



# Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:00 p.m.  
Harrigan Centennial Hall / Teleconference

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

## I. CALL TO ORDER

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

## II. ROLL CALL

Present: James Poulson, Sarah Lawrie (teleconference), Barbara Morse (teleconference),  
Brandon Marx (teleconference), Rich Krupa (teleconference), Susan Compagno (arrived at  
12:05 p.m.), Ben Hughey (teleconference)

Staff Present: Building, Grounds, and Parks Supervisor Michael Colliver (teleconference)  
and Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

Others: Sitka Trail Works Executive Director Lynne Brandon (teleconference), Katherine  
Prussian (teleconference), Anne Marie LaPalme (teleconference), Amy Volz  
(teleconference), Doug Osborne (teleconference)

## III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. December 8, 2020

**M – Marx / S - Krupa – moved to approve the December 8, 2020 minutes as written.  
Motion passed unanimously.**

## V. REPORTS

Chair: Poulson reported trails looked great as they were getting picked up from debris.

Members: Marx reported that baseball was starting up this week. Hughey told of his  
employment transition to Sitka Trail Works.

City Staff: None.

Assembly Liaison: None.

Other(s): Lynne Brandon with Sitka Trail Works reported that they were developing new ideas, Ben Hughey had been hired, and trail work was moving forward.

KK Prussian with Sitka Cycling Club reported on a proposal of installing a pump track in the Kimsham or Krueger field parking area. She shared that Juneau recently built a pump track at Cope Park, and of a conceptual design. She noted the need of a MOU for maintenance. Lynne Brandon stated that Kimsham was originally intended to have space for a playground and felt the pump track would enhance the area and would be in line with the goals of the area. Lawrie wondered who would be responsible for maintenance and how the track would hold up in the rain. Krupa shared his concerns of enough parking but noted that it could be good use of areas that were not being utilized. Morse questioned if it fit with the overall Kimsham plan, what other uses were proposed in the area, maintenance, and liability for the city. Colliver stated there were comprehensive plans for all complexes and shared his concerns with parking during events. He wondered if the turnaround complex would be a good area for this. He told of difficulty to maintain current infrastructure and that it would need to be sustainable.

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

None.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**B. Upper Moller Field Use**

The subcommittee would be meeting on the 18th and would bring back a draft for maintenance.

**C. Funding**

Not discussed.

**D. Lower Moller Field**

Not discussed.

**E. CARES Act Funding as it relates to Parks and Recreation**

Hughey was not aware of imminent funding but was hopeful that more stimulus funding would come in the next year or two. He relayed that Sitka Conservation Society had closed out their projects.

**F. Goals Matrix**

Lawrie drafted a guiding document for the Parks and Recreation Committee. She thought to organize documents and then categorize/prioritize different projects.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**G. Dog Park Misuse**

Morse noted the misuse of the Kimsham fields and felt it was an ongoing issue. She stated she had talked to Animal Control Officer Ken Buxton to check on the fields when he could and asked the Police Chief to patrol. Colliver noted that only dog owners should be on the *C field* also called the *Men's Upper field* and relayed that a back gate would be installed. Clips had been installed that say no dogs allowed on the field. He encouraged the committee to think about retracting dogs on fields and give them a specific site and the need for signs to be updated and less confusing.

#### **H. Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan**

Chair Poulson wondered what direction to take with a Comprehensive Plan. Whether to do inhouse through a subcommittee, as there was no funding to hire out. He stated that typically they are hired out but that this could be done if committee members would like to devote time to the project. Poulson asked if the goals matrix should be formed into a plan and to address other issues. Marx recognized the importance of a Comprehensive Plan and noted a priority of developing Lower Moller.

Colliver noted concerns on how to manage the current infrastructure. He could see value in having two plans, one for current infrastructure with the matrix and another for his team to work towards other ideas. Hughey was in support of developing a Comprehensive Plan with focus on maintenance, volunteers, or leverage to support staff. He wondered if ideas like adopt a trail programs or to find ways to lessen the workload. He suggested in the short term of 4-6 months to work on the plan in house. Morse agreed and liked the idea of two actionable plans. One to focus on current infrastructure as Colliver suggested and another for other ideas. She thought to work at it with a subcommittee and city staff.

A Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee consisting of Hughey, Lawrie, and Poulson would work on a plan within the next month and put together a presentation for the next meeting.

**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 February 9 at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall and via Zoom.  
Agenda item to add: Sitka Cycling Club Pump Track

Hearing no objection, the Chair Poulson called the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Attest:  
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk