



Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

Thursday
January 20, 2011
Regular Meeting 5:30 p.m.



City Hall Cowles Council Chambers
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603



**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
 - A. Regular Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2010 Page 5
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** *(Three minute time limit)*
- 5. VISITORS** *(Visitors normally have 10 minutes for their presentation. The Commission*
 - A. Carmen Field – Natural Playgrounds
 - B. Joyanna Geisler, Homer Independent Living Center – Bridge Access to Karen Hornaday Park
- 6. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**
 - A. Kachemak Drive Path Committee Report
 1. Minutes for the December 2, 2010 Meeting Page 17
 2. Minutes for the December 16, 2010 Meeting Page 23
 3. Minutes for the January 6, 2011 Meeting Page 27
 - B. Spit Parks and Recreation Committee
 1. Synopsis for December 2, 2010 Meeting Page 29
 2. Synopsis for December 16, 2010 Meeting Page 31*(Regular meetings canceled until Commissioner Lilibridge returns from vacation or additional members are appointed.)*
 - C. Staff Report – Julie Engebretsen Page 33
 - D. Staff Report – Mike Illg Community Recreation Coordinator
 1. Jack Gist Draft Memorandum of Agreement Page 35
 3. What is "Parks & Recreation"? Page 41
 - a. National Recreation and Park Association Page 43
 5. Overview on how Community Recreation operates Page 45
 - E. Staff Report – Angie Otteson, Parks Coordinator and Maintenance
- 7. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 8. PENDING BUSINESS**
 - A. Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society Proposal Recommendation Page 49
 - B. Strategic Plan Update and Discussion – Planning Technician Julie Engebretsen Page 51
 - C. Karen Hornaday Park
 1. Memorandum from Ann Marie Holen, Special Projects Coordinator Page 55
dated June 11, 2010 Re: What Next for Karen Hornaday Park
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Updating the Non-Motorized Transportation and Trails Plan Page 59
 - B. Winter Carnival Page 61
 - C. Commission Recommendation Requested for Snowshoe Trail
 - D. Parks and Recreation Support
 - E. Memorandum from Mike Illg dated January 10, 2011 Re: Old Intermediate School Recommendation of Support Requested Page 63
 1. Community Recreation Programs Revenue and Participation 2007-2010

10. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Email received from Mr. Lloyd Gailey dated November 18, 2010 Page 71
- B. Letter received from Ms. Jessica Buckley dated October 22, 2010 Re:
Road Approach to Jack Gist Park Page 73
- C. Mayor Hornaday Response to Ms. Buckley December 14, 2010 Re:
Concerns on road into Jack Gist Park. Page 75
- D. Resolution 10-96, Amending the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission By-Laws
to Establish the Time of 5:30 P.M. as the Regular Meeting Time. Page 79
- E. Reappointment of Bumppo Bremicker to the Parks and Recreation
Advisory Commission Page 81
- F. Email from Geoffrey Orth, Alaska Trails dated December 29, 2010 Re:
Funding Source for Program in Danger of Being Cut. Page 85
- G. First Biennial Trail Rondy Page 89
- H. Annual Calendar 2011 Page 91
- I. Commission Attendance at Council Meetings Page 93
- J. Budget items for Public Works Parks & Recreation
and Community Recreation Page 95

11. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

12. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER *(If one has been assigned)*

13. COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS

14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

15. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

16. ADJOURNMENT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS MARCH 17, 2011 at 5:30pm in the City Hall
Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer Alaska

Session 10-04, a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Bremicker at 6:30 p.m. on November 18, 2010 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS BREMICKER, HARRALD, BRANN, CARLINSCHAUER, CUMMING,
AND LILLIBRIDGE

TELEPHONIC: COMMISSIONER ARCHIBALD

STAFF: PLANNING TECHNICIAN JULIE ENGBRETSSEN
RECREATION SPECIALIST/COMMUNITY SCHOOLS COORDINATOR MIKE ILLG
PARKS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR ANGIE OTTESON
DEPUTY CITY CLERK I RENEE KRAUSE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN - MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings.)

CUMMING/BRANN - MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2010 AND OCTOBER 25, 2010.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

VISITORS

Dave Seaman, President, The Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society (KBWBS). He stated that they have been attempting to lease a portion of a lot that the Pier One Theater and the campground next to the lagoon from the City. He summarized the steps the KBWBS has gone through so far and what they intend to do with the property. There is support for the endeavor by the Port and Harbor Commission, the Homer Yacht Club and other entities around town. The KBWBS is looking to establish a place where classes can be conducted, they can perform the boat reconditioning and building, hold the yearly festival and provide the storage needs of the KBWBS. The KBWBS would like a lease for thirty years for \$1.00 per year. It is believed that the economic benefit (bringing people to Homer) and cultural interest plus the family oriented activities offered by the KBWBS would be a fair exchange for the lease amount offered. The selected located is desirable due to the access to the water to launch the boats. The yearly festival would require access to a larger area for the weekend that it is held. The proposed building would actually only displace four camping spots. This results in a minimal revenue impact to the Parks and Recreation revenues.

The KBWBS is also planning on including a small playground that would be beneficial to the families that normally use that campground.

Mr. Lillibridge gave more details on the location of the building and the benefits to families coming to the Spit during the summer season.

Chair Bremicker inquired if Commissioner Lillibridge and he would have a conflict on a motion to support the KBWBS which is on the agenda under New Business. He is only a member. Deputy City Clerk Krause explained that since both the Chair and Commissioner would be perceived by the Public as having a conflict even though they would not be receiving any monetary gain as members of the KBWBS they are more inclined to support and approve of a lease by Council. She further confirmed that a motion by a commissioner present that they have a conflict would be made and voted on then they would step down, Chair Bremicker would turn the meeting over to the Vice Chair, Ms. Harrald. Commissioner Lillibridge and Bremicker would abstain from participating in the discussion and any forthcoming motions made by the remaining commissioners. Once the order of business has been dealt with they would then come back to the table. She additionally explained that they would still have a quorum present when they were found in conflict and thusly Commissioner Archibald attending telephonically would be able to vote also.

This will be address later in the agenda.

In response to questions regarding drawings or plans the Clerk stated she could provide copies of the information that the KBWBS provided to the Lease Committee.

Chair Bremicker called for a brief recess at 7:19 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:24 p.m.

