



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING**



December 8, 2016

**I. Call to Order**

The December 8, 2016 regular meeting of the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Jon Dyson at 6:00 p.m., at Spenard Recreation Center.

**II. Roll Call**

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

Commissioners present:

Commissioner Jon Dyson  
Commissioner Peter Murphy  
Commissioner Richard Mystrom  
Commissioner Alison Smith  
Commissioner James Winchester

Commissioners absent/excused:

Commissioner Michael McCambridge  
Commissioner Levi Robinson

A quorum was present.

Staff present:

John Rodda  
Josh Durand  
Tom Korosei  
Steve Rafuse  
Diana Cramer

### **III. Consent Agenda**

#### **A. Agenda**

Josh Durand, Park Superintendent, noted that the election of Chair and Vice-Chair will not be undertaken until January as new commissioners will not be confirmed by the Anchorage Assembly until December 20; therefore, this item was withdrawn from the Agenda.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner James Winchester and seconded by Commissioner Peter Murphy, the Agenda for the December 8, 2016 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, as amended, was unanimously approved.

#### **B. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Commissioner Richard Mystrom noted that on page 2 of the proposed Minutes of the October 13, 2016 meeting the spelling of Commissioner McCambridge's name needed to be corrected.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Alison Smith and seconded by Commissioner Richard Mystrom, the Minutes of the October 13, 2016 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, with the noted change on page 2, were unanimously approved.

### **IV. Director's Comments**

John Rodda, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided Director's comment on the following items:

**Homeless camps:** As of November 5, 2016, 137 tons of waste from homeless camp cleanup had been delivered to the landfill. In 2015, 55 tons were delivered for the entire year. This increase is largely due to the additional employees hired to work specifically on camp cleanup. It is not known at this point in time if Parks and Recreation will receive the funding needed to continue clean-up efforts at that level in 2017.

**Park ranger program:** There is discussion at this time about bringing back the park ranger program. The program is not well defined at this time. The scope of authority, duties, number of personnel needed, how it will be funded, etc., have yet to be determined.

**Coastal Trail Bridges:** The Sisson Bridge was completed and opened a few days before this meeting. It is anticipated Fish Creek Bridge will be open by Christmas. The

projects are not complete, as some finish work and landscaping will need to be done this spring.

Ben Boeke is now open and plans for the Demsey rink have begun.

GCI Tower at Kincaid: In May 2016, the Parks and Recreation Commission passed a resolution approving issuance of an annual, revocable permit to GCI for installation of a communication tower and equipment at Kincaid. The Anchorage Assembly has decided that it might be necessary to put this matter up for public vote before allowing installation to proceed. Mr. Rodda believes it will be a ballot proposition in April's election.

## **V. Appearance Requests**

There were no appearance requests for non-agenda items.

## **VI. Anchorage Park Foundation Report**

There was no report from the Anchorage Park Foundation.

## **VII. Action Item**

### **PRC 16-31: Request for Electrical Easement and Intragovernmental Use Permits for Proposed Improvements to a Portion of Campbell Airstrip Road (PM&E Project No. 10-28) PRC Resolution 2016-25**

Presented by Tom Korosei, Park Planner

Project Management and Engineering requests support for an electrical utility easement to Chugach Electric Association and approval of use permits to facilitate PM&E Project No. 10-28, improvements to a portion of Campbell Airstrip Road. The project is in the vicinity of the Alaska Botanical Garden, which is adjacent to Far North Bicentennial Park. Parks and Recreation administers the lease of the Botanical Garden property which is on the east side of Campbell Airstrip Road. The 50' long by 10' wide electrical easement will facilitate underground electrical service for street lighting and for lighting a trail tunnel. The PM&E project is for improvements of a one-half mile section of Campbell Airstrip Road which will include a paved, multi-use pathway connecting Tudor Road to the existing trail at the south end of the project area.

Parks and Recreation believes that the improvements related to the requested easement will improve safety and convenience for park users, as well as others who

use the road, and recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission adopt a resolution in support of granting the easement and necessary permits to facilitate the proposed upgrades to Campbell Airstrip Road.

There were no appearance requests for this action item.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Richard Mystrom and seconded by Commissioner James Winchester, Resolution 2016-25 Request for Utility Easement on Lands Leased to Alaska Botanical Garden in Connection with Proposed Upgrades to Campbell Airstrip Road, was unanimously approved as follows:

**Resolution No. 2016-25**

**Request for Utility Easement on Lands Leased to Alaska Botanical Garden  
In Connection with Proposed Upgrades to Campbell Airstrip Road**

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, the Alaska Botanical Gardens operates under a 55-year lease administered by the Parks and Recreation Department to complement recreational as well as educational and conservation interests of the Department and Municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Project Management and Engineering Department, on behalf of Chugach Electric Association, requests an easement across ABG lease area to facilitate providing electric service in support of proposed upgrades to Campbell Airstrip Road; and

WHEREAS, the proposed road upgrade project would improve safety and convenience for park visitors and other citizens and the requested easement would not significantly impair ABG facilities and operations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission recommends granting of a non-exclusive easement to Chugach Electric Association, generally as shown on the attached diagram, for underground electrical utility facilities, subject to the conditions that CEA shall construct and maintain the facilities with the least impact as reasonably necessary to the vegetation and visual character of the area, and CEA shall pay to the MOA fair market value compensation for the interest conveyed.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Commission this 8th day of December 2016.

Voting Record on Resolution 2016-25 Request for Utility Easement on Lands Leased to Alaska Botanical Garden in Connection with Proposed Upgrades to Campbell Airstrip Road:

In favor	Commissioner Jon Dyson Commissioner Peter Murphy Commissioner Richard Mystrom Commissioner Harlow Robinson Commissioner Alison Smith Commissioner Jim Winchester
Opposed	None
Abstained	None
Absent	Commissioner Michael McCambridge Commissioner Levi Robinson

### **VIII. Information Item**

#### **PRC 16-32: Naming Committee for Muldoon Town Square Park**

Presented by Steve Rafuse, Park Planner

At the request of the Northeast Community Council, the Anchorage Assembly and Mayor's Office have appointed a naming committee for the park currently known as "Muldoon Town Square Park." The committee consists of four community members and includes Parks and Recreation staff. The Park was formally dedicated in July 2015 and a master plan for the park was approved in 2016. Phase I of park development will take place in summer 2017. It is anticipated the naming committee will finalize its recommendation in March 2017 and present its recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission in April 2017.

**IX. Commissioner Comments**

General discussion amongst Commissioners and Staff took place regarding snow plowing, hot mopping of Westchester Lagoon and snow making at Kincaid park.

Commissioner Peter Murphy asked about public use of the ski trails at Kincaid for people who want to ski early in the day before all the ski teams are on the trails. Mr. Rodda responded that the trails are accessible at several points along Raspberry Road, and are accessible even when the main gate is locked.

Mr. Rodda noted the Assembly will confirm appointment of three commissioners on December 20. Jim Winchester has been reappointed, as well as two new commissioners. A full board is expected in January.

**X. Upcoming Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Thursday, January 12, 2017, at Spenard Recreation Center.

**XI. Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner James Winchester and seconded by Commissioner Richard Mystrom, the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Dyson, Chair  
Parks & Recreation Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Rodda, Director  
Parks & Recreation