief Hicks has been involved in discussions with the Committee. The statutes must be posted before he can enforce them. The Port-a-Potty will be put near the parking area on Lake Street. The fire pit will be on the concrete pad near there. D. Zastrow thanked all the committee members for all their work on this project.

#### H. **New Business**

**Adopt a Park**-- This is a new program where individuals or groups can volunteer to help maintain one of the city parks. They will work with the Department to keep the parks looking great. Picking up trash seems to be always needed. This program may help motivate the people who want to keep swimming in Nirvana Park to help keep it clean.

#### I. **Pending Agenda:**

1. Master Plan
2. Plaque for Enrique Zamudio at the Swimming Pool-- Wendy still has not spoken with the family, but will do that.
3. Summer meeting schedule

#### J. **Commission Comments**

M. Van Den Broek noted that the 7 am morning swims at the pool are now very popular. On Sunday, the lifeguard sometimes has not been there on time. K. Johnson thinks people really like the new water yoga. She also loves the Adopt a Park idea. She thinks it would be great for the commission to have a field trip to Skater's Cabin. W. Ranney thinks we should also have a trip to Fleming Spit. Next meeting will be at Skater's Cabin only. S. Herschleb suggested that we talk about Skater's Cabin in the Master Plan at that meeting. M. Van Den Broek thanked the people who have been meeting about Nirvana Park. D. Zastrow agreed. W. Ranney is very pleased with her new book *Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much*. She says it is a pleasure to work with the Commission.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 27 at 6 pm.

**Adjournment:** M to adjourn/M. Van Den Broek, S/ D. Zastrow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Miriam Dunbar, Secretary