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# Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

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

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

## I. CALL TO ORDER

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

## II. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

Assembly Liaison: Chris Ystad

Staff Present: Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk, Barb Morse, Temporary Parks and Recreation Coordinator

Others: None.

## III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 8, 2023

**Knox moved to approve the August 8, 2023, minutes as written. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

## V. REPORTS

Chair: None.

Members: None.

City Staff: None.

Assembly Liaison: None.

Other(s): Ben Hughey, Sitka Trail Works, reported on the concluding phases of the trail plan development. The team had been diligently working on the project for a couple of years, and they are preparing to present a draft to our Trail Plan Committee this week. They also expect to share a draft of the trail plan with the public, likely within the next month.

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

Bridget Hitchcock expressed a desire for a bathroom near the community playground and suggested its inclusion in the upcoming budget cycle. Brandon Marx commented about the unreported utilization of the commercial lodge use.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

B. Discussions on the management of field and facility usage, including the potential recommendation to the administrator for the new Parks and Recreation director to oversee the field use schedule in collaboration with the user group committee's input.

Marx presented a comprehensive overview of the subcommittee meetings, schedules, policies, and the priority use system applicable to all users.

Krupa felt it was essential to streamline the process and ensure everyone followed the same procedures. This approach aligns with the practices of other communities, treating it as a standard city field.

From the public who spoke in support: Justin Bagley, Brant Brantman, Brock Bal, Tatiana Perkins, Kelly Waller, Steve Black, and Liberty Siegel.

From the public who spoke against: Karen Case, Rodney Campbell, Rich McAlpin, Erickson Fish, and Carrie Fish.

During the discussion of t emotion, Mr. Knox and various speakers in favor of the motion made clear that the intent of the motion and the effect of the motion was not to amend or change in any way the City's priority of use policy concerning Upper Moller field, but it was to provide a arbiter to help resolve scheduling conflicts when they arise withing the context of the current field use policy.

**Krupa moved to have the Parks and Recreation Coordinator oversee the managing and scheduling of city-owned public fields and facilities. Additionally, they will facilitate quarterly meetings between all user groups. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes: 5- Poulson, Hughey, Krupa, Knox, and Prussian**

**No: 1-Marx**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

C. Update on the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant

Barb Morse, Parks, and Recreation Coordinator reviewed the memo in the packet. She said that the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant was open for applications and earlier this year, the Parks and Recreation Committee unanimously endorsed an upgrade

to the courts at Crescent Harbor. She believed that this project aligned well with the available funding. And was proposing that the city apply for this grant.

Brandt Brantman provided comments on the multi-use facility. Hughey wondered if a bathroom could be included in the proposal. Morse stated it could not be included in this scope.

**Knox moved to recommend CBS to apply to the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant opportunity for the Crescent Harbor courts upgrade. The 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.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting would be on October 10, 2023, at noon in Harrigan Centennial Hall. Hearing no objection, Chair Poulson called the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Attest:  
Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk