



Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 12:00 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall

Members: Chair – James Poulson, Ben Hughey, Brandon Marx
Rich Krupa, Kevin Knox, Katherine Prussian
Assembly Liaison: Crystal Duncan

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Present: James Poulson, Ben Hughey, Brandon Marx, Kevin Knox, and Katherine Prussian

Absent : None.

Assembly Liaison : Crystal Duncan

Staff Present: Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk

Others: None.

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 14, 2023, and April 11, 2023

**Knox moved to approve February 14, 2023, and April 11, 2023, minutes as written.
Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

V. REPORTS

Chair: None.

Members: None.

City Staff: Barb Morse, Temp Parks and Recreation Coordinator introduced Andrew Roseman as the Recreation Specialist.

Assembly Liaison: None.

Other(s): Ben Hughey provided an update on the Cross Trail grand opening on July 1st.

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

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

B. Approve Support letter for Sitka Local Foods Network and Transition Sitka's Community Garden concept

Prussian moved to approve the letter of support for Sitka Local Foods Network and Transition Sitka Community Garden Concept. Motion PASSED 6-0 by voice vote.

Joel Hanson expressed his gratitude to the Committee for their valuable support. However, Knox raised a question regarding item #5 on the criteria mentioned in the letter, which specified access to City water, sewer, and electricity. Poulson clarified that this aspect was merely a wish list from the group and not a mandatory requirement. Knox suggested that the letter explicitly state that the Planning Commission would review the process.

Hughey moved to amend the letter to add the following wording: The City of Sitka Parks and Recreation Committee would like to voice our support for a community garden. We recognize any garden project using city-owned land will go through a public process when it's reviewed by the Sitka Planning Commission. Setting aside the issue of a specific site, we believe the joint proposal by Sitka Local Foods Network and Transition Sitka is in keeping with the mission of this committee and goals set out in the most recent long-term plan for Sitka. Motion PASSED 6-0 by voice vote.

C. Discussion on use of electric bikes on City Trails

The Committee deliberated on the various electric bikes allowed on City trails. They acknowledged that the final decision would be influenced by the State's regulations, and once those were determined, they would present an ordinance for approval.

D. Presentation by Barb Morse and Andrew Roseman on the Parks and Recreation scheduling software and field scheduling

Roseman provided a presentation on the upcoming scheduling and field software. He mentioned they hoped for a launch date sometime in July.

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

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting would be on June 13, 2023, at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall.

Hearing no objection, Chair Poulson called the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Attest:
Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk