

Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

October 25, 2016

- A. **Wendy Ranney** called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
- B. **ROLL CALL:**
In attendance: Wendy Ranney, Stephen Phillips, Dave Zastrow, Miriam Dunbar, Marvin Van Den Broek, Karen Hallquist, Kara Johnson, Susie Herschleb, Heather Brannon and Cathy Sherman.
Absent: none.
- C. **Approval of Agenda:** M/S. Phillips to approve agenda, S/ D. Zastrow . V/Unanimous Approval.
- D. **Visitor Communication:**
Cathy Sherman said she was attending the meeting to answer questions about Nirvana Park.
- E. **Consent Calendar:**
Minutes of 9-27-16. M. Van Den Broek noticed that the minutes did not include his objection to the rock blocking the spit. Also S. Herschleb said the minutes should have included that the lawyer had advised her to not apply for a permit from the state to place a buoy line in the water for a designated swim area, and that the Eyak Lake Burial Site Caucus made requests, not demands about the park. Corrections will be made in the 9-27-16 Minutes and they will be put to a vote at the next meeting.
- F. **Director's Report by S. Herschleb:**
1. **GLT Donation at Shelter Cove** -- S. Herschleb included the update by Kristin Carpenter. A more detailed report will be coming soon. The Great Land Trust staff will visit Cordova in December. Clean up of the site still needs to be completed before any land transfer will take place.
 2. **Nirvana Park/Spit**-- The next community meeting will be on November 2, 4:30-6:00pm in Community Room A. C. Sherman plans to meet with representatives of NVE beforehand. S. Herschleb feels that the issues between the user groups will be able to be resolved. C. Sherman agrees. The Eyak Lake Burial Site Caucus may have access to funding for the sonar searches of graves on the spit. M. Van Den Broek attended the October 12 community meeting and wanted to report some of the comments made there. Mark King thinks that there aren't any bones left on the spit, except at the end. M. Van Den Broek said that there was a fence at the end of the spit until 2010, and thinks we should rebuild a grave marker there. S. Herschleb felt it was a good idea to place the large rock to block the road while issues are being sorted. The Caucus has legitimate claims that could effect federal funding. She contacted pilots to let them know the road would be blocked. S. Herschleb also noted that some of the jet skiers are being very careful around the swimmers, but others are not.
 3. **Bidarki Bazaar**-- Open registration for vendors started on October 17. S. Herschleb redesigned the layout in Mt. Eccles, and added some "short sale" options. W. Ranney is extremely disappointed that the Bazaar won't be at the Cordova Center. S. Herschleb admits that we should have booked it there before July. C. Sherman said that the Cordova Center is already booked for December 2017. S. Herschleb is hoping to avoid some of the problems the vendors had last year. She will work hard to put them in optimum places for sales. Open Registration will help new vendors.
 4. **Swimming pool**-- Attendance is very good even with the reduced schedule, and expenses are down. Having the pool manager do some of the lifeguarding saves money on staffing, and makes him more aware of daily issues. W. Ranney feels Derek Hammer is very welcoming to both the Iceworm Swim Team and the high school team. K. Johnson asked how many other lifeguards are now working. S. Herschleb said 2, but 3 more have just been certified. D. Hammer and K. Hallquist were just trained as Water Safety Instructors so they can teach swimming. S. Herschleb would like to have a card swipe system for the pool for better record keeping.

5. **2017 Budget**-- S. Herschleb met with City Manager Alan Lanning and so far there is still no Rec Ops Leader in the budget. If the raw fish tax comes in higher than expected, and there are timber receipt funds, the position may be added back in.

6. **Vault Toilet at Skater's Cabin**-- The Pre-fab building has been installed, and the city crew did a great job pouring the concrete slab around the building. The slab is now curing in a heated tent. An overhang will be built onto the outhouse. S. Herschleb is very happy with the collaboration of the Parks and Public Works departments under the direction of Micah Renfeldt.

G. **Unfinished Business:**

Enrique Zamudio Memorial Plaque-- W. Ranney feels that the Parks & Rec. Commission could find some options to present to the family. S. Herschleb has product information she can share. W. Ranney said Enrique contributed to the pool as a lifeguard. S. Herschleb noted that he kept the morale up among the lifeguards. K. Johnson feels he was a natural leader. W. Ranney has some ideas beyond just a plaque, and will bring mock-ups to the next meeting.

H. **New Business**

1. **Halloween Haunted House** will be Saturday, October 29. Volunteers are needed for many different jobs. There will be a meeting at 4:30 pm on October 26 at the old library. W. Ranney is glad that the many activities are on different nights so there are not many conflicts.

2. **Rec Ops Leader**-- If it is not funded, we have to decide on programming priorities. W. Ranney wondered if CAYAK could take over some of the activities. So far they are mostly focused on basketball. S. Herschleb said that enthusiasts can volunteer to run programs also.

I. **Pending Agenda:**

1. Rec Ops Leader
2. Plaque for Enrique Zamudio at the Swimming Pool
3. Nirvana Park/Spit

J. **Commission Comments**

S. Phillips thanked the commission for deciding to have a plaque for Enrique Zamudio as it is very important to his family. M. Van Den Broek congratulated K. Hallquist for getting the swim instructor training. K. Hallquist thanked the department for giving her the opportunity to get the training, and looks forward to teaching kids to swim. D. Zastrow appreciates the hard work of the department, and also the sensitivity being shown to the Eyak Lake Burial Site Caucus. W. Ranney agrees about that, and wants to push hard for the Rec Ops Leader position. She feels the Bidarki Bazaar should no longer be a department activity, and could be run by the Chamber of Commerce.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at 6 pm.

Adjournment: M to adjourn/ M. Van Den Broek, S/ K. Johnson.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Miriam Dunbar, Secretary