Deputy City Clerk Krause distributed copies of the documents received from KBWBS at the last Lease Committee meeting for review.

There was no further discussion.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items scheduled for reconsideration.

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

Planning Technician Engebretsen distributed the following items:

1. Comments from Commissioner Archibald regarding various items on the agenda.
2. Updated information on Jack Gist Park Improvements Phase I and Karen Hornaday Park Improvements Phase I from the 2011-2016 CIP.
3. Parking Plan Concept from the Karen Hornaday Master Plan
4. Draft Diamond Creek Park Master Plan submitted by Commissioner Brann

She inquired if there were any questions on the materials. Commissioner Lillibridge asked about the status of the \$52,000 received in stimulus funding.

Community Recreation Coordinator Illg responded to a question on the status of the \$52,000 stimulus funding stating that was to be used at the park; there are substantial drainage issues, expand on parking, and installation of a gate. He is not aware if any of that work has been done and Public Works Director Meyer would be the best one to answer that question.

Community Recreation Coordinator Illg further reported that he sent an email with information on the old intermediate school building. This building is currently being utilized during the mornings and on weekends. He attended the EDC meeting and advocated for the use of this building for recreational uses. He was not sure that they could generate the funds needed to pay the utility bills. There is budgetary requirements to generate revenue to cover the expenses related to the courses and classes offered. He gave a brief summary on the requirements for the classes offered and differences for

educational and recreational. He stated that revenue generated is \$25,000-\$30,000.00 per year. The costs for the building is about \$80,000.

Planning Technician Engebretsen stated that staff would bring a status report of this building in January for the regular meeting. She noted the last paragraph in her report.

Commissioner Brann would like to see this commission take a pro-active stance and inquired what the Commission could do for Community Recreation Coordinator Illg regarding this building. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg suggested a formal recommendation from this Commission to the EDC to consider the Community Recreation Program and keeping the Boys & Girls Club; the Community Recreation program has a vested interest in the building.

Planning Technician Engebretsen stated this topic could be placed on the January agenda no action could be taken at this time. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg was asked to provide usage, revenue and expense information on the building for the January meeting packet.

Community Recreation Coordinator Illg stated there is a draft MOU for Jack Gist Park with the Softball League. They are still working with the Little League for an agreement with the Karen Hornaday Park. There is a deadline for the spring/summer recreation catalog of January 10, 2011 if the Commissioners had anything to add to it.

Commissioner Cumming questioned if any of the memorandums come before the Commission for review and recommendation. Planning Technician Engebretsen will address this issue with the City Manager and have the response for them in January.

There was no further discussion.

Parks Maintenance Coordinator Angie Otteson reported that the total revenue for the 4 parks on the Spit and Karen Hornaday Campground totaled \$175,819.00 this year. This reflected approximately \$10,000 increase over the 2009 season. The season is April 1st to September 30th each year. She stated that the KBWBS proposed project is very favorable and supports it but would like to see it located closer to the road instead of the selected location. She also noted that Council is looking to cut the summer parks maintenance personnel whose main purpose is to maintain the public restrooms and parks. The revenue collected is put into the general fund and the total budgetary needs is approximately \$400,000. Commissioner Lillibridge asked if this was the appropriate time to make a motion to recommend Council. Ms. Engebretsen explained that it was a bit late in the Budget process but that the Commissioners and any resident was encouraged to attend the next council meetings and recommend supporting and not cutting the budget. She distributed a listing of parks and trails to the commissioners.

Commissioner Brann will be attending the next Council Meeting and will include a statement of support in his comments to Council.

There was no further discussion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings were scheduled.

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. Spit Comprehensive Plan - Draft dated September 28, 2010
1. Staff Report dated November 8, 2010 from Julie Engebretsen

Planning Technician Engebretsen distributed copies of comments from Commissioner Brann and Cumming. She asked if there were any more comments or if what was presented was good; she would submit that in memo form to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Lillibridge commented on item #13 of the staff memo, "The plan does not place enough emphasis on the importance of parks, recreation and open space on the Spit." She wondered if this was the appropriate time to discuss this point.

Planning Technician Engebretsen responded that if there was a specific statement for the document. She understands that there is a strong interest in recreation on the Spit but that this is not the document for it. Commissioner Lillibridge stated that the plan states less than 4% of the Spit is delegated for parks. She personally went and visited all the parks on the Spit and proceeded to give a personal overview of each park. She would like to suggest all the parks and recreation issues on the spit come under the auspices of the commission. This would mean that the issues with Mariner Park, Seafarer's Memorial, etc. She wanted the Commission have more consideration on a decisions that affect parks and recreation on the Spit. Staff explained that the comprehensive plan is not site specific it is a document that outlines the goals and future development of the land and/or area. Ms. Engebretsen further explained that specific issues are addressed in individual master plans. The master plans address nuts and bolts where the comprehensive plan addresses how to get there. It was noted that it was a good idea but the role of the commission is outlined in city code.

There was a brief discussion on the appearance of the park area next to Land's End as more of a parking lot than a park. Commissioner Lillibridge would just like to see more attention spent on these parks. It was again noted by staff that this was a very good point that would be addressed by the Needs Assessment and the ever present funding issues.

Chair Bremicker directed focus back to the list given at the previous meeting. Ms. Engebretsen stated the Planning Commission will review this list and take it into consideration when making their recommendations to council.

Commissioner Brann offered further explanation on the entrance to Mariner Park. Discussion ensued on the safety hazards, pedestrian and cyclist access issues that could be rectified by relocating the entrance and lowering the speed limit also. There was a brief diatribe regarding pedestrian and bike access along Ocean Drive leading to the Spit.

There were no further additions or comments for the Spit Comprehensive Plan by the commissioners.

There was no further discussion.

- B. Kachemak Drive Bike/Pedestrian Path
1. Staff Report dated November 8, 2010
a. Resolution 10-78(A), Adopting the 2011-2016 CIP
b. Page 45 from the 2011 CIP, Kachemak Drive Rehabilitation and Bike Path
c. Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan

Planning Technician Engebretsen provided information on the STIP and how it is used when determining which projects get funding that are state or federal. She recommended that a committee be formed or one commissioner selected to work on this project to see if there is funding, what can be done. This is a large, time intensive project that would best be served by a smaller focused committee. There is a lot to think about. There is no funding for this project by the state. Chair Bremicker stated that there would be monies in the trails fund. Staff explained that the HART fund does not contain the amount of

funding that this project would need and typically does not fund this type of work. They may be able to use some funds for matching purposes. Commissioner Cumming reported that in a conversation with Ms. Jocelyn Biloon with the DOT stated it was on the state list.

Chair Bremicker gave a summary outline of creating a committee. Staff explained that a committee can be appointed by the Chair with a minimum of two commissioners. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg commented that a representative from the newly formed bike group may be interested in participating on the committee. Commissioner Lillibridge inquired about a daily vehicle count for the traffic impact. Staff recommended keeping the committee small so that they did not need a large requirement for a quorum but invite the special interest groups and public to attend meetings to offer input. Discussion developed on establishing the first meeting date and time. It was agreed to set December 2, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room Upstairs. Ms. Engebretsen stated that if it was a short meeting she would be able to attend. She explained that she would assist for this first meeting to get the committee established but after that they would be on their own. She further recommended that they do not invite the groups for the first meeting until they have ironed out what they want to do and where the group wants to end up. Commissioner Cumming brought up the issues regarding right of ways, getting property owner support, wetlands, and drainage, and dealing with these issues.

Chair Bremicker noted the time and asked for any additional comments.

There was no further discussion.

C. Change in Meeting Time

1. Staff Report dated November 8, 2010
2. Draft By-Laws showing Meeting Time Change
3. Draft Resolution 10-XX, Amending the Meeting Time

Planning Technician Engebretsen explained that they discussed the proposed meeting change at the October 25, 2010 Special Meeting and they need a motion to approve the change to the bylaws for it to go to Council for approval at their next Meeting December 13, 2010.

CARLINSCHAUER/LILLIBRIDGE - MOVED TO APPROVE THE BYLAWS CHANGE OF THE REGULAR MEETING TIME TO 5:30 P.M. FROM 6:30 P.M.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2011 Meeting Schedule

A brief discussion ensued regarding the frequency of the meetings and if they should change any of the days. Chair Bremicker noted that the other Commissions and Board have not changed to fewer meetings. Staff noted that due to the infrequent meetings prior due to membership that meeting every other month in the winter and every month during the season would be easier. They were reminded that if necessary they can have a special meeting if needed to address the outstanding work product. Commissioner Brann suggested that they keep the regular schedule as outlined and hold special meetings as required. Then at the end of the year if they have held meetings every month they should address changing the frequency of the meeting schedule.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN - MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2011 MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED WITH THE AMENDMENT TO THE MEETING TIME FROM 6:30 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

There was no further discussion.

B. Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society (KBWBS) Lease

Chair Bremicker introduced the KBWBS lease request.

It was allowed that Chair Bremicker and Commissioner Lillibridge could participate in the discussion for explanation and discussion on the purpose and direction that the Wooden Boat Society intends. The KBWBS is not planning on having a building right away when they receive the lease that is a long term goal for the Society. The Commission asked for information regarding support from the Pier One theater group and if they have offered support for the proposed KBWBS plan. Commissioner Lillibridge stated they have approached and had dialogue with the theater group; then went on to say that she would believe a sub-committee created to address the entire pier one parcel and the parks and recreational issues on the Spit as a whole. She emphasized the benefits to look at the entire 11 acres, rehabbing the land, playground for kids. She went on to further note that the center campsites are cramped and need some help and the issues with the Pier One building itself.

It was noted that creating a committee was a good idea and to establish a committee to specifically look at the Spit Parks.

Planning Technician Engebretsen interjected that the lease for the KBWBS is currently before the Lease Committee and creating a committee to address this lot will not further KBWBS goals.

Chair Bremicker appointed Commissioner CarlinSchauer, Archibald and Lillibridge to the Spit Parks and Recreation Committee. They will meet on December 2, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Angie Otteson would be the staff person for any questions or information the committee would need for the first meeting. It was noted that the Harbormaster should be invited to get his input also. An invitation will be extended to Pier One folks.

Commissioner Cumming inquired about the fact the parcel is not a park and expressed concern how it could come under the Parks and Recreation Commission. The 11 acres is a campground. Ms. Engebretsen explained that it is a port asset but currently has the campground on the majority of the parcel and since camping is considered recreational that is how they would be able to offer recommendations. There are some extenuating issues but other parks need attention too.

Commissioner CarlinSchauer is supportive of the idea that KBWBS has presented but would like to look over the selected site before making and recommendations and would like to serve on the committee.

Commissioner Brann commented on the KBWBS proposal in that he liked the idea of their plan and he would like to offer some support for their plan for the location. He believes they have done their homework. He understood there will be a loss of some revenue with the proposed building taking away four campsites but felt that would be minimal compared to the value of what the KBWBS would offer visitors and residents. They may be able to reconfigure those spots. He was concerned that this issue was going to be studied another month or two.

There was a general discussion that the commission could not make a motion to support the KBWBS at this time until further information and a site visit has been done. Ms. Engebretsen stated that the commission could certainly hold their recommendation until a later date when they have received more information. She explained that this issue is before the Lease Committee. Ms. Lillibridge responded that she believed that this was supposed to be before the Planning Commission that the Lease Committee approved it and recommended moving it forward at the October 14, 2010 meeting. Ms. Engebretsen suggested maybe it's to be before Council. Ms. Lillibridge then stated the recommendation was before council for January. Ms. Engebretsen proceeded to comment that this should not cause much delay and that if the Council had any parks or recreational concerns they would forward them to this Commission. It was requested that Harbormaster Hawkins attend the committee meeting so he could explain the land usage and since he was the one who suggested this location for the KBWBS.

There was no further discussion.

C. Karen Hornaday Park Update - Bridge Request

Chair Bremicker read from the title and stated that a park walk through was conducted prior to this meeting. He requested Ms. Engebretsen to enlighten the Commission on the item.

Ms. Engebretsen explained that she did not have first-hand information. Mayor Hornaday requested this item to be placed on the agenda. She did speak with Ms. Anne Marie Holen, Special Projects Coordinator who copied her on an email response that was sent to the Homer Independent Living Center.

They have a program called TRAILS (Total Recreation and Independent Living Services). As part of their program they are interested in accessible outdoor recreation for all users. They would like the City to donate an unused ramp from the Harbor as a bridge crossing for Woodard Creek. She noted that this issue would come before the Port and Harbor Commission too for a recommendation.

It was noted by Ms. Holen to TRAILS that in her conversation with City Manager Wrede, he explained that a decision could not be made until receipt of clear design drawings, and a complete budget.

This project would also have to have the recommendation of the Friends of Woodard Creek and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

She reminded them to keep in mind that if the City were to provide any labor it would require Davis-Bacon wages, possible environmental permitting issues, and that this project would not be even considered until Spring 2011 due to the Public Works overloaded schedule. They have too many projects lined up already. Due to the budget cuts the city cannot hire a project manager which has been needed for some time. No matter how good and beneficial the project, it takes up a lot of staff time.

If a budget and design drawings are created then a meeting can be arranged between TRAILS, City Manager Wrede and Public Works Director Meyer and the City will have a better idea on the feasibility of the bridge project.

Ms. Engebretsen was not sure if this was the proper time to make a recommendation since they are not sure if the ramp can be used as a bridge crossing.

Commissioner Cumming explained that a bridge has been discussed for a very long time and she would love to see one. The proposed bridge is 70 feet long and the approach on each side needs engineering. The bridge would have to be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. The approaches would require lots of work, the soils are unstable, and cost would be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, especially on the west side. She further questioned if the bridge placement would be an extension of Cityview. Commissioner Cumming stated she attended the Council meeting where Bobbie Munn, TRAILS, made a presentation to Council on the idea. During the presentation she noted they have a grant for a bridge, but it must be ADA compliant. There are more opportunities for TRAILS to receive additional grants also. One is a grant from Soils and Water which the City has applied for too. She feels

that there are many issues and questions with the installation of a bridge. Commissioner Cumming also feels that the TRAILS need to know the overall plans for the Park. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg suggested they contact TRAILS to attend a meeting for an informational presentation.

Ms. Engebretsen stated that at issue is the engineering, which needs to be done before a recommendation from this commission should be made. Until they know the details it would not be prudent for this Commission to forward a recommendation. Commissioners agreed that the concept was good, to make a presentation to the commission, to offer support but more information is required for a full recommendation to Council. It was determined to extend an invitation to Ms. Munn to attend the March meeting to make a presentation to the commission. Commissioner Archibald had concerns that the ramps would be appropriate for a bridge, there is some damage too. He had additional concerns with a private entity putting a bridge in a city owned property and could not support that part. However, he did support the idea of a bridge and it should be under the City. Safety concerns were also expressed and that a representative from the hospital should be included in future discussions as an interested party.

There was no further discussion.

D. Park Master Plans

Ms. Engebretsen had requests for Jack Gist park and WKFL Park to be on the agenda and after further thought she recommends that the Commission work on creating a Park Summary for each park. This would be a one or two page document that contains basic information such as:

1. What is the park?
2. How big is it?
3. Foreseeable needs over the next 5-10 years.
4. Location?
5. History?
6. Facilities?

These summaries can be written in house by staff. The larger parks like Jack Gist and Karen Hornaday require master plans as they are much larger facilities with more users, activities and problems. Master plans require public comment and input. So the Commission would have to hold Open Houses. Staff recommendation was for the Commission to direct staff to write up park summaries which a draft document could be provided at the January meeting.

Further discussion regarding the park users of Jack Gist, the benefits of having a master plan, needs assessment, the oversight of the commission with the parks, if the creation of another sub-committee could or should be created to address a master plan for Jack Gist which would require professional assistance and if there would be funding for that assistance or grants available. There were additional comments on the issue of including a soccer field. Commissioner Carlinschauer felt that he would have a conflict of interest for any future detailed discussion but he feels that the need for a soccer field should be addressed and included but did not want to displace any entity already in place. He noted that a soccer field is much larger than a ball field and there is not enough space at Jack Gist. He looks forward to establishing a soccer field or facility in the future. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg agreed and commented that it is one of the largest multigenerational organized sports. Currently the school fields are used but access is getting more and more difficult with community access being cutoff. The high school fields are limited to football only. The West Homer Elementary and Middle School fields are used although these are not regulation. The High School softball field is limited to High School Soccer use only which is approximately 21 days.

There is currently no city owned parks suitable for creating a soccer field. A large problem is creating or having enough parking adjacent to the soccer field.

Commissioner Lillibridge suggested inviting the Jack Gist group to attend the March Meeting to find out what they would like to see or how they envision the park to be. Community Recreation Coordinator Illg will extend an invitation to the group. She then asked about the status of Emerald Park as it was not on the list distributed by Ms. Otteson. Ms. Engebretsen explained that it was not a maintained park it was designated to remain in its natural state. It does have a Park Master Plan that outlines what will and will not be done. Emerald park is located on the corner of Upland and Highland, swampy, approximately one acre. If developed it would be a small neighborhood park. There was a brief comment on the ten acre parcel located above Karen Hornaday Park which has access problems that will someday have to be addressed.

There was no further discussion.

E. Strategic Plan

Ms. Engebretsen commented that a couple of years ago had a few priorities so she can add the few things and the committees that have been formed. She did not feel that they had to go through a visioning exercise since they established the committees. Commissioner Cumming requested a review and explanation on how to best use and develop a strategic plan. She felt that it would be really great to have an official direction on what they as a commission want to do. Ms. Engebretsen stated that if anything the current plan could use some updating.

There was no discussion.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. Certificate Acknowledging Ruth Dickerson Service to the Commission

Chair Bremicker commented that he hoped Ruth was doing fine.

B. Commissioner Attendance Schedule for City Council Meetings

Ms. Engebretsen explained that a yearly calendar was created with a commissioner volunteering to attend and report to Council what the Commission was working on at one meeting a month. It was the Commissioners choice on which Monday, the 2nd or 4th that they could attend.

Commissioner Brann volunteered for November 22, 2010 and Commissioner Archibald volunteered for the December 13, 2010 meeting.

This will be on the January agenda for the 2011 council meetings.

There was no further discussion or comment.

C. Diamond Creek Easement

Ms. Engebretsen had mentioned this in her staff report and further informed the Commission that the City has been working with the state on this for approximately a year and it has finally been recorded and is a done deal. Commissioner Brann distributed an informational handout on the 275 acres located at the top of Baycrest Hill in the Diamond Creek drainage.

There was no further discussion.

D. Appointment of Tricia Lillibridge

Chair Bremicker formally welcomed Commissioner Lillibridge and commented that she has tremendous energy, and lots of great ideas.

Commissioner Lillibridge commented that she looks forward to working with the commission and glad that the mayor chose to appoint her. She requested each member to introduce themselves and give a little bit of information on how long they have been on the commissioner, etc.

E. Commission Annual Calendar

Chair Bremicker commented that in reviewing the Annual calendar and with the other things they worked on tonight it appears they will be pretty busy.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There were no audience comments.

COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS

Planning Technician Engebretsen welcomed Tricia and congratulated them for making their way through this heavy agenda. She felt it was great to make motions and move right along, through the years this group has struggled through so this was great.

Deputy City Clerk Krause reminded the members of the two committees that they will have to create an agenda and will have to appoint someone to take a synopsis or minutes. The minutes did not have to be detailed just represent the action taken. She responded to a question regarding conversation or discussion between members what is allowed and what is not allowed. It would be best to include staff the clerk's office if emailing each other so that it cannot be perceived that there is hidden agenda. So discussion on what they would like to discuss but not discuss it. She stated that all meetings require a two week leeway to be noticed properly and to have the agenda to her no later than Wednesday the week before a scheduled meeting or sooner if possible.

Parks Maintenance Coordinator Otteson welcomed Tricia and commented it was very exciting and great to see so much enthusiasm.

Community Recreation Coordinator Illg welcomed Commissioner Lillibridge and stated he would not be able to attend the January meeting. He thanked everyone for serving and that this was the go to voice for parks and recreation in this community and it is encouraging to see more and more people getting involved.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER *(if one is assigned)*

None.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Lillibridge commented that she will not be at the January meeting. She goes by Tricia, not Pat or Patty or Patricia. She has resided in Alaska for most of her life, recently in Anchorage. She has been an avid user of parks when raising her kids and campgrounds. They chose Homer to live and retire to - Homer is the only place that brought a sparkle to their eyes. She commented it feels pretty good to be called a Commissioner. She stated they will find the money and they will get it built. She stated it was a pretty dynamic packet for the first one.

Commissioner Cumming commented that this was a great commission and they sure have lots of ideas. She is looking forward to the January meeting where they put into the strategic plan what they are going to do. She is new to the commission but she attended as the only member of the public to appear at the meetings, well most meetings.

Commissioner CarlinSchauer, everyone calls him Tommie. He has been a commissioner for two months. He visited Homer during the summer of 2008 for more than a two week vacation. He coached soccer the summer of 2009 and decided to move to Homer. He is a soccer coach. His sister lives here. He joined the commission to clean up the spit and work on the trails. He would like to see improvement. He stated that you need your trails. He believes these are important issues for the community to be addressed. He believes as an outsider that there is a continuation of the good work already done. He supports all the recreation here.

Commissioner Brann stated he has attended three meetings now, been in Homer since 1982 and been involved in recreation since that time. He would like to know what he can and should not say at the Council meeting, he listed continuation of funding for the parks maintenance workers, the two committees formed, the strategic planning, and the bridge issue. He gets frustrated sometimes with the time it takes to get something done. He believes that they can get 10 things done at a time, he loves the website it needs more winter recreation.

Commissioner Archibald has been in Alaska since one year after the earthquake. He has been in Homer over 20 years. He been involved in the Land Trust and the Equestrian Association; the Conservation Society and he has organized the Highland Games, raised a lot of money and knows what grass root efforts can do. He believes that they have a beautiful and dynamic environment. He believes it would be ludicrous not to protect what Homer currently has. He really wants to be part of that effort and his happy to be on the Commission. In response to a question from the Clerk regarding the Games there were several parties interested in looking into organizing the event again. He stated that if they could generate enough enthusiasm they may be able to get something together again.

Commissioner Carlinschauer, Lillibridge expressed interest in the Highland games too.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Bremicker thanked all the great people for joining and welcomed Mike and Angie to attend any meeting. He thanked Julie and Renee for lending their expertise. He reminded the Commission about the December 2, 2010 committee meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission Chair Bremicker adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, JANUARY 20, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: _____

KACHEMAK DRIVE PATH COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 2, 2010
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes By Dave Brann

A sign up sheet was handed around.

The meeting called to order by Commissioner and Committee Chair Bumpo Bremicker at 5:03 p.m. It was moved and 2nd to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Bremicker reminded people to be recognized by the chair before speaking.

A brief discussion was held (without being recognized by the chair) about adding to the Committee.

Ms. Engebretsen, Planning Technician clarified that the Chair could not appoint new committee members at this meeting. All appointees can be made at a regular meeting of the commission.

There were eight visitors at the meeting, partial names listed below, full names should be available from the sign in sheet.

Chair Bremicker gave a brief overview of goals, to explore the concept and various possibilities of a trail along Kachemak Drive. He noted the Committee's recommendation would be passed on to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. The Commission then could choose whether to pass it on to the City Council.

Following the agenda, the chair called for comments from the visitors.

1. Lynn Burt, lives on Kachemak Drive, would love to see a separated trail, to be shared by all. She lives behind the Auto Clinic and walks in the area often.
2. Catronia Lowe, a cyclist, uses a bike to commute to work and for recreation. She feels a path would increase Homers health and bike-ability. She thought perhaps a separated trail on both sides of the road would be best.
3. Captain Joe Litchfield, stated he is skeptical of anything the city does. He owns land on both sides of the road and was concerned about which side of the road the trail would go on, how it would be paid for and about being asked/forced to give up some of his land.
4. Mike Illg, Homer Community Recreation Director, gave an overview noting all the discussion about a trail is exploratory at this time. He stated nothing is going to happen quick.
5. There were additional comments from a guest not recognized by the chair about deals behind closed doors. Chair Bremicker stated the City Council follows a process open to public comment.
6. Derek Reynolds, cyclist, commuter, bike shop owner. He stated he would feel safer with a widened paved shoulder or a bike path.
7. Ms. Cumming Cummings, Parks & Rec Commissioner, stated she thought Committee members should be identified. Chair Bremicker stated he would follow the agenda allowing visitors to speak first. Robert Archibald stated he was a member of the Parks and Rec. Advisory Commission and was just listening. Comments by the chair, and Ms. Harrald, Parks & Rec Commissioner, noted she thought the idea was to get both sides of the issues.
8. David Clemens, cyclist and a member of new cycling group in Homer. He stated he feels Kachemak Drive is not safe. He referred to the City Non-motorized trails plan as a good place to start.

