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# Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 12:00 p.m.  
Harrigan Centennial Hall / Videoconference

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

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair James Poulson called the meeting to order at approximately 12:03 p.m.

## II. ROLL CALL

Present: James Poulson, Barbara Morse (video conference), Sarah Lawrie (video conference), Rich Krupa (video conference), Ben Hughey (video conferenced), Kevin Knox (videoconference)

Absent: Brandon Marx (excused)

Staff Present: Jessica Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk

Others: None.

## III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 14, 2021 and January 11, 2022

**Lawrie move to approve the December 14, 2021, and January 11, 2022, minutes as written. Motion passes by a unanimous voice vote.**

## V. REPORTS

Chair: None.

Members: Lawrie gave an update on the Sita Recreation Initiative. She said they had received \$3500 from the Health Summit and Hope Coalition. She noted that Ryan Kauffman's portrait at the Blatchley Middle School had gone viral. She said the Sitka Recreation Initiative group had made it to the Assembly's agenda and would be giving a presentation. Morse voiced concerns about the state parks, especially the Halibut Point parks. She said that the Governor had proposed a million dollars in the budget for parks. She requested that someone from the state parks give an update at the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

City Staff: Colliver reported on flood watches, repairs along the cross trails, and had added some culverts in a couple of areas. He said that the Kramer Cascade area had

been blocked off due to the slide. Spoke to the water situation and the area had been barricaded off for people for safety concerns. He told of the normal ground maintenance operations being delayed due to the weather.

Assembly Liaison: Knox spoke of upcoming Assembly topics to include the Community Recreation Initiative funding priority and APV discussions.

Other(s): Ben Hughey with Sitka Trail Works reported no major updates on the cross trails at this time. He gave an update on public participation for the Sitka Trails plan, long-term funding for future years from USDA, advanced planning on the Sitka Sound Coastal trails, and funding from USDA for a youth program.

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

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

B. Sitka Cycling Club Pump Track  
None.

C. Upper Moller Field Use

Marx said the sub-committee had met and just waiting for the weather to improve. Colliver expressed concerns about scheduling and block schedules. Would like to encourage that it be fair and transparent for all.

D. Lower Moller Field  
None.

E. Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan

Colliver discussed the need to use strategy and prioritize achievable comprehensive plans following the budget. He said he had been working with RTCA and they would be touring City facilities, one per month, and to have them surveyed.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

F. Commercial Use Permit Applications

Sitka Bike & Hike, LLC

Hughey questioned the definite number of clients and the permit fees. Colliver explained the permit fee process. Hughey expressed that Sitka Bike & Hike was a great business that was needed.

**Lawrie moved to recommend approval to the administrator for a permit for commercial recreation activity on city and borough lands for Sitka Bike and Hike, LLC. at Sitka Cross Trail, Gavin Hill, Blue Lake, Bear Lake, Herring Cove, and Thimble Berry as it has been determined that the use as proposed: 1 Will not pollute or degrade the environment, resources, facilities, or atmosphere of the area; and 2. Will not endanger the public health, safety, and welfare; and 3. Will**

**not significantly interfere with the use and enjoyment of the area by other members of the public. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

Alaska Sailing Expeditions, LLC dba Sound Sailing

**Lawrie moved to recommend approval to the administrator for a permit for commercial recreation activity on city and borough lands for Alaska Sailing Expeditions, LLC dba Sound Sailing at Baranof Warm Springs, and Goddard Hot Springs as it has been determined that the use as proposed: 1 Will not pollute or degrade the environment, resources, facilities, or atmosphere of the area; and 2. Will not endanger the public health, safety, and welfare; and 3. Will not significantly interfere with the use and enjoyment of the area by other members of the public. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

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

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting would be March 8, 2022, at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall and via Zoom.

Hearing no objection, Chair Poulson called the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Attest:  
Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk