

AGENDA
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 13, 2010
Assembly Chambers, 6PM

I. ROLL CALL: 6:00pm

Members Present: James Tipps, Jim King, Dixie Hood, Jeff Wilson, Jeff Sloss, Ray Howard, Kate Walters, Christopher Mertl

Members Absent: Melissa Golstein

Assembly Liaison: Randy Wanamaker – Absent

Staff Liaison: Marc Matsil, Director; Jessica Beck, Administrative Assistant II

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – none

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The order of the information items were rearranged. Mr. Sloss motioned to approve. Approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. September 7th, 2010 – Mr. Mertl motioned to approve. Approved.

V. REPORT FROM ASSEMBLY LIAISON – absent

VI. CHAIR REPORT – none

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Action Item:

A. Donor Recognition Panel Ordinance: The purpose of the permit variance is to enable sports user groups to raise funds to assist with their costs and assist Parks & Recreation with field related costs. The variance would allow user groups to purchase plastic panels (48" x 36") and sell donation packages to commercial entities according to established guidelines. The panels would be located on CBJ sports fields and would be removed at the end of the season. The panels would provide a great opportunity for non-profit sports organizations to raise additional funds to support youth sports, and the signs are temporary and will be removed at the end of the season. The use of donor recognition devices is largely prohibited by Title 49. The proposed ordinance would also allow the continued use of bricks, tiles, signs or other media to recognize donors to a facility or program. I recommend that this ordinance be recommended to the Planning Commission for adoption.

Information Items:

A. Friends of Capital Park-Update and Events: Friends of Capital Park will give an update of their activities and events—and a proposal to convert an overgrown portion of the park to community gardens.

B. Docks & Harbors Board Planning for a joint board meeting. PRAC will discuss potential topics for a joint meeting on October 28th. Issues for discussion include: Statter Harbor Parking Area/Ramp, shelter/parking and green space; Under-the-Bridge Park /Long range waterfront Plan Area A Land & Seawalk Planning and Design; Marine Park design/RFP; Seawalk design consistencies; 16B—water access opportunities; and Douglas Harbor Dredge Disposal options.

C. Under-the-Bridge/Long Range Waterfront Plan A – design presentation. Skye Stekoll, Engineering Project Manager will provide draft schematics and concepts for the project; land issues; status of the public works facility; public input; and potential range of cost estimates for plan implementation.

D. Treadwell Historic Preservation & Restoration Society Update: Paulette Simpson will provide an update of Society activities including the historic survey, signs program and upcoming priorities.

Day of Play: Mr. Matsil also thanked PRAC for their support of the Day of Play and Juneau's KaBoom! designation as a Playful City USA. Mr. Matsil thanked Kate Walters for being on the Playful City USA task force, and volunteering for the Day of Play. The Day of Play attracted more than 2,000 facility visitations.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Donor Recognition Panel Ordinance.

John Matheson, president of the Juneau Youth Football League testified and supports the ordinance. There are many funding challenges with 400 youth participating in the organization. JYFL and the youth and families participate in fundraising efforts. Each year it costs approximately \$200,000 for JYFL to run the program. This money comes from donations and sponsors provided by local businesses and community groups. JYFL relies on the donors and they traditionally use fabric banners during the games. With support of the Parks & Recreation they were able to fundraise for a much-needed electronic scoreboard. The vast majority of funding came from businesses. Without the ability to recognize their donors, this would not have been possible. Mr. Wilson said that the city will charge \$50.00 to put up and take down the signs. Mr. Matsil said the individual organizations would purchase the 36" x 48" signs. The organizations will then write a check to Parks & Recreation. Mr. Matheson said the businesses greatly support the JYFL and provide approximately \$4,500.00 in revenue from banners each year. Mr. Matheson stated that the players are required to pay a registration fee and assist with fundraising. Ms. Hood asked if it was a requirement for the individuals and families to raise money. Mr. Matheson said for JYFL youth participate in fundraisers and sell raffle tickets. Ms. Hood stated that she has a friend with a daughter who participates in cheerleading and it is difficult for her to go door to door to raise that money and she has always been concerned with this requirement. Robyn Holloway, President of the Crimson Bear Football, testified that she too supports the donor recognition device ordinance as it is a great burden for participants to fundraise. This year registration was \$1500.00. They normally receive about 6-8 corporate sponsors each year but with the economic downturn it has been difficult to get donations, said Ms. Holloway. This temporary advertising is a way for them to raise needed funds. Fundraising has also been more difficult since Thunder Mountain High School opened. There is greater competition for limited funds for team sports. Since Thunder Mountain High School has their own football field, they sell banners but JDHS cannot because they use CBJ facilities to hold their games. Ms. Hood asked if Juneau still pays for visiting teams to come to Juneau to play. Ms. Holloway said they do subsidize teams to travel to Juneau and they are hoping to change that.

