



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING**

April 11, 2019



I. Call to Order

The April 11, 2019 meeting of the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission, held at Spenard Recreation Center, was called to order by Chair Jon Dyson at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by John Rodda, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Commissioners present:

Commissioner Catherine Bodry
Commissioner Jon Dyson
Commissioner Erin Kirkland
Commissioner Shannon Kuhn
Commissioner Eric Milliken
Commissioner Alison Smith
Commissioner James Winchester

Commissioners absent:

Commissioner Kelly Chang
Commissioner Grace Johnston

A quorum was achieved with seven members present.

Staff present:

John Rodda
Josh Durand
Taylor Keegan
Diana Cramer

III. Approval of Agenda

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Kirkland and seconded by Commissioner Bodry, the Agenda for the April 11, 2019 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Milliken and seconded by Commissioner Smith, the Minutes of the March 14, 2019 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission were unanimously approved.

V. Director's Comments

Director John Rodda provided an update on the following items:

FEMA: The Municipality continues to work with FEMA on claims for earthquake damage, while investigating other avenues to pay for damage repairs. The Department is preparing a list of repair projects that may cost under \$50,000 to submit to the MOA Office of Management and Budget for reimbursement out of municipal emergency funds.

East Pool will remain closed indefinitely. It has been drained and the broken glass is being cleaned up and expansion joints recaulked; however, damaged load-bearing walls need to be repaired and that will require that the pool be closed for an extended period of time. Other pools are not draining properly and tests are being conducted now to determine the extent of the problem.

The park bonds passed which is a favorable thing for Parks and Recreation. Unfortunately the only bond that did not pass was the facilities bond which would have assisted with deferred maintenance.

Homeless camp cleanup crews will start work on April 22.

A draft concept plan for the South Anchorage Sports Park north 70 acres is being developed and will be brought to the Commission as it progresses.

Mulcahy Park upgrades have begun.

The Anchorage Assembly passed a new ordinance outlawing smoking of cigarettes within 20 feet of an active playground. At this time Parks and Recreation has no

enforcement authority and can only provide signage. A Code Enforcement Officer position has been added to the budget and will be part of Parks and Recreation once the details have been worked out by the Employee Relations Department.

The Russian Jack Springs Park master planning process is underway. The first public workshop was held February 27. Two advisory group meetings have been held and a third is scheduled for April 26. Commissioners Kirkland and Milliken are part of the advisory group.

VI. Anchorage Park Foundation Report

There was no report from the Anchorage Park Foundation.

VII. Appearance Requests

There were no public appearance requests on non-agenda items.

VIII. Action Item

PRC 19-05 Fairview Park Improvements

Resolution PRC 2019-04

Presented by Taylor Keegan, Park Planner

Fairview Park is located on LaTouche Street in the Fairview community. It currently contains a tennis court, play equipment, two picnic shelters, and on-street parking. According to the priorities outlined in the Fairview Park Master Plan, the Parks and Recreation Department proposes the following improvements: lighting in the picnic shelters, playground equipment upgrades to make it ADA accessible, safety surfacing, conversion of the tennis court into a mixed-use volleyball/basketball court, and place making efforts to include a custom raven climber and a community quilt-themed mural. An artist has been contracted to design the mural. There has been extensive public involvement that included input from the public, the Anchorage Community Land Trust, the Fairview Community Council, and students from Fairview Elementary School. The process began in 2016 with the master planning and finished most recently with a resolution of support from the Fairview Community Council.

Parks and Recreation staff requests a resolution of the Commission supporting the Fairview Park Improvements.

Public Appearance Requests

Harry Need is a past President of the Fairview Community Council. He has been very involved in this process from the beginning. He thanked Parks and Recreation and Ms. Keegan for their efforts and expressed his support for the project.

Resolution

After discussion, upon motion duly made by Commissioner Kuhn and seconded by Commissioner Milliken, PRC Resolution 2019-04 Fairview Park Improvements was unanimously approved as follows:

PRC RES NO. 2019-04 Fairview Park Improvements

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission serves in an advisory capacity to both the Mayor and the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission has the responsibility and duty to provide for the long term vision of our park system by ensuring that a balance of parks, natural resources, and recreation facilities provides for the health, welfare, and safety of all residents of the Anchorage Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation planning staff utilized input from the Fairview Community Council, the Fairview Elementary School Students, the Fairview Recreation After School Program, and the Fairview Park Community Advisory Group;

WHEREAS, the improved playground as presented will provide lighting in the two existing pavilions and include place-making efforts, inclusive unitary surfacing, upgraded circulation patterns, updated play equipment, the conversion of an existing tennis court to a mixed-use volleyball and basketball court, and other amenities to improve the park users experience;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission approves the proposed design for the Park Improvements at Fairview Park pending receipt by Parks and Recreation staff of a signed resolution of approval from the Fairview Community Council during their meeting on March 14, 2019.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission this 11th day of April, 2019.

Voting record PRC 2019-04:

Yea: Commissioners Bodry, Dyson, Kirkland, Kuhn, Milliken, Smith, and Winchester.

Nay: None

Abstained: None

IX. Information Items

There were no information items presented to the Commission.

X. Commissioner Comments

There were no commissioner comments.

XI. Upcoming Meeting

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Thursday, May 9, 2019, at Spenard Recreation Center. Director Rodda stated that the Town Square Park Master Plan is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Commission at that meeting.

X. Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Winchester, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2019:

Chair
Parks & Recreation Commission

Director
Parks & Recreation