



# Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 12:00 p.m. Harrigan Centennial Hall

---

Members: Chair –Ben Hughey, Candace Rutledge  
James Poulson, Brandon Marx, Rich Krupa,  
Steve Black, Katherine Prussian  
Assembly Liaison: Kevin Mosher

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Ben Hughey, Candace Rutledge, Steve Black, and James Poulson

Absent: Rich Krupa (excused), Katherine Prussian (excused), Brandon Marx (excused)

Assembly Liaison: Kevin Mosher

Staff Present: Municipal Clerk Sara Peterson, Parks and Recreation Coordinator Kevin Knox, and  
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor Kent Smith

Others: None.

## **III. AGENDA CHANGES**

None.

## **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 10, 2025

**Poulson moved to approve the June 10, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion passed 4-0.**

## **V. REPORTS**

Chair: Sitka Trail Works has been working on Mosquito Cove trail

Members: None.

City Staff: Kevin Knox reviewed Parks and Recreation events. Kent Smith gave an update on playground repairs, roof repairs of shelters along the sea walk, and signage at the ball fields. New sand was approved to be placed at the Kimsham and Keet ball fields.

Assembly Liaison: None.

Other(s): None.

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

Paul Olsen suggested multi-year permits for commercial land use permitting.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**B. Review and recommendations for Commercial Recreational Land Use Plan**

Kevin and Amy provided an update on the land use plan. The Assembly deferred adoption to 2026, requesting further review. The plan will be returned to Parks & Recreation for additional input. Discussion focused on potential updates, including trail use, 2026 accommodations, permits, fees, and remote area access. A revised plan will be brought back for recommendation.

Bethany Lowrance noted the differences between Forest Service and city group limits on Thimbleberry Trail. Pat Swanson felt kayaking limits were too restrictive and suggested not counting guides. Alaina Brown reported more independent travelers on trails, and brought up weekly limit adjustments and fees. Paul Olsen suggested adding boundary limits for Baranof Warm Springs.

The committee supported excluding guides from group size limits and aligning with Forest Service standards. Concerns about double taxing were raised. A "quiet day" at Baranof Warm Springs was suggested but seen as potentially restrictive. A focused discussion on Goddard was recommended.

**C. Discussion/Direction on Facilities Funding Ballot Question**

Assembly Liaison Kevin Mosher provided an overview of the ballot proposition. Poulson spoke in support and provided historical knowledge and of past ballot propositions. Black spoke in support.

**D. Discussion/Direction on Removal of Dog Access Permissions on Upper Kimsham Ball Field**  
Carrie Iwamoto raised concerns about dog waste on the upper softball field, affecting safe play. She appreciated signage efforts but noted lack of enforcement. Kent Smith said new signs will support enforcement and public outreach. The committee discussed possible restrictions, with a dog ban suggested. Any changes would require a code update and Assembly recommendation.

**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 on August 12, 2025, at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall. Hearing no objection, Chair Hughey called the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Attest:  
Holley Bayne, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Parks and Recreation Committee  
Final Minutes July 8, 2025  
Page 2 of 2