Staff Report—Ms. Engebretsen made comments about the State Recreational Land Use Statute and said she was not sure of its value to the group at this point. She commented that easements, such as water and sewer easements does not mean there is also a trail easement, they are specific to their purpose. When asked a question she said a normal road easement is 60 feet but the road right of way varies along Kachemak Drive. The Right of Way belongs to DOT and they would have a say in a roadside trail.

Ms. Harrald talked about past discussions of placing a trail on top of the existing/proposed sewer line along Kachemak Drive. Ms. Cumming mentioned the power line as one option. Ms. Engebretsen reminded the group that an easement does not mean it is also a trail easement.

Chair Bremicker made comments and there were questions about the Recreational Use Statute, Ms. Engebretsen clarified that it was about easements.

NEW BUSINESS

To develop a strategic plan on how to proceed in exploring the options related to a trail along Kachemak Drive.

In our packet, Deputy City Clerk Renee Krause provided a worksheet for developing a strategic plan. Two of the committee members had filled part of the outline, it was suggested committee members fill out at least the first two items on the plan, a Mission Statement and the Committee is established to:

Ms. Cumming stated she was very concerned about the path going across private property.

Ms. Harrald suggested a feasibility study to see what the committee wants as a way to make Kachemak Drive safer, perhaps a needs assessment. Mr. Brann commented we should start with a strategic plan on how to proceed before we develop a needs assessment. Dave referenced the trails manual from Minn. With their trail planning project guidelines.

Chair Bremicker stated we could start with either of two sentences:

Do we need it? (a trail)

We do need it.

A comment from Ms. Lowe suggested adding more appointees to the committee.

Ms. Cumming brought up a question about imminent domain. Ms. Engebretsen clarified and said it was highly unlikely that would happen for a trail. Ms. Cumming feels strongly that property owners need to be assured their property won't be taken by force.

Capt. Joe Litchfield wanted to go on record suggesting two things;
Expand the shoulder of the road and get the police department to enforce existing speed limits.
He sees that as a compromise.

Chair Bremicker reviewed the history of the road, from the old dirt road to the new road the was greatly built up, he felt a trail along the shoulder would require a lot of fill, even a shoulder is a major obstacle. Mr. Litchfield mentioned problems with drainage because of the new road. Ms. Engebretsen made comments about a paved lane as opposed to a separated trail. Chair Bremicker felt that there were options available. Mr. Reynolds asked if the road was wider than necessary? Ms. Engebretsen mentioned a figure. Ms. Lowe asked about width of Lake Street. Chair Bremicker felt Kachemak Drive was minimum width.

Ms. Engebretsen said she would research road widths.

Dave Clemens commented that he felt we would need bike lanes on both sides of Kachemak Dr. He said the Ocean Drive bike lane is dangerous. Chair Bremicker felt a separated path was best. Mr. Clemens felt a path separated from the road would be safer.

Chair Bremicker wondered how to proceed. He asked who would like to be on the committee. Ms. Harrald, Could we advertise, out there? Ms. Engebretsen responded sure. Chair Bremicker stated only Committee members vote. Ms. Harrald commented maybe others would be interested. Chair Bremicker stated if we can fill the committee now, we should. Ms. Engebretsen commented that a group of twenty is not recommended. Ms. Cumming suggested seven and recommended Capt. Litchfield be on it. There are four current members, we need three more. Other members of the public can comment at any meeting.

Mr. Brann reviewed the schedule of meetings of the committee and the Advisory Commission so people would understand the commitment.

Ms. Cumming noted we can't talk with each other. Mr. Brann mentioned the ethics packet and requirements. Chair Bremicker stated the meetings are open.

Mr. Clemens asked if one of the committee members could be from the cycling group, perhaps a rotating member.

Ms. Lowe asked for clarification about the ethics issues of discussing items with other members of the cycling group by the committee member. She was assured it would be okay. Ms. Cumming wondered if we should wait and would Mr. Litchfield be willing to be on the committee? Mr. Litchfield said sure, the trail would only be used by a dozen or so bikers for two months. Lynn Burt volunteered to be on the committee.

Chair Bremicker wanted to set up the schedule for the next meeting. Mr. Brann mentioned the schedule again, and that a two week notice was required and the Advisory Commission meets every other month. Ms. Harrald clarified about summer meetings are every month for the Advisory Commission. Ms. Cumming asked if we could meet if we didn't have a quorum, mentioned she felt strongly about private property owners. Ms. Engebretsen said she would check. The meeting was set for Thursday, Dec. 16 at 5:15.

Ms. Engebretsen suggested the public process should be to get the basic information, come up with basic questions and answers then perhaps got to the public with an open house.

Discussion was held between Chair Bremicker, Ms. Engebretsen and Ms. Harrald.

Ms. Burt said that she uses the East End Bike Trail and would like one on Kachemak Drive. Ms. Harrald noted in response to a comment, if you build the trail, users will come.

Chair Bremicker said we need to know how many might use the trail, suggested doing a survey of people along Kachemak Drive. Ms. Harrald said she used to work for a group building a trail around San Francisco Bay. A needs assessment helped to create the trail.

Ms. Cumming talked about Lampert Lake and questioned the ownership. Captain Litchfield said it was the airport and he.

Chair Bremicker asked, What do we need? Mr. Brann responded that a strategic plan is needed.

Mr. Litchfield commented that the mentioned trail is a need. Decide where it will go. Decide how it is to be funded. Chair Bremicker commented about surveying residents of Kachemak Drive and others like the Bay Club did when deciding on whether to build or not. Ms. Engebretsen commented that there are very few funding sources, brainstorming needs to happen.

Discussion ensued between Chair Bremicker, Ms. Cumming, and Ms. Engebretsen about a mission statement and right of way. Ms. Harrald suggested committee members fill out the strategic plan worksheet before the next meeting.

Ms. Cumming requested each person have time to present their vision of a trail now.

Ms. Burt commented that she was interested in a space comfortable and safe for whoever, not on the road. Ms. Cumming, interested in a floating pathway made of organics on the north side of the road, 5 ft. wide made of poles, boards, wood chips.

