



# Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:00 p.m.  
Videoconference / Teleconference

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Members: Chair – James Poulson, Sarah Lawrie, Barbara Morse,  
Brandon Marx, Rich Krupa, Susan Compagno  
Assembly Liaison: Kevin Knox

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Poulson called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

## II. ROLL CALL

Present: James Poulson, Sarah Lawrie, Barbara Morse, Brandon Marx, Susan Compagno

Absent: Rich Krupa (excused)

Assembly Liaison: Kevin Knox

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

Others: Anne Marie LaPalme

## III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. April 14, 2020

**M – Marx / S Lawrie – moved to approve the April 14, 2020 minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.**

## V. REPORTS

Chair: Reported the Starrigavan area of the Cross Trail progress.

Members: Marx talked about forming a user group to put together a COVID-19 plan with State of Alaska Health Mandate 016 and find a safe way to gather kids for sports. He stated American Legion was cancelled for the season.

City Staff: Henshaw relayed for Michael Colliver, Building, Grounds and Parks Supervisor that he has been getting requests from community members wanting to use facilities; that the primary goal was to get city buildings up and running; there was possible compost/mulch that would be available, he would know more next week; and they were waiting on the contractor to replace the tiles at the Sitka Community Playground. Henshaw

Parks and Recreation Committee

FINAL May 12, 2020

Page 1 of 3

mentioned that committee meetings may be going to a hybrid type of video/teleconferencing and in person meetings next month.

Assembly Liaison: Knox reported the long assembly meeting agenda for the meeting that included the budget and with the Athletic Field Use Policy and Guidelines. Discussion were ongoing for reopening the Blatchley pool.

Other(s): Anne Marie LaPalme passed on that Harbor Mt. Road was open to the 2<sup>nd</sup> gate and that Blue Lake Road was due to open May 15. She reported that the campground gate would remain closed. She said that the bathroom would be open and the shelter on first come first serve basis. She told of the new host (a local person) for Starrigavan. She reported that the Forest Service was starting to do day trips for cabin maintenance when they typically start maintenance in early March. She told to report cabin maintenance needs to the main office.

**VI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** (For items OFF the agenda - Not to Exceed 3 Minutes)

None.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**B. Upper Moller Field Use**

The Athletic Policy and Guidelines would be heard at the Assembly meeting May 12<sup>th</sup>. Marx stated the subcommittee was scheduled to meet again. Knox wondered how things were working now. Marx stated the block scheduled wasn't finalized and there had been some conflicts, but felt that if the policy were followed, there wouldn't be. He reminded that schedules were posted online and the user groups set block scheduling three times a year, then the schedule was taken to the city to publish. He also stated non-priority users can fill out paperwork to get available spots. Lawrie liked the idea of having something physical at the field with information.

**C. Funding**

Marx felt that this item should be postponed due to the climate. Knox felt like it needed to be focused on with potential of grants or federal monies that may be available.

**D. Lower Moller Field**

Poulson felt like the cost to update the 2011 Turf Surfacing Feasibility Study from PDN Engineers could be possible with grants that may come up for planning purposes. Lawrie felt the cost was reasonable but had concerns with the current climate. She felt there could be potential especially with funding that may be available. Marx thought to make a recommendation to the city and call out to the community if this was of interest to support it.

Lawrie noted that due to COVID-19 she felt that more Sitkans were recreating and that maybe there would be support for the update because folks would see the value in it. Marx agreed.

**M – Marx / S Lawrie – moved to recommend the City and Borough of Sitka update the 2011 Lower Moller Field Turf Surfacing Feasibility Study from PDC Engineers Fee Proposal dated April 3, 2020 and make it a priority. Motion passed unanimously.**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**IX. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** (For items on or off the agenda - Not to Exceed 3 Minutes)

None.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Agenda items: Pickleball lines on the tennis courts; Colliver mitigation plan on reopening facilities; user group to put together a COVID-19 plan with State of Alaska Health Mandate 016

**Hearing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.**

Attest:  
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk