Minutes
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, October 1, 2007
Assembly Chambers, 6PM

I. ROLL CALL meeting called to order at 6:05pm
Members Present: Joan Herbage O’Keefe, Jeff Wilson, Jeff Sloss, Ray Howard, Dixie Hood

Members Absent: Mike Chambers, Jim King, Patrick Owen, Alyssa Machold Ellsworth

Staff Present: Marc Matsil, Di- Cathcart

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS None

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Ray Howard motioned to approve agenda, no objections, agenda approved

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
A. September 5, 2007 Ray Howard motioned to approve the minutes, Dixie Hood seconded with an amendment to Information Item E, the Marine Whale Project. Ms. Hood would like it stated in the September minutes that a new dock was proposed for the sight of the Whale Statue. No objections minutes approved.

V. REPORT FROM ASSEMBLY LIASION None

VI. CHAIR REPORT None

VII. DIRECTOR’S REPORT Marc Matsil introduced the three information items on the agenda. Due to the fact that the Director is precluded from making any particular recommendation on a CBJ ballot initiative Mr. Matsil recused himself from commenting on the Valley Pool and turf field information items. Mr. Matsil also recused himself from the KTOO land lease information item, as a family member is employed by KTOO.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS None

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS
A.) Friends of Safe Fields: Jeff Duvernay, 2940 Nowell Ave: representing Safe Athletic Fields for Everyone, also the President of Gastineau Channel Little League. The Friends group would like turf added to the two highest user hour fields: Adair Kennedy field 1 and Melvin Park 2. Dixie Hood commented that she had been questioned as to why it was just those two fields. She replied that it was a beginning, they are the most used and from a safety perspective PRAC has supported the addition of artificial turf to more fields. Ray Howard; What sort of user volume do you have on those fields. Jeff Duvernay; On average over 2300 hours. Youth Baseball (GCLL and softball) are the highest number of field users. In addition, with turf fields, you can start the season earlier as snow melts at an accelerated rate on turf. It is tough to play in the dirt and mud and discourages some youth from playing stated Duvernay. Jeff Wilson: Are both of these fields currently lighted and do you see much vandalism on the turf field. Jeff Duvernay: Yes, both fields are lighted. Marc Matsil responded that we have not seen inordinate vandalism on the turf field other then one incident last year.

B.) Valley Pool Committee: Max Mertz and Mark O’Brien: 3140 Nowell Ave (Max Mertz), 5100 Thane Road (Mark O’Brien) The committee has put a great deal of energy into getting the pool on the ballot. Max Mertz and Mark O’Brien, members of the Glacier Swim Club Board, said for the first time ever GSC had to cut off the number of youth they were able to serve because there literally is no more room in the pool. Mertz and O’Brien believe that, with the support of Education reimbursement component, the
voters will likely vote in favor of building the pool. With a second pool and the additional education component, the Learn to Swim program for all elementary aged children will again take place. The pool committee has been holding public forums to get the word out and people that originally were not in support of the pool last year have joined the committee to now show their support. Joan Herbage O’Keefe commented that it has been a pleasure to be the liaison for the PRAC at the pool committee as this is a PRAC priority. Jeff Wilson; Is the decision to pull back to six lanes vs. eight lanes final or will you look at grants to bring it up to eight lanes. Will the pool be designed to allow for future expansion. Max Mertz responded that the usage and income is in the Rec pool component and six lanes will satisfy our needs for tournaments and meets. Mark O’Brien stated that when they were looking at the footprint they tried to allow for expansion around the pool.

C) CBJ Land Lease for KTOO radio/tv antenna at North Douglas: Bill Legere, 17040 Glacier Hwy, General Manager of KTOO and Heather Marlow from CBJ Lands & Resources Dept. Bill Legere requested that KTOO be allowed to place a radio/television repeater site on parkland at approximately five mile North Douglas Highway. The repeater is currently sitting on private property, the property was recently sold and the new owners are looking to develop their land and would like the repeater removed. After first going through the permitting process to allow for construction, the current infrastructure would be placed on parkland with a 250x200 footprint. Heather Marlow; stated that the department will draft a lease and use agreement that will go before the Lands Committee, along with any comments or recommendations from PRAC.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Youth Activities Board: Jeff Sloss, no report
State Parks Board: Jim King - absent
Lands Committee: Jeff Wilson – The main issue has been the draft CBJ Comprehensive Plan.
Pool Committee: Joan Herbage O’Keefe, no report

XI. CORRESPONDENCE None

XII. BOARD COMMENTS
Ray Howard - Would like more information on the proposed ATV use on North Douglas. Marc Matsil mentioned that it is currently before the Lands Committee and as it becomes relevant to Parks and Recreation will be engaged. Confident that there is a real need for ATV use and hope that CBJ can provide an opportunity for them. Dixie Hood asked if the ATV riders oppose a CBJ ordinance related to off road vehicle use. Ray Howard felt that overall the ATV riders would be in support of sitting down with the City and drafting an ordinance regulating ATV use on CBJ lands.
Dixie Hood - When I was going door to door I received a complaint from a senior citizen about the need for a dedicated time for a senior lap swim. Marc Matsil will look into.
Joan - none
Jeff Sloss - none
Jeff Wilson - none

XIII. ADJOURNMENT Joan Herbage O’Keefe motioned to adjourn, no objections. Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.