



City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Regular Meeting

REGULAR AGENDA - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Chair Matt Smelcer
Commission Member Brian Teale
Commission Member Amy Goold
Secretary Gary Pauly
Commission Member Paul Nylund
Recreation Supervisor Wendy Clubb

Excused 6 - Chair Pro Tempore Rich Loftin
Commission Member Michael Britt
Senior Administrative Assistant Krystal Moulton
PRCS Director Darryl Verfaillie
Park Maintenance Supervisor Marcie Robertson
Events Coordinator Rachel Sensabaugh

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: to III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The motion carried by the following vote after the following discussion occurred.

1. [Approval of regular meeting minutes from January 10, 2017.](#)

MOTION: Secretary Pauly moved, seconded by Commission Member Teale, to approve the regular meeting minutes from January 10, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote.

The regular meeting minutes from January 10, 2017 were approved as written.

IV. PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no public business from the floor.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. [Discussion Item: Status Update - Design of Tennis/Basketball Court Cover](#)

Recreation Supervisor, Wendy Clubb, discussed the meeting which had taken place between the Parks & Recreation Director and the Capital Facilities Department in regards to the design of a cover for the existing tennis/basketball courts located on the Barney Meyring Park Strip. Chairman Smelcer inquired about what the desired wish list was that would be taken into consideration during the designing of this prospective feature. Mrs. Clubb informed the Commission that she believed the intent of this design was to be a “bare bones” project. Chairman Smelcer asked to be included as a part of the design discussions in order to add his input. Smelcer also suggested that other Commission members who are interested give their input as well. It was stated, that the intent of the project was for it to be designed within the fiscal year of 2017, then added as a budget request for fiscal year 2018.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. [Discussion Item: Waterfront Master Planning](#)

Jeremy Talbott, the Ports & Harbor Director for the City of Valdez, approached the Commission and gave history on the harbor expansion project and status of the waterfront master planning effort. Talbott mentioned that the Ports & Harbor Commission was looking for feedback from other Commissions before finalizing their Master Plan. He also suggested having a joint session to discuss some of the items that may affect Parks & Recreation.

Discussion took place between Talbott and the Commission in regards to waterfront use levels, accessibility issues for pedestrians/fishermen and boaters, encouragement of longer stay-times for visitors, and creation of parks & recreation elements to be included in their vision for Port & Harbor’s master plan.

Lee Hart, with Levitation 49, approached the Commission. She expressed her interest

in what happens with the waterfront and made a multitude of suggestions. Some of her thoughts and suggestions included; marketing strategies, taking advantage of the easier access opportunities during winter months, kiosks and interpretive signs, improved beach access at Kelsey Dock, Sea Otter RV property development, houseboat and stilt housing concepts, utilizing the grain silos as a climbing destination, using the Old Town pipe yard as a temporary use area for concert venues, and development of a trail from surrounding neighborhoods to Robe Lake.

Chairman Smelcer was in agreement for the collaboration between the Ports and Harbor and Parks & Recreation Commissions, and suggested they meet together to exchange information and ideas to ensure both of their master plans complement one another. In order to do so, Chairman Smelcer asked that a joint work session be scheduled at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 3rd, prior to the start of the Ports & Harbor regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

VII. REPORTS

1. [Park Maintenance Supervisor Report](#)

The Commission reviewed the Park Maintenance Supervisor's report. Mild discussion took place in regards to the Cottonwood Playground location, new cemetery equipment as well as grooming efforts for events.

2. [Recreation Supervisor Report](#)

The Commission reviewed the Recreation Supervisor's report. Discussion took place in regards to attendance levels at the Rock Wall, Gyms and Frosty Fever events. Chairman Smelcer discussed the recent Community Ice Skating Party, which he and his wife hosted. Smelcer requested, due to feedback from attendees, that they be able to host another event at some time during the month of April. He also went over the success of the Frosty Fever 120 races and thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for providing the trophies. It was stated that the next scheduled 120 races were to take place on April 8, 2017.

3. [Director Report](#)

Recreation Supervisor Wendy Clubb spoke for the Director's report, due to Darryl Verfaillie being unable to attend this particular meeting. She informed the Commission that there would be a letter of recommendation, in regards to the naming of Tillie Wonder Plaza, brought as an action item to the next scheduled Commission meeting. Discussion also took place about the Snow Town Ice Classic, Carnival - which would be hosted in Valdez on July 14 & 15, as well as the Rodeo - which was to be hosted during the weekend of July 28 - 30, 2017.

VIII. COMMISSION BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commission Member Teale gave special congratulations to the High School Nordic Ski Team for their performance during finals. Teale also discussed the current and retiring Ski Coach, Pete Toye, and expressed that he wanted to find a way to thank Pete - not just for the dedication to his school - but taking on the ski coach position for well over ten years. Recreation Supervisor Wendy Clubb suggested that a letter of support be written as a recommendation to the School Board to honor his dedication. Chairman Smelcer asked that an agenda item be added to the next regularly scheduled meeting in regards to development of a proclamation to recognize Pete Toye for his service to the Valdez ski community and Parks & Recreation.

Commission Member Paul Nylund discussed his volunteering efforts at Salmonberry Ski Hill. He went over the current conditions of the hill and emphasized the need for volunteers in order to keep the hill open for the remainder of the season.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Due to no further business, Chairman Smelcer adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:05 PM.