Lindsay, from the press, just to observe, lives on Kachemak Drive

Chair Bremicker stated he lives on Kachemak Drive, concerned about safety. Kachemak Drive needs to connect trails, lots of options

Mr. Clemens supports the idea of a safe, non-motorized path from Point A to Point B, it makes sense to connect existing trails. Ms. Harrald expressed concerns about safety, she put it on the agenda initially as an opportunity to provide access and connect point. She thought it would be simpler than it is. Mr. Brann, ideas cover a wide scope of options from a footpath o a high end trail, we need to look at feasibility, may be impossible but I don't think so. We will need to think outside the box.

Mr. Reynolds asked, "what if we made Kachemak Dr. one way with one lane a bike lane.

Ms. Lowe commented that this was a good thoughtful discussion, suggested a good needs assessment, not just a wish list, something realistic, use city trail plan.

Captain Litchfield, supports bike safety but is philosophically opposed to taking his land away from him for a trail. He will work with the Committee but will resist the taking of his land.

Chair Bremicker commented that he thinks it can be done.

Mr. Brann suggested everyone read the Homer Non-Motorized Trail plan and the Homer Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Engebretsen stated she has copies to loan out.

Brief discussion of ADA, American Disabilities Act requirements for a trail.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30

KACHEMAK DRIVE PATH COMMITTEE

Minutes

Dec.16 meeting

Meeting called to order 5:15 p.m.

Present - Bumpo Bremicker, Beth Cummings, Capt. Joe Litchfield, Dave Clemens, Dave Brann, Ingrid Harrald, Lynn Burton Burt (corrected at Jan.6, 2011 meeting)

Due to budget constraints the committee will no longer have paid staff available. We will use the recording system to record our meetings and take minutes.

After reading and discussing by-laws for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, Chair Bremicker appointed Lynn Burton, Joe Litchfield and a member of the cycling club as members to the Kachemak Drive Path Committee

Pending business

We decided to list ideas for the Mission Statement on a wall chart. Discussion followed with each member offering a suggested Mission Statement.

The Committee decided on the following statement with the idea it could be changed in the future as more information becomes available.

"To explore the feasibility of and to plan a safe non-motorized path along Kachemak Drive. The path to connect East End Road to the Spit Road."

Discussion was held about whether to include "keeping in mind property owner's rights" It was generally agreed that the committee would be doing that and it didn't need to be part of the actual mission statement.

The second portion of the Pending Business was to determine what "The Committee was established to":

1. establish feasibility of creating a path
 - a. determine trail focus/goal
 - b. determine concerns of the community
 - c. research right of ways
2. communicate with land owners
 - a. identify and involve stake holders
 - b. make sure property owners are given respect about their property
 - c. determine how land would be needed, i.e. width of path
 - d. 3. Communicate with the community at large
 - a. use knowledge and experience of Parks and Rec. Commission
 - b. use knowledge and experience of community members
4. Safety
5. To develop a strategic plan
 - a. long term maintenance

- b. parking
- c. address community concerns
- d. Park and Recreation Commission involvement / approval
- 6. Communicate with government agencies
- 7. Financing
 - a. desire to try to fund locally
 - b. concerns about involving state and federal funding, i.e. TRAAK and ADA compliance
- 8. Education, trail should educate and promote safety of all user groups

It was decided a brainstorming session on trail type and location was in order.

Suggestions included:

- 1. a multi-use trail with separation from the road
 - a. even a separated trail raises safety concerns with who has right of way
 - b. surface could be paved or smooth crushed gravel
- 2. trail could be a combination of separated trail and widened shoulder
 - a. divide total path into sections
 - b. tackle planning and development section by section
- 3. extend path from existing bike lane on Airport Road
 - a. follow wooded section along west side of airport
 - b. connect to section line, go north to East End Road in area of Redden Marine
 - c. follow section line east to Kachemak Dr. in area of Boat Yard
- 4. Create a widened shoulder
- 5. Start with a bank of willing property owners
- 6. No path
- 7. Use already established Right of Ways
- 8. North vs. South side of road, utilize both sides in different areas

Discussion included comments about land owners and their property rights, an emphasis on bike and pedestrian safety, the need for signage. It was noted Prescriptive Easements (Right of Way) along the road go from the middle of the road to the middle of the ditch so there isn't much, if any, room for a trail. It was also suggested that the path/trail be funded locally as much as possible, concerns expressed about restrictions and timelines when State or Federal funding used.

Ingrid Haraald left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approximately ten minutes was used to review maps and possible trail options.

Comments from the audience:

Speaker said Kachemak Drive may not be a legal road and doesn't meet current road standards. He felt the cost of building and maintaining a path/trail would be

Kachemak Dr. Path Committee

December 16, 2010

Minutes

prohibitive, especially across wetlands. He wondered where the money would come from. He felt there were a number of inherent impossibilities.

Speaker said the Spit bike path was an issue, that standard universal signs were needed. Sign could address etiquette, who has the right-of-way etc. Related to Kachemak Drive, he noted a variety of landowners would be involved including private, city, borough, state. He also mentioned the need to be aware of the "Critical Habitat" designation on much of the wetlands. Connections to the Jack Gist Park, the Cottonwood Horse Park and the Calvin and Coyle Trail were also offered as possibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m. Next meeting, January 6, 2011 at 5:30, Council Chambers

Agenda

Trail location options-utilizing maps

Connection options-utilizing maps

Design options based on proposed locations

Kachemak Trail notes:
January 6, 2011
Regular Meeting

Meeting Called to Order: 5:37pm

Present: Bumpo Bremicker (arrived 5:50pm), Beth Cummings, Capt. Joe Litchfield, Dave Clemens, Ingrid Harrald, Lynne Burt

Minutes from last meeting approved with small changes: Burton to Burt and Ingrid departing at 6:30pm

Public Comments:

Chase Warren - Bicyclist that uses Kachemak Drive regularly. Expressed dissatisfaction about trail being built on the route from airport road across wetland to arctic. Voiced that he would rather have minimum improvements of the shoulder of Kachemak Drive vs. this. Opinion was that there needed to be access to businesses and destinations along Kachemak Drive to make the path usable. Path should follow Kachemak Drive enough to allow this.

Discussion on this topic amongst committee.

No other visitors.

