

Minutes

September 25 2013

DRAFT

6:00pm City Hall

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

- A. Kristen Carpenter calls the meeting to order, 6:10 pm.
- B. **Roll Call:** In Attendance: Steve Barnes, Karen Hallquist, Kara Johnson, Kristen Carpenter, Shelly Bourgeois, Parks and Rec Director Susie Herschleb and Admin Assistant Jim Fritsch
- C. **Approve Agenda:** M/Johnson, S/Barnes. V/Unanimous - Approved.
- D. **Communication by Visitors:**
 - 1. **Matthew Anderson**, born and raised in Cordova. He states that it is time for a change, for the community to come together with a common goal and bring back pride to a place we all call home. He spoke with many people and organizations throughout the community and said they all agreed that we need to do more for our kids. He would like to see community support and resources invested into equipment and programming for recreation. **Carpenter** states that it is 2014 budget time for the city and it is a good time to be raising these kinds of issues. **Herschleb** thanks Mr. Anderson for getting the ball rolling. To directly approach and ask for donations from businesses within the community was a great idea and thank you for the inspiration. **Carpenter** suggests applying for a seat on the commission.
 - 2. **Danielle Verna, CRWSP**, here to discuss initiative to combat invasive weeds in town and would like to involve Parks and Rec. CRWSP is initiating the Cordova Cooperative Weed Management Area. CWMA's are established in other parts of the state, Fairbanks, Anchorage and Kenia each have one. CRWSP would like to establish a CWMA here in Cordova because there are over 40 identified invasive plant species in and around town. They plan to eradicate or at least control invasive species, at a minimum keep them from spreading around town and keep them from spreading out to the Delta. They have drafted a plan outlining goals, implementation strategies, boundaries and target species. Currently they are meeting with perspective partners in hopes of support with volunteer hours, education and fostering an awareness of the problem. Brochures and information are available. **Johnson** asks if invasive species have been identified on Parks properties. **Verna** replies that many have been identified at Odiak Pond. **Carpenter** describes Canary Grass as being one that has been identified in the area and is one of the top 3 in the state because it is so aggressive.
- E. **Consent Calendar:** M/Bourgeois, S/Hallquist to approve minutes from 2/19/13. V/Unanimous to approve minutes.
- F. **Reports:** 1) *Directors Report*. **Herschleb** reviews written report. She also reviews the new Employee Recognition Program, which is already being received enthusiastically by staff. She reports that Caleb and Jim completed CPO training. This will help complete the process of reducing Meghan's pool maintenance duties so that she can focus more on pool programming,

lessons and trainings. **Herschleb** reports that we have seen a significant drop in transient traffic due to the road closure. We might want to consider revisiting the plan to develop 6 new RV spaces, maybe making it a lower priority for now. **Barnes** asks if the platforms were built for the park. **Herschleb** replies no, that there wasn't a need for them this year. **Barnes** states that there will be increased opportunity to cross the river next summer with businesses like Jack Stevenson's. He would like to see the platforms put in for next summer. **Herschleb** states that they would have been put in if it was a priority and that they will be assembled when the need exists. She continues with her written report review. **Kristina Maxwell**, our activities director, reviews the summer camp portion of the report. "It was a great summer". **Bourgeois** states that she appreciated the photos from camp. **Maxwell** shows the commission a slideshow from the summer.

G. Unfinished Business:

1) *Master Plan Review*. **Herschleb** states that some properties have grant requirements. Nirvana Park has a requirement for an outhouse. She states that she does not know why it was removed. **Barnes** states that it did not work correctly. **Herschleb** states we will need to have an outhouse or port-a-potty in place by 2014. We can do this with our operating budget. This was actually in our master plan.

Shelter Cove – Additional tent platforms will move up the priority list when the need for them increases. We have the material to build at least 2 of them and the wood has been precut. Commission agrees to leave the plan to develop 6 additional RV spaces in the plan but to move it down the priority list for now.

Odiak Camper Park – This location will be considered for the 6 additional spaces when we make this project a higher priority.

Cordova Municipal Park – Develop back side of tot lot. American Ramp Company has given us 3 rough plans and would like to come to town and have a community meeting involving skaters to come up with a plan, for a fee of \$5,000. The 3 skate park options with the plans we have now range between \$65,000 and \$125,000 in total cost.

Nettie Hansen Park – 1. Drainage is a problem. The playground floods. 2. The gabions are not rusted but some of the wire ends need to be turned inward. Commission agrees that gabions are not the best to have at a playground and we will look at ways to improve them. 3. We discovered that the fence is ours and we will be painting it.

Mt. Eccles Estates Park – A small piece of property within our inventory to be considered for future project.

Fisherman's Memorial Park – 1. Maintain visual consistency with plaques and vases. 2. Removable benches, to help with snow removal and access. Within 10 years we will need to expand this park.

Fisherman's Park and Breakwater Trail - 1. Walking trail approach. 2. Extend walkway 3. 2 parking spaces dedicated to this park. Plan to cross reference south fill plan.

5 Mile Avalanche Area - Follow codes for avalanche area. Possibilities of a Community Berry Patch or Tennis Court.

Murchesson Creek – 1. Removable picnic tables, trash receptacle, bbq. 2. Parking area.

We will need a meeting to prioritize our projects. Tuesday October 1.

H. New Business:

1) *Vote for commission chair* – Postpone to next meeting.

I. Pending Agenda:

1) Next regular meeting October 9.

2) Christmas Bazaar Dec 6 & 7.

J. Commission Comments: **Johnson** would like to see a tennis court represented in the master plan. Glad to see the skate park is still in the plan. **Carpenter** thanks Parks and Rec for considering working with CRWSP to tackle invasive weeds. Commission would like to see this and plan in a regular meeting agenda. **Barnes** was approached by a citizen asking about lifetime passes to see if there is a way to find this information. **Herschleb** states that during her time Jen Anne Kirchmeier has received one for her work on the mural at the pool and she will make sure this is documented. The city clerk might be aware of past passes given. Fritsch adds that Paul Vos has a lifetime pass as well.

K. Meeting Adjourned: M/Barnes S/Johnson, Adjourned 8:30 pm.