

Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting
Consideration of Land Disposal ASLS 2001-5
Shelter Cove RV Parking and Tent Platforms
November 6, 2017 DRAFT

- A. **Wendy Ranney** called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm
- B. **ROLL CALL:**
In attendance: Wendy Ranney, Dave Zastrow, Marvin Van Den Broek, Miriam Dunbar, Kara Johnson, Stephen Phillips, Susie Herschleb, Heather Brannon, Katrina Hoffman (by telephone), Tony Schinella, and Samantha Greenwood.
Absent: Karen Hallquist
- C. **Approval of Agenda:** **M/S.** Phillips to approve. **S/D.** Zastrow . **V/**Unanimous Approval.
- D. **Visitor Communication:**
Katrina Hoffman from Prince William Sound Science Center will answer questions about the proposal for Land Disposal ASLS 2001-5. She provided the Commission a sample letter that has the components she would like in a letter of support from the Commission to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- E. **Consent Calendar:**
None
- F. **Director's Report by S. Herschleb:**
S. Herschleb provided a Commission Communication Form that explained the fiscal impacts, background information, and potential conflicts of Land Disposal ASLS 2001-5. She also wrote a draft letter of support that can be used as a starting point.
- G. **Unfinished Business:**
Consideration of Land Disposal ASLS 2001-5, Shelter Cove RV Parking and Tent Platforms--
M. Van Den Broek noted that if we take away the tent platforms, we need to figure out another in-town camping area. W. Ranney feels it is good that the city can provide a site for PWSSC, as its mission fits well with that of Parks and Recreation. She thinks that the area has room for both recreation and education. S. Herschleb agrees, and noted that the fish cleaning station is very popular and should not be eliminated. W. Ranney stated that our letter should show that we want to keep them. D. Zastrow feels moving the tent platforms won't be too difficult, but where can we put RV parking? S. Herschleb explained that RV parking has always been a challenge because of the need for hook-ups, which are not at Shelter Cove. She would like to find another spot for RV's before the tent platforms are moved. K. Johnson agrees that would be the best plan of action. N.V.E. has now developed a camping area at Hartney Bay, and has campsites at Cabin Lake, USFS has some camping at Alaganik and One Eyed Pond. All of these are out of town, and many people want a place to camp right in town for at least part of their stay. K. Johnson wondered if any other organization is interested in developing an RV park. S. Herschleb doesn't know of any, but we definitely should request public input in this project. D.O.T. will be having public comment periods about the upcoming culvert project at Shelter Cove, but that will be completely separate from the land disposal process. M. Van Den Broek noted that the burn pile may need to be moved. It is currently on city property and that decision would come from Planning and Zoning, not Parks and Recreation. **M/K.** Johnson that the Parks and Recreation Commission write a letter of support for PWSSC for Land Disposal ASLS 2001-5, Shelter Cove RV Parking and Tent Platforms, as long as present recreation opportunities are preserved. **S/** M. Van Den Broek. **V/**Unanimous Approval. The Commission compared the two letters provided. M. Van Den Broek wondered if the disposal of land would be open to all bidders. S. Greenwood

explained that there are several ways city land can be offered. One is “Disposal Through Direct Negotiation”, which means it is only being offered to one entity. K. Hoffman said she realized that the Planning and Zoning Commission generally considers land disposals in their January meetings, but if this issue could be discussed at an earlier meeting, it could help PWSSC secure pre-development funding from the Rasmusson Foundation and the Foraker Group. S. Greenwood explained that in order for P & Z to consider it in their November meeting, the letter would need to be to the City by noon Thursday, November 9. W. Ranney feels the draft letter by S. Herschleb is most appropriate for this task. The Commission went through the letter and made edits (letter attached). **M/S.** Phillips to approve the letter. **S/D.** Zastrow . **V/**Unanimous Approval. K. Hoffman thanked the Commission for their support.

H. New Business

None

I. Pending Agenda:

Not discussed

J. Commission Comments

M. Van Den Broek thinks having PWSSC near the tideland will be easy for the young children to explore. Also if the new stairway structure is built there, access to the water will be very good for all. K. Johnson is happy to see the City supporting PWSSC. W. Ranney agrees and thinks it will be beneficial for PWSSC, Parks and Recreation, and Copper River Watershed to work together at Shelter Cove.

Next meeting TBA

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Miriam Dunbar, Secretary

Date: 11/6/17
To: City of Cordova Planning and Zoning Commission
From: City of Cordova Parks and Recreation Dept.
RE: Consideration of land disposal / ASLS 2001-5 / Shelter Cove RV Parking & Tent Platforms

Dear Planning and Zoning Commission;

At the October 2nd, 2017 Regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the President and CEO of the Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC), Katrina Hoffman, presented to the Parks and Recreation (P&R) Commission.

She discussed the PWSSC's need to expand & develop new facilities. She described to the P&R Commission the challenges in having 15,000 square feet of space, between 2 facilities that are 13 miles apart. The Commission was shown a map of ASLS 2001-5; currently Shelter Cove RV Parking & Tent Platforms. The Commission was told ASLS 2001-5 is PWSSC's first choice to develop this new facility.

Ms. Hoffman provided the Commission with some impressive statistics regarding the economic benefits the PWSSC has had on Cordova. She then described how the consolidation and expansion of the PWSSC could further economic growth and sustainability. Some highlights were creating more space for education, a small dormitory for seasonal guests and seasonal employees along with more office space for their permanent employees.

Ms. Hoffman stated that she was seeking a letter of support from the P&R Commission to make ASLS 2001-5 / Shelter Cove RV Parking & Tent Platforms available for disposal through direct negotiation with the PWSSC.

The P&R Commission strongly recommends requiring public input during the design process of new development. The P&R Commission supports placing ASLS 2001-5 available for disposal through direct negotiation with the PWSSC, if the current recreational opportunities continue to be supported.

Sincerely,

Wendy Ranney – P&R Commission Chair
Dave Zastrow – P&R Commission Vice Chair
Miriam Dunbar – P&R Commission Secretary
Kara Johnson – P&R Commissioner
Stephen Phillips – P&R Commissioner
Marvin VanDenBroek – P&R Commissioner