Pending Business:

A. Trail Location - Three options discussed:

1. Along Kachemak Drive following ROW and Power Line ROW
 - concerns about having multiple crossings of street (N/S)
 - Erosion concerns
 - concerns over property owners rights
 - discussion about width of road/speed limit
 - questions over actual route of power lines on East End of trail
 - Capt. Joe expressed strong opposition to this option. Too much energy being spent to cater to bicyclists. Too little concern to home owners in the area.
 - Rika Mouw mentioned that with the water and sewer lines, they use the outer part of the easement, and there is enough space on the inside of the easement to put bike trail
 - Beth Cumming walked the area south of Kachemak Drive from base of spit to Bay Club. Found the land beautiful and flat and felt this would be a great option for a trail in this area. Encouraged people to go check it out. It was heavily forested, quiet, and quite enjoyable.
2. Follow FAA Road west until it ends, continue along fence line until Arctic or Jack London and continue along property lines until connecting with Little Fireweed.
 - Discussion on the wetland status of land
 - Clemens discussed the lack of options for cyclists to safely bike that route
 - No access to businesses on Kachemak Dr.
 - Nice that it would not infringe on land owners
 - would be a great ski and pedestrian trail
 - discussion of what physical type of trail it could be to make it safe/fast for cyclists
3. Starting at Ben Walters meeting up with Calvin Coyle trail and then around to the Horse Park
 - attendees agreed this would be a great recreational trail but would not work for the issues this committee is trying to correct. (Safety and use of Kachemak Way).
 - Agreed that user groups on Kachemak would not use this trail

B. Connection Options - See above notes

C. Design Options - Did not cover, not enough time

B. New Business:

- Group discussed traffic use along Kachemak Drive.

Looked at trail width requirements from COH Trail Manual and Kachemak Road widths.

Decided more information was needed for the next meeting:

- bike use along Kachemak Drive. Ingrid will look into this.
- Road width requirements at various speeds: 25mph, 30 mph, 35 mph. Bumpo will look into this.

No comments from Audience or staff:

Comments from committee:

Clemens - meeting was productive, lots of great ideas and options

Harrald - Agreed with Clemens. Would like to continue next meeting with more research and discussion.

Burt- The option #1 trail seems promising and that she thinks it will encourage more ped/bike users.

Cumming - Feels the only option is a path following along Kachemak Drive. Encouraging the start of an advocacy group for the Kachemak Trail, this could move the process forward quicker.

Litchfield - Puts 100% support behind the #2 option trail. This is the only option he agrees with. Would like to have Dave Brann talk more on this topic at next meeting.

Next Meeting: Thursday, Jan 27 5:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm

Spit Parks & Recreation Sub-Committee
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska

December 2, 2010
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.
Cowles Council Chambers

1. Call to Order: At 5:31 p.m.

Attendance: Robert Archibald, Tricia Lillibridge, Thomas CarlinSchauer, Angie Otteson (staff), Bryan Hawkins (Port & Harbor Director), Mike Illg (Arrived later)
Introductions of members and Bryan (Port & Harbor Director)

Tricia was nominated for Chairperson: accepted by all
Tommie was nominated for taking minutes: accepted by all

2. Agenda Approval: Accepted and approved

3. Public comment upon Matters already on agenda: no public comments

4. Reconsideration

5. Staff & Council reports/ Committee Reports/Borough Reports
Materials were handed out for committee to view and review

6. Public Hearing

7. Pending Business: none, first Sub-Committee meeting

8. New Business:

A. Review and discussion of existing parks, Recreational and Designated open Spaces on the spit.

Review and discussion of existing parks:

- a. Mariner Park: camping and water, beach play area
- b. Fishing Hole Lagoon:
- c. Seafarer Memorial
- d. Coal Point Park Southeast corner of Harbor
- e. End of Road Park
- f.

There are 80 numbered camping spaces and 17 unmarked camp sites
Camping on west side unmarked sites don't know exact number of site, Permits on Tents.

Bryan (Port & Harbor Director) overall vision:

Focus on Spit Trail: Bryan stated that there is already funding available and needs to be finished. (See yellow dotted line on handed out materials)

Walking space on the east side of harbor because of future increase of use cruise ships, more people walking from ships and during prime tourist season. (Cannot go under ferry terminal from end of road to Coal Point Park, due to Homeland Security)

Discussed Port and Harbor Enterprise: user fees, money put aside for repairs, etc.

Open spaces: 11 acre site (Theater) 100 campsites

Agreement to use

Wooden Boat Society:

Bryan states that the Port & harbor Commission is supportive of their plans. But concerns about flooding and dredge material use to raise area about 3 feet grading. The area has flooded about 3 times in the past 20 years. Mike Illg suggested that the new building be placed on skids for easy moving. But the new building proposed seems to be a larger building that may be beyond putting on skids.

Suggested that the southwest corner of the 11-acre site be a good location for Wooden Boat Society, rather than taking over existing campsites on the 11-acre site. Bryan stated Port & Harbor concerns for future uses, as potential site for different industrial uses (new harbor unloading area for larger boats), area of interest for the Port & Harbor and should ask about future plans from Port Commission (Regular meeting December 15th, 2010).

B. Discussion and Setting of a Meeting Schedule- Day, time and Frequency

Next meeting December 16th, 2010 schedule to be set next meeting.

C. Developing a Strategic Plan: Postponed until next meeting with the understanding that the plan will be completed at that time.

9. Informational Materials.

10. Comments of the Audience: none

11. Comments of Staff Members: none

12. Comments of the Committee: none

13. Adjournment the next regular meeting is Thursday, December 16th, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Mayors Conference Room - Upstairs located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska

Adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Spit Parks & Recreation Committee
Thurs. Dec 16, 2010

Call to Order at 5:31 PM by Thomas Carlin Schauer

Attendance: Thomas Carlin Schauer
Robert O'Neil
Agenda Approved

No Comments from Public

No reconsideration

No Staff Report

No Public Hearing

Pending Business

Decision was made to defer
discussion due to lack of participants
until next meeting.

Next meeting is rescheduled for Jan 6
at 5:30 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 5:39 PM



City of Homer

Planning & Zoning

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To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: January 11, 2011

Subject: January Staff Report

Meeting time

Don't forget: regular Commission meetings start at 5:30 now!

What's new – For Your Information, no action needed!

- The City finalized the conservation easement on the Diamond Creek (Forest Legacy) property, part of the Homer Ski Trails. All projects on this land must be approved by the state, and possibly the federal government due to the rules under which the city received the property. Generally speaking the land must be used for forestry or recreational purposes. The City will work with the Soil and Water Conservation District on a joint management plan for the demonstration forest and the city property. When this new plan is approved by the