Nancy Eiler, public, testified that she is in favor of the ordinance. She thinks it was a good idea but the history would be nice to know. She appreciates the beauty of the community. Sports teams and school groups are not the only users of the parks. The bricks, fence posts and scoreboard are very nicely done. They fit in with the architecture. She encourages the group with go back and look at the idea to get the signs to fit in more with the architecture. Between the JDHS Football Team and TMHS Football Team, there are approximately 80 sponsors and if they all buy signs, then that's a lot of real estate. She suggested maybe using vinyl banners that can only be put up during an event. John Eiler, public, testified that he has lived in Juneau for 28 years next to the Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park. He uses the park quite a bit and is very supportive of the athletic groups. He is concerned about the number of signs and the length of time the signs could be up. He suggests that temporary banners would be a good idea to accomplish the same purpose. This would not affect people using the park when no events are being held. Ms. Hood suggested that maybe it would be possible to consider a resolution instead of an ordinance and look at it at the end of the season. Then pickets, etc. be approved as they come up. They can then see how they appeared and the impact that they had. Mr. King said he doesn't like the idea of sports user groups selling advertising in a public space but doesn't disagree with the organizations' needs either. Mr. Howard asked if the signs were designed to withstand inclement weather. Mr. Matheson said that vinyl signs are not designed to withstand massive winds. Mr. Wilson said that he supported Director Matsil's recommendation that the ordinance be recommended to the Planning Commission. Mr. Wilson supports the ordinance and it is a good way to raise funds for our community's youth. If people want recreation someone has to pay for it. Mr. Merti said that he does not like the idea of long term exposure of the signs. Once we open the flood gates everyone is going to want to put up signs. He suggested maybe purchasing a digital display. Mr. Howard said he supports

the ordinance. He recognizes the need for donor recognition. Mr. Tipps said he supports the ordinance also. Mr. King said perhaps we can recommend a sunset clause for a five year period and look at it again. Mr. Howard motioned PRAC to support the ordinance and forward the recommendation to the Planning Commission with the proposed sunset clause for PRAC to look at it in three years to determine whether the ordinance is working or not. Ms. Walters seconded the motion. The motion passed.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Friends of Capital Park – Update and Events

Anji Gallanos from Friends of Capital Park said the group has been meeting regularly. On August 28th they had a community potluck. They have been working with the Downtown Neighborhood Association. The FOCP has proposed a community garden at the top of the stairs in an overgrown area. They met with Marc Matsil and Kevin Brady and identified an area that is presently overgrown with weeds. They both liked the preliminary proposal. Mr. Wilson suggested having the community help to build the garden to get them involved. Mr. Mertl said that the community garden is a good idea. Mr. Wilson also suggested that the Friends sponsor a Capital Park appreciation day with a tree planting and park clean-up. Ms. Gallanos thanked Parks & Recreation for their support.

B. Treadwell Historic Preservation and Restoration Society – Update

Paulette Simpson from the Treadwell Historic Preservation and Restoration Society gave an update on their activities. Three projects are presently under way. The Historic Resources Survey was recently completed. The report showcases what is actually at the site right now. The structural analysis of the new office building is being worked on. An analysis of the salt water pump house roof needs to be done. There has also been some money designated towards interpretive signs being placed along the trail. An updated map of the site was handed out (in the packet), delineating where everything had been located historically. Eventually, the goal would allow you, through cell phone access, the ability to enter a number to get the information brought to you verbally. The site is presently not on the National Historic Registry and there are other places in Juneau that are on the list. It should be put on the registry in the future. These enhancements will improve their park experience. Mr. Mertl suggested they look at restoring objects and getting rid of the paths that don't belong there. Bring it back from the past, with the way it used to be, said Mr. Mertl. Ms. Hood attended the Board of Game Advisory Committee meeting last week and mentioned that she tried to get the Treadwell Trail on the list of trails where trapping is restricted but the vote didn't go through. Mr. King said that it is nice that the high school runners are using the area. Any restoration done there hopefully will not preclude kids from running. Ms. Simpson said that that has never been the idea. Trails are only there for cross-country and for safety. Mr. Wilson stated that PRAC is very supportive of the Treadwell Restoration Society's work.

