



City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686

Meeting Minutes - Final

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Regular Meeting

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smelcer called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present 8 - Chair Matt Smelcer
Commission Member Brian Teale
Chair Pro Tempore Rich Loftin
Secretary Gary Pauly
Commission Member Michael Britt
Senior Administrative Assistant Krystal Moulton
PRCS Director Darryl Verfaillie
Recreation Supervisor Wendy Clubb

Excused 4 - Commission Member Amy Goold
Commission Member Paul Nylund
Park Maintenance Supervisor Marcie Robertson
Events Coordinator Rachel Sensabaugh

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from March 14, 2017](#)

The regular meeting minutes from March 14, 2017 were approved as written.

IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

V. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no public business from the floor.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. [Action Item: Letter of Recommendation for the Naming of Tillie Wonder Plaza](#)

The Commission reviewed the written letter which was to be submitted to Council in regards to the naming of Tillie Wonder Plaza. After review there were no objections from the Commission, so it was requested that this letter be added to the May 2nd, 2017 City Council agenda.

VII. REPORTS

1. [Park Maintenance Supervisor Report](#)

The Commission reviewed the Park Maintenance Supervisor report. Commission member Teale inquired about what the current status was of the Ice Classic Tower. After no further discussion, Chair Smelcer moved on to the Recreation Supervisor's report.

2. [Recreation Supervisor Report](#)

The Commission reviewed the Recreation Supervisor's report.

Brian Teale discussed the Salmonberry Ski Hill operating season. Wendy Clubb, the Recreation Supervisor, informed the Commission that the Ski Hill was open during most of February and March for the exception of a few days which were closed due to lack of volunteers and weather concerns. Chair Smelcer extended thanks to community member Chris Moulton for his dedication to the Ski Hill during this season.

Wendy Clubb discussed Parks & Recreation's recruiting efforts for Camp Coordinator and Counselors.

Commission Member, Mike Britt, expressed his interest in the operations and future plan for the Teen Center. He asked that the Parks & Recreation Department keep the Commission informed in regards to alternative programming ideas. Clubb discussed

current facility operations and programming. She informed the Commission that the facility would be open to the community, not just teens, during the summer months. She also mentioned a few special events and programs which were being scheduled as well as the status of hiring for a new Teen & Community Center Coordinator. Britt reiterated his hopes that Parks & Recreation would keep the Commission involved during that transition.

Chair Pro Tempore, Rich Loftin, mentioned that Rachel Sensabaugh, Events Coordinator, did a great job helping organize the 120 races. Chair Smelcer agreed and extended his thanks.

3. [Director Report](#)

Director, Darryl Verfaillie, verbally presented his report. The transition into summer activities was taking place so he discussed the end of the ski trial grooming, wrapping up of the Ski Hill season, summer hiring, Healthier You, Summer Fun Guide status as well as the Annual Summer Sign-Up fair which was scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017. Verfaillie also mentioned that the Parks & Recreation Department was in charge of the 4th of July Community events for 2017 and that the first event meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 18th.

Chair Smelcer mentioned the addition of formalities when outside organizations were scheduling events within the City, and asked about how the transition was going with the new Community Events Coordinator position. Verfaillie said that it was going well and that this position was serving as the liaison between the City Departments and Community organizations.

VIII. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commission Member Teale brought up the discussion regarding recognition of Pete Toye, retiring VHS Ski Coach, which had taken place during the March 2017 meeting. Teale inquired about the best way to go about creating a proclamation to be presented from the Parks & Recreation Commission. Director, Verfaillie, expressed that a proclamation was not the most appropriate action, considering that Toye's position had no direct connection with Parks & Recreation. Teale inquired about the possibility of naming one of the ski trails after Coach Toye. Verfaillie stated that he felt this idea would be more appropriate, in which Chair Smelcer concurred. Verfaillie suggested bringing a discussion item to the next meeting, to go over the concept of ordering a sign to display recognition on. Chair Smelcer recollected an old discussion item which took place years past, in which a similar concept was devised but hadn't been implemented. It was asked that the past item be resurrected and readdressed at the upcoming meeting.

Chair Smelcer discussed the Work Session which was scheduled by the Ports & Harbor Commission. This Work Session was originally created to go over Ports & Harbor's Waterfront Master Plan. Smelcer stated that he arrived at the requested date and time, but there was no Work Session being hosted. He asked that the Parks and Recreation Commission take an additional look at the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, then revisit and reschedule a future Work Session with Ports & Harbor.

Rich Loftin, Chair Pro Tempore, expressed his appreciation of the City's collaboration with the Valdez Snowmachine Club. He stated that their events were successful with good feedback and turnout. Verfaillie said that he enjoyed working with the Commission on events, for they provided a lot of the organization needed in order to make the events successful.

Chair Smelcer discussed the Ice Rink and gave thanks to Ron Hoffman, one of Public Work's employees, for doing a great job of scraping and grading the rink.

Smelcer also inquired about the current status of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Krystal Moulton, Administrative Assistant, gave the Commission an update, and stated that additional meetings needed to take place between Parks & Recreation staff in order to finalize some of the edits. Smelcer requested that a Work Session take place prior to the next meeting, to review the Master Plan status. Verfaillie stated that he would like to see the Master Plan finalized prior to the 2018 budget season.

Smelcer discussed the possibility of hosting another Endurocross at some time during the month of July. Verfaillie informed the Commission that July was going to be a very busy month for Parks & Recreation, so dates in August were entertained and to be discussed between Smelcer and Wendy Clubb, Recreation Supervisor. Mike Britt, Commission Member, said that he would be present throughout summer and into September, and stated that he would like to volunteer for some of the upcoming events.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Due to there being no further business, Chair Smelcer adjourned the meeting at 7:48PM.