



Parks and Recreation Committee Agenda

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 12:00 PM
Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive

Members: Chair - Candace Rutledge, Vice Chair – Steve Black, Ben Hughey
Brandon Marx, Katherine Prussian, Manoj Battar
Assembly Liaison: Kevin Mosher

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Ben Hughey, Katherine Prussian, Brandon Marx, Steve Black, Candace Rutledge, and Manoj Battar (arrived 12:01 PM)

Absent:

Assembly Liaison:

Staff Present: Deputy Municipal Clerk Holley Bayne, Parks and Recreation Coordinator Kevin Knox, and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor Kent Smith

Others: None.

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 13, 2026

Black moved to approve the January 13, 2026, meeting minutes. Motion passed 6-0.

V. REPORTS

Chair: None.

Members: Prussian told of an upcoming Banff film festival.

City Staff: Kent Smith summarized current projects, plans for spring projects and announced he is traveling next month to get certified as a playground safety inspector. Kevin Knox reported on current and upcoming programming and said Kent and Connor plan to rekey the club house at Moller and Kimsham.

Assembly Liaison: None.

Other(s): Sitka Trail Works - Hughey provided an update on Sitka Trail Works plans to clear ditches along the Cross Trail.

VI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(For items OFF the agenda - not to exceed 3 minutes)*

None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Discussion/Direction on redesign of the Seawalk interpretive signs

Monique Anderson provided an introduction with DOT representatives Kathryn Erickson and Greg Lockwood. The DOT signage project near the bridge is close to review stage, with construction to start in April. Rebecca Poulson provided an update for the signage along the Seawalk Crescent Harbor area. Signs will be made this spring and installed later this season.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

B. Approval of Commercial Recreation Land Use Permits – requests not in 2026 Land Use Plan

Kevin Knox explained these applications fell outside of the scope provided in the land use plan and need to be addressed now. He clarified we don't have the use data studies for these areas but will want to add them to the 2027 plan.

a. Tribal Tours – Sea Walk and CBS sidewalks

Hughey moved to recommend approval of the commercial recreational land use permit as requested by Tribal Tours and hereby make the required determinations regarding this use as listed in SGC 14.10.030(B)(1-3). Motion passed 6-0 by a roll call vote.

b. Innersea Discoveries – Takatz Bay

Hughey moved to recommend approval of the commercial recreational land use permit as requested by Innersea Discovery, DBA UnCruise, and hereby make the required determinations regarding this use as listed in SGC 14.10.030(B)(1-3). Motion passed 5-1 by a roll call vote.

c. Lindblad Expeditions – Takatz Bay

Hughey moved to propose the following conditions of approval: a group size of twelve as followed in other regulations and an annual limit of 300. Motion passed 6-0 by a roll call vote.

Hughey moved to recommend approval of the commercial recreational land use permit as requested by Lindblad Expeditions, subject to the proposed conditions of approval, and hereby make the required determinations regarding this use as listed in SGC 14.10.030(B)(1-3). Motion passed 4-2 by a roll call vote.

d. Elysium Expeditions – Takatz Bay

Hughey moved to recommend approval of the commercial recreational land use permit as requested by Elysium Expeditions and hereby make the required determinations regarding this use as listed in SGC 14.10.030(B)(1-3). Motion passed 5-1 by a roll call vote.

C. Discussion of Parks and Recreation Master Plan Process

Knox outlined how this item will affect the committee moving forward. The Sitka Recreation Foundation will collaborate with the selected contractor to complete the planning phase. Throughout the process, contractors will have opportunities to gather public input through surveys and other feedback tools. At the conclusion of the planning phase, the commission will be asked to provide a formal recommendation to the Assembly.

IX. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(For items ON or OFF the agenda – not to exceed 3 minutes)*

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting would be March 10, at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall. Hearing no objection, Chair Rutledge called the meeting to adjournment at 1:40 PM.

Attest:
Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk