



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING**

March 14, 2019



I. Call to Order

The March 14, 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 Grace Johnston
Commissioner Shannon Kuhn
Commissioner Eric Milliken
Commissioner Alison Smith
Commissioner James Winchester

Commissioners absent:

Commissioner Kelly Chang
Commissioner Erin Kirkland

A quorum was achieved with seven members present.

Staff present:

John Rodda
Maeve Nevins-Lavtar
Diana Cramer

III. Approval of Agenda

Upon motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Johnston, the Agenda for the March 14, 2019 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

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

V. Director's Comments

Director John Rodda, provided the following information:

Parks and Recreation is still working its application for earthquake relief from FEMA. It is a cumbersome, labor intensive process.

Both FEMA and the Small Business Administration are using space at Eagle River Town Centre and Spenard Recreation Center to provide assistance to the public in making claims for earthquake damage. The Municipality is required to let them use the facilities rent free.

The East Pool will be closed indefinitely due the earthquake damage as well as other complications. It could be a year or more until it reopens.

In light of Governor Dunleavy's budget, Parks and Recreation has been asked to trim its operating budget by about \$380,000.

Homeless camp abatement will start again on April 22, when the first group of summer seasonal employees returns to work. In 2015 55 tons were cleared, 135 tons in 2016, 172 in 2017, and 244 tons last year. This year 12 tons has already been hauled to the landfill.

The bid for removal and demolition of the box seats at Mulcahy stadium is out. Demolition will begin probably within the next couple of weeks.

Park Commissioners should see a concept plan for the north 70 acres of South Anchorage Sports Park next month.

Assemblyman John Weddleton has introduced an ordinance to enact a prohibition on dogs and other domesticated animals from the Campbell Creek Estuary Natural Area. The Assembly will consider that next week.

VI. Appearance Requests

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

VII. Anchorage Park Foundation Report

Beth Nordlund, Executive Director of the Anchorage Park Foundation (APF), provided information about the bonds that are on the April 2019 ballot; an update on the Challenge Grant program – applications are open until April 14; and stated that Youth Employment in Parks interviews will be conducted the first week of April.

VIII. Action Item

PRC 19-04 Proposed Naming of a Public Facility: Naming of the Future Bike Park at the South Anchorage Sports Park in Honor of Jeff Dusenbury

Resolution 2019-03

Presented by: Maeve Nevins-Lavtar
Rosa Salazar, Mayor's Office
Mike Vania and Peter van Tuyn, Naming Panel Members

The Anchorage Assembly appointed a naming panel to consider naming the proposed bike park at South Anchorage Sports Park in honor of Jeff Dusenbury, who lost his life in a tragic accident near Spruce Park. Mr. Dusenbury was a lifelong resident of Anchorage who promoted cycling in Anchorage and provided significant support and inspiration for not only the sport of biking but the community in general.

The Parks and Recreation believes that the proposed naming meets policy objectives and relevant criteria under AMC 3.97.020-.025. The proposed naming applies only to the bike park at South Anchorage Sports Park, not the entire park, considers the significant of Mr. Dusenbury's contribution to the community and would not cause unreasonable loss of an identified that assists the public in recognizing the location. In addition, there is no other public facility using Mr. Dusenbury's name.

Rosa Salazar discussed the naming panel and the public process undertaken. Naming panel members are Will Ross, Diane Thompson, Mike Vania and Peter van Tuyn. Numerous letters of support from the community were received. Presentations were

made to both the Bayshore/Klatt Community Council and the Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council who provided resolutions in support. A public hearing was held at Loussac Library on March 13, at which all those members of the public who testified expressed their support of the project.

Mike Vania and Peter van Tuyn talked about Mr. Dusenbury, his life, his involvement in the sport of biking, his work in the food service industry, and his many contributions to the Anchorage community. Both stated that Mr. Dusenbury's outgoing, friendly nature and goodness touched many lives, and an open, welcoming bike park bearing his name would draw people to the park.

Rosa Salazar and the Naming Panel requested a resolution from the Commission supporting the naming of the Bike Park at the South Anchorage Sports Park in Honor of Jeff Dusenbury.

Public Appearance Requests

Neil Lamothe worked with Mr. Dusenbury and was involved with him in the sport of bike riding and racing. He is very supportive of the bike park and believes naming the bike park in honor of Mr. Dusenbury will help something positive come from the tragic event that took his life.

Resolution

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Kuhn and seconded by Commissioner Johnston, PRC Resolution No. 2019-03 Proposed Naming of a Public Facility: Jeff Dusenbury Bike Park, was unanimously approved as follows:

PRC Resolution No. 2019-03
Proposed Naming of a Public Facility:
Jeff Dusenbury Bike Park

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, AMC Chapter 3.97 provides for naming of public facilities including municipal parks, in particular internal areas, fixtures, and features integral to public spaces, in honor of individual citizens identified as outstanding local, state, national, or international civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with AMC Chapter 3.97 the Anchorage Assembly passed and approved Resolution No. 2018-188 appointing a citizen naming panel for the honorary naming of a location after Jeff Dusenbury; and

WHEREAS, the naming panel proposes naming a future bike park at South Anchorage Sports Park in honor of Mr. Dusenbury, and has presented testimony as to the character and contributions of Mr. Dusenbury relevant to the facility, which is expected to enhance and promote the health and other benefits of bicycling and importance of bicycle safety; and

WHEREAS, the Bayshore/Klatt and Old Seward Oceanview Community Councils have considered the proposed naming; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission acknowledges written testimony as to the character and contributions of Mr. Dusenbury to the benefit of the citizens of Anchorage, in particular exemplifying high standards of citizenship to the bicycling community and others, and believes that the criteria set forth in AMC Chapter 3.97 are substantially met; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission supports the proposal to name the future bike park at South Anchorage Sports Park as the "Jeff Dusenbury Bike Park."

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission this 14th day of March, 2019.

Voting record on PRC Resolution 2019-03:

Yea: Commissioners Bodry, Dyson, Johnston, Kuhn, Milliken, Smith and
Winchester

Nay: Commissioner Milliken

Abstained: None

Absent: Chang, Kirkland

IX. Information Items

There were no information items.

X. Commissioner Comments

There were no commissioner comments.

XI. Upcoming Meeting

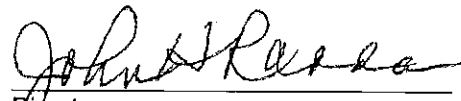
The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Thursday, April 11, 2019, at Spenard Recreation Center.

XII. Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Bodry, seconded by Commissioner Milliken, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED this 11th day of April, 2019:


Chair
Parks & Recreation Commission


Director
Parks & Recreation