



MEETING MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 – 5:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order at 5:32 p.m. – C. Mertl, Chair

Present: Makayla Chappell, Emily Haynes, Brandie Hofmeister, Chris Mertl, Will Muldoon, Taylor Murph, Danika Swanson

Absent: Josh Anderson, Christina Mounce

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Director; Michele Elfers, Deputy Director; Lauren Verrelli, Recreation & Public Services Manager

II. Agenda Changes – None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – None

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

V. New Business

A. Christopher Trail Reroute

M. Elfers presented the proposed reroute for the Christopher Trail to avoid a steep erosive slope and to minimize bike and pedestrian conflict on the Flume. Included in the proposal is the relocation of a bridge from the Kaxdigoowu Heen Dei Trail to Christopher Trail. This relocation will be grant funded.

Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Trail Mix, explained the new trail route allows for bikers to enjoy the trail with less conflict with hikers. Trail Mix worked with Parks & Rec and it was decided that locating the bridge in Cope Park would be a good fit and the location would allow for easy access for the heavy equipment necessary to move and install the bridge.

B. Hofmeister – Has the homeowner been consulted? Does the department see any downsides to the project?

Ryan O'Shaughnessy – Trail Mix has been in touch with the homeowner and they have expressed support. They will meet again and have more discussion but scheduling the meeting has been a challenge.

M. Elfers - Possible downsides include that the trail will still cross landslide areas. This is due to topography in the area. Like other trails in steep areas, they will design, build, and maintain the trail accordingly.

B. Hofmeister – Is there a chance of increased user conflict?

M. Elfers - The trail will be built with bicyclists in mind but it will not be exclusively for bicyclists. There will be signage so it will be known that it is a bike trail but hikers will be able to use it. They should know to give right of way to the bicycles.

W. Muldoon moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department pursue obtaining leases with AELP, AJT and DNR for the Christopher Trail Reroute. **Adopted.**

B. Policy No. 700-002 – Amplified Sound Permits

G. Schaaf – explained the amplified sound policy for CBJ allows for people to obtain a permit and avoid disturbing the peace charges if neighbors complain. In general, most forms of speech are protected under the First Amendment, including amplified sound. The purpose of the permits is, in part, more to remind people to be courteous to the neighborhood by observing time and noise level limits in the permits.

W. Muldoon – Which are the parks that have the most noise complaints? Do we have a definition in code for what is ‘reasonable’ noise level?

G. Schaaf – The Disturbing the Peace ordinance is at 42.20.095(b)(2). Melvin Park gets the most complaints regarding lighting but Savikko Park and Adair Kennedy Memorial Park receive the most noise complaints.

E Haynes – Would the permits be written into code?

G. Schaaf – It does not need to be added as it is covered by 42.20.095(e).

C. Mertl – When applying for a permit, do people need to say what the event is that they are permitting?

G. Schaaf – They don’t but we can ask Law if we can or should.

C. Mertl – Do Park Rangers have authority to enforce this?

G. Schaaf – They do not have authority to enforce amplified sound.

E. Haynes moves that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the Department adopt the Amplified Sound Policy No 700-002. **Adopted.**

C. Board Assignments

Chair: C. Mertl (nominated by W. Muldoon)

Co-Chair: W. Muldoon (nominated by M. Chappell)

VI. Unfinished Business – None

VII. Staff Reports – None

W. Muldoon – What is the plan for opening Capital Park?

M. Elfers – The park will be open in the fall but the Grand opening is planned for spring.

VIII. Committee, Liaison, and Board Member Reports

A. Chair Report — None

B. Liaison to the Assembly Report — None

C. Liaison Reports —

Aquatics – W. Muldoon: Met over the summer and have hired a new Aquatics Manager. Also, introduced a resolution to change membership requirements to help with recruitment.

YAB – J. Anderson: None.

Eaglecrest – None

Jensen-Olson Arboretum — None

Lands, Economic Development, Housing – C. Mertl: They've met and have been talking about downtown restoration and downtown housing. Tlingit & Haida housing said that if they are able to develop the Pedersen Hill lots then they will set aside some of the land for park development.

Park Foundation — M. Elfers: Community Day event occurred at Eagle Valley Center in late August. About 200 people participated. It was a success.

Treadwell Arena Board – None

Trail Mix — E. Haynes: None

1% for Art — J. Anderson: None

Other Member Business – None

Adjournment – 6:27 p.m. *Having no other business before the board.*

Respectfully submitted by *Kathleen Jorgensen Business Assists (907)723-6134* 