



Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
Tuesday, December 10, 2019 12:00 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall
330 Harbor Drive

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Poulson called the meeting to order at approximately 12:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Rich Krupa (excused)

Assembly Liaison: Kevin Knox

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw, Buildings, Grounds and Parks Supervisor Michael Colliver

Others: Tamy Stevenson

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 12, 2019

M – Smith / S – Marx moved to approve the November 12, 2019 minutes. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

V. REPORTS

Chair: None.

Members: None.

City Staff: Henshaw reported that she had sent the Forest Service updates via email from Annemarie LaPalme who was unable to attend the meeting. Colliver reported he and his staff were in "special project mode"; told of a new hire, Chad Mulligan; vandalism at Whale Park; that the budget process had started and gave details on the priority matrix; and gave an update on the development of an additional phase of the Sea Walk.

Assembly Liaison: Knox relayed the budget process for FY2021. He told of his conversation with Senator Stedman regarding State funding, budget, and the push to get the pool reopen.

Other(s): None.

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

None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Upper Moller Field Use

Henshaw noted Municipal Attorney Brian Hanson's email of concerns with regards the Athletic Field Use Policy and Guidelines. Marx stated that clarifications could be helpful. Colliver stated he and his team looked at the policy and had questions of equipment that was left out by users. Marx thought further discussions as the subcommittee level may be needed, that they could meet in January to discuss and bring it back. He gave a rundown on the process and his understanding of Public Work's responsibility. He noted that the main goal was to have stakeholders communicate and there was a good faith obligation to work issues out.

M – Marx / S – Morse moved to refer this back to the subcommittee to incorporate clarifications. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

C. Funding

Morse gave an update of her conversations with Senator Stedman, that there was likely no funding available for Lower Moller Field. Henshaw clarified that according to the Charter, the Tobacco Tax was allocated to Sitka Community Hospital (SCH), that there were ongoing costs associated with the closure that may take years to pay and that a change in the Charter required a vote of the people. She also noted that in order to allocate funds specifically, it needs to go through the Assembly not a citizen petition and required an election as well. Poulson wondered if head tax would be available for the Crescent Harbor bathrooms. Colliver gave history of legal issues with regards to head tax funding. Knox clarified SCH liabilities. Marx wondered if anyone was interested in forming a subcommittee. He would volunteer; Morse, and Compagno also expressed interest with the idea to form the subcommittee in February and possibly involve other stakeholders that would be interested. Colliver noted there had been lots of plans for Lower Moller Field however, they were fraught with inconstancies and there were lots of maintenance questions. He felt a complex plan through phases would be best. Marx thought that any documentation would be helpful.

D. Install gate at Upper Men's field

Colliver noted concerns with dog users of the field and would like to re-direct them to other dog dedicated areas. He thought what may help with regards to Krueger field would

be to install a gate on the back side of parking lot 2 of the Upper Men's field backside that would include signage. Marx was in support and thought to, in the future, discuss enforcement and other ways to eliminate dog waste on the field. Morse agreed and would like to see an alternate place for dogs as a long-term goal. Colliver noted the need to provide an option. He told about the pet waste bags.

M – Smith / S – Morse moved to support the installation of a gate. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

E. Operation of a mobile food truck at all ball field parking areas

Chair Poulson invited the Tamy Stevenson to give an explanation. She stated it was recommended to bring this item to the Parks and Recreation Committee for endorsement then take it to the Planning Commission. She explained that she would like to be allowed to park a mobile food truck in all ball field parking areas when space is available to serve soft serve ice cream. Poulson wondered of the competition of vendors. Compagno thought the mobile food truck could be at school activities as well. Stevenson stated she did not want to compete with the food sales already at school activities, but that she would dedicate a percentage of her sales back. Morse had concerns with setting precedence of additional requests of food trucks. Marx was in support and thought that there was very little conflict.

M – Smith / S – Marx moved to recommend endorsement of operation of a mobile food truck at ball field parking areas since it does not appear to conflict with concessions. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

IX. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (For items on or off the agenda - Not to Exceed 3 Minutes)
None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Compagno moved to adjourn the meeting, seeing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk