Treadwell Arena Task Force
Friday, September 5, 2014 - Noon
City Hall, Assembly Chambers
DRAFT Minutes

I. Call to Order Friday, September 5 at 12:01pm

II. Roll Call
Members present: Loren Jones (Chair), Kim Kiefer, Josh Anderson, Pam Leary, Mike Stanley, Matt Boline

Others present: Mayor Sanford, Brent Fischer, Myiia Wahto, Lindsey Brown, Lauren Anderson, Matt Lillard, Diane Cathcart, Patty Collins (alt/fs), Chris Mertl, Andy Jessen.

III. Introductions Pam Leary is with the learn to skate program of the Juneau Skating Club, Matt Boline is the President of Juneau Douglas Ice Association, Josh Anderson is the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee member, Mike Stanley is President of the Eaglecrest Board, Kim Kiefer is the City Manager, and Mayor Merrill Sanford sat in on the first meeting of the task force.

IV. Roles and Responsibilities of the Task Force
Chair Jones read the purpose of the task force and mentioned that January 26, 2015 a report needs to be submitted to the Assembly with the task force’s recommendation. He also relayed the need to hold 3 public meetings during the term of this task force.

V. Election of the Co-Chair Josh Anderson was nominated as co-chair, seeing no objections, it was so ordered.

VI. Information Requests from the task force members
Pam Leary: stated she had many questions regarding finances, staffing, what the role of an empowered board is, what the relationship between CBJ and Eaglecrest is. She will compile a list and submit it to staff. Would like to review the last 3-5 years of finances of both Treadwell and Eaglecrest; and how Treadwell fits in within Parks and Recreation.

Matt Boline: echoed Ms. Leary’s requests and stated he would like to know what the goals of the Assembly are; and is there a dollar number we are trying to hit. Would like to see numbers for what the key user groups are using. Where is the revenue generated, user groups vs. general public?

Chair Loren Jones: stated there had been a lot of discussion regarding empowered boards at the Assembly level, and during the budget process this spring it was decided to form a task force. The decision on creating an empowered board or not would have to go to the public for a vote. There was no specific goal or number we are looking at for cost cutting but as an Assembly we are looking at a $6 million deficit. Personally I look at it as, we have a rink that the public wants, how much is the cost to run it, and how much do user groups pay.
Josh Anderson: would like to know how this will affect employees, how wages, user groups, and public use may change.

Mike Stanley: stated that when this idea of Treadwell Arena being placed under Eaglecrest came up, the Board sent a letter to the Mayor and Assembly, stating they would not support the idea. Included in the letter was a list of questions the Board would like to have answered before making any final decisions. Eaglecrest Director, Matt Lillard has looked at the idea a little. He spent some time looking at what are the cost and revenue structure, equipment, and staff costs. Mr. Lillard can provide information regarding how Eaglecrest is run, and its experience with CBJ.

Kim Kiefer: stated she would like to see numbers, operational, what does it cost CBJ, deferred maintenance costs, and what is considered when figuring out those costs. Ms. Kiefer echoed Ms. Leary’s requests of seeing Eaglecrest and Treadwell budgets for the last 3-5 years, and what the Eaglecrest model for staffing and equipment is. She would like to see how other municipalities are doing it - do they have a cost recovery, are they publicly owned, and what is the organizational structure.

Pam Leary: would like to get a report on the progression of Eaglecrest; since the rink is still in its infancy at 11 years old vs. Eaglecrest’s 40 year history, what are the possible similarities.

Chair Loren Jones: will have the 2nd rink study sent out to the task force as an information item.

Kim Kiefer: it would be helpful to have a Q&A session with staff to help answer some of these questions and narrow down what information the task force will need to help the group in the decision making process.

Mike Stanley: in reference to Ms. Leary’s question about the history of Eaglecrest, Mr. Stanley said Bruce Garrison would be a great resource for that as he has been involved with Eaglecrest for many years.

Chair Loren Jones: once he is back in town he will sit down with Kim and Di to set agendas for the future meetings.

Mayor Sanford: let the task force know about the need for the public seat to be filled. He is looking for a private business person that can bring the business side of things to the task force.

VII. Setting the Schedule for Future Meetings

Next meeting will be October 2, 2014 at Noon – location to be determined; then every Thursday through October from Noon – 2pm.
Mike Stanley will be gone for 5 weeks but Bruce Garrison, Eaglecrest alternate will be back and can attend the task force meetings.

Email notifications will be sent out to set the topics for future meetings and to distribute packet material.

VIII. Setting the Public Hearing Dates: tentative dates – November 11, 13, 17

IX. Adjournment at 12:31pm