C. Under the Bridge/ Long Range Waterfront Plan A – design presentation

Skye Stekoll gave a presentation on the planned phase for Long Range waterfront Plan A including the property where the old city shop is located. Mr. Stekoll summarized property ownership. Mr. Mertl asked about how supportive DOT has been. Mr. Stekoll said the whole project is complicated with many different segments. Mr. King suggested that tide pools be constructed so that people can look at sea life when the tide is low. Mr. Stekoll said constructing something there would be a good idea, as education is a goal. They have also been considering working with DIPAC on some programs. Mr. Mertl asked how the educational value is going to be determined. The project is still being worked on and maybe having more meetings about the educational aspect is a possibility. Mr. Wilson said at the joint PRAC meeting with the Docks & Harbors Board will be a good subject to be discussed. Ms. Hood stated that Docks & Harbors wants to keep the old building on the site. Mr. Stekoll stated there is essentially one downtown waterfront park, Marine Park, and the Under-the- Bridge Park will be more of an urban park and would be a good place to get down in the water and get muddy.

D. Docks and Harbors – Planning for joint meeting

The items to be discussed are as follows: Statter Harbor Parking Area/Ramp, shelter/parking and green space; Under-the-Bridge Park/ Long Range Waterfront Plan Area A Land & Seawalk Planning and Design; Marine Park design/RFP; 16B – water access opportunities; Douglas Harbor Dredge Disposal options; and Landscaping for Douglas Harbor & Ice Rink. Mr. Matsil stated that a draft agenda will be posted and circulated to both Boards—and we would be soliciting agenda items from Docks & Harbors this week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Youth Activities Board: Jeff Sloss – no meeting
- B. State Parks Board: Jim King – no report
- C. Lands Committee: Jeff Wilson – Looking at turning Peterson Hill into a residential area, with lots of green space and parks.
- D. Juneau Urban Forestry Partnership: Chris Mertl – nothing.
- E. Aquatic Facilities Advisory Board: Melissa Goldstein – absent
- F. Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board: Kate Walters – had the autumn Gala fundraising event at Glacier Gardens and it was very successful. There were over twice as many people as last year. Bricks are still for sale.
- G. Docks & Harbors Board: Dixie Hood – Docks & Harbors Board discussed the possibility of future garden apartments near the Little Rock Dump. There have been problems with absences of board members.
- H. Arctic Winter Games: Chris Mertl – no longer needed.
- I. Playful City USA: Kate Walters – Day of Play was a great day.
- J. Trail Mix, Inc.: Ray Howard – There was a meeting in September and Mr. Howard was appointed as a board member. Trail Mix had a great year.
- K. Tipps – ATV – Preliminary examination at 36 mile and it looks as if there's an old road that was used for logging and may be considered. It has potential.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

XI. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

XII. BOARD COMMENTS

Jim King: Thought it was a good meeting and it was nice to have the Juneau Empire present.

James Tipps: Is hopeful for an ATV site with information that Mr. Matsil provided to him about Mile 36.

Ray Howard: Trail Mix is having an auction on November 20th and is looking for auction donations.

Kate Walters: Enjoyed helping out with the Arboretum fundraiser and the Day of Play.

Chris Mertl: Talked with Ben Lyman and realized that Juneau does not have a landscape ordinance. Ben suggested that if a committee would move it up through the City they can work on it. Maybe the JUF or gardeners could initiate it.

Dixie Hood: Thanked Ms. Beck for getting the packets together so early the past few months and mailing them to her.

Jeff Wilson: Thanked the PRAC for their meaningful participation and is curious to see who will be appointed the new Assembly Liaison.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: 8:41pm, Jeff Sloss motioned. Approved.