



City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686

Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Smelcer, called the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Commission Member, Amy Goold, left the meeting at 8:00PM.

Chair, Matt Smelcer, left the meeting at approximately 8:35PM, due to a fire call-out.

Present 10 - Chair Matt Smelcer
Chair Pro Tempore Brian Teale
Secretary Rich Loftin
Commission Member Amy Goold
Commission Member Gary Pauly
Commission Member Michael Britt
Commission Member Paul Nylund
Senior Administrative Assistant Krystal Moulton
PRCS Director Darryl Verfallie
Recreation Supervisor Wendy Clubb

Absent 2 - Park Maintenance Supervisor Marcie Robertson
Events Coordinator Rachel Sensabaugh

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [Approval of regular meeting minutes from April 12, 2016](#)

MOTION: Commission Member Britt moved, seconded by Chair Pro Tempore Teale, to approve regular meeting minutes from April 12, 2016. The motion carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

Regular meeting minutes from April 12, 2016 were approved as written.

Yays: 7 - Chair Smelcer, Chair Pro Tempore Teale, Secretary Loftin, Commission Member Goold, Commission Member Pauly, Commission Member Britt, Commission Member Nylund, Senior Administrative Assistant Moulton, PRCS Director Verfaillie, and Recreation Supervisor Clubb

IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Matt Kinney, a resident of Valdez, approached the Commission in regards to hydro-axing around the Shana Anderson Dog Park. Kinney expressed his concerns about not receiving correct information in regards to the piles of debris that had been left behind. He approached the Commission with cell phone photographs of the piles of brush. Kinney did not feel that his concerns were being addressed by Parks & Recreation, so he brought this to the attention of the Commission. Further discussion took place between the Commission, Director, and Kinney, in regards to the future plans of the area.

Lee Hart & Nick Weicht (Levitation 49), and Mike Downs (National Parks Service) approached the Commission and discussed Levitation 49's current Master Plan and progress on trails in and around Valdez.

Ms. Hart discussed their current actions with trail assessment and marking, trail maintenance techniques, and revenue/funding resources.

Mr. Downs went over what the trail assessment involved, and their goals for the Prince William Sound area.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. [Discussion Item: 2016 Endurocross](#)

Chair, Smelcer, decided on the date for the 2016 Endurocross. The date chosen was August 20, 2016.

Recreation Supervisor, Wendy Clubb, checked this specific date in regards to staffing availability. She informed the Commission that that particular date would work, as long as the the final decided time did not conflict with a race scheduled on that same day.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. [Parks & Recreation Community Input Survey - Review & Approval](#)

MOTION: Commission Member Nylund moved, seconded by Commission Member Pauly, to It is recommended that the Commission review, suggest edits if necessary, and approve the Community Input Survey draft.. The motion carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

Commission Member, Goold, commented in regards to the length of the survey and inquired about what the outreach technique would be. Director, Verfaillie, informed the Commission that this survey would be available online as well as sent to all post office box holders.

Commission Member, Nylund, pointed out a typo in one of the titles on page five and also asked that "trails" be added to the Parks & Recreation Priorities under Parks/Playgrounds.

Chair, Smelcer, requested a question section in regards to motorized trails, areas, and events as well as adding an "ice skating" item under the Recreation Activities/Events; question number three.

After the discussion was over, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Parks & Recreation Community Input Survey, as amended.

Yays: 6 - Chair Smelcer, Chair Pro Tempore Teale, Secretary Loftin, Commission Member Pauly, Commission Member Britt, Commission Member Nylund, Senior Administrative Assistant Moulton, PRCS Director Verfaillie, and Recreation Supervisor Clubb

Absent: 1 - Commission Member Goold, Park Maintenance Supervisor Robertson, and Events Coordinator Sensabaugh

2. [Discussion Item: Volunteering Procedures](#)

Commission Member, Teale, had inquired about volunteering procedures in regards to trail maintenance, and asked that this item be added to the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda.

Director, Verfaillie, informed the Commission and Community that the volunteering procedure was very simple, and all that had to happen in order to become a volunteer for Park Maintenance, is to contact the Park Maintenance Supervisor, Marcie

Robertson.

Commission Member, Loftin, asked about whether or not there was a volunteer calendar available to the public, so that volunteer opportunities are well advertised for those willing to lend a hand. He recommended that Parks & Recreation practice further outreach in regards to future projects which could utilize volunteers.

3. [Discussion Item: Mountain Biking - Mineral Creek](#)

Commission Member, Loftin, asked about what volunteer efforts could be done to the Mineral Creek trails in order to make them accessible via bike during the summer months. The Director and Commission further discussed the UAA property agreement, and concluded that the updated agreement needed to be sent to the Commission to help get a better understanding as to what the options and restrictions were.

4. [Discussion Item: Visioning/Redevelopment RFQ \(Matt Smelcer\)](#)

Chair, Smelcer, discussed the City's ideas in regards to the visioning/redevelopment concepts which were discussed at a prior meeting date.

Director, Verfaillie, expressed his feeling in regards to the under-utilization of Commissions and the importance of community input when developing these strategies.

IX. REPORTS

1. [Director Report](#)

Verfaillie dicussed the Carnival, Summer Art Auction, Paths of Poetry, Cemetery Historic Walking Tour, and 2017 Budget Review.

Lee Hart, with Levitation 49, commented in regards to grants that Levitation 49 will be applying for during the upcoming budget season. She asked for the Commission's support for these grants so that their organization could create a bike friendly/climb friendly Valdez.

2. [Park Maintenance Supervisor Report](#)

The Commission read and reviewed the Park Maintenance Supervisor Report.

3. [Recreation Supervisor Report](#)

Commission Member, Goold, inquired about whether or not an opening date had been scheduled for the Valdez High School Swimming Pool. Recreation Supervisor, Wendy Clubb, approached the podium, and informed the Commission that she had not heard back in regards to the expected Swimming Pool opening date.

Chair, Smelcer, inquired about the current status of Summer Camps. Clubb informed the Commission that camps were going well, attendance was very high, but not all camps were at max capacity.

Discussion took place in regards to life guarding at Ruth Pond and future race event planning/programming.

Chair, Smelcer, due to a fire call, left the meeting at 8:53PM. Chair Pro Tempore, Brian Teale, took over as Chair.

X. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commission Member, Nylund, discussed the 2016 4k run which would be taking place during the RHR Festival on August 27, 2016, from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

Britt expressed excitement about the full agenda and what progress was being made by the Parks & Recreation Commission. He also extended kudos to Chair Smelcer, in regards to how he was able to control the meetings when a passionate community member is present.

Commission Member, Teale, expressed his liking in regards to the dove-tailing of events to encourage participation with local businesses. He also asked Director Verfaillie, to pass on to Marcie Robertson, the Parks Maintenance Supervisor, that he would schedule a time to meet with her and walk the Mineral Creek ski trails in order to devise a plan for mountain biking access development.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, Chair Pro Tempore, Brian Teale, adjourned the meeting at 9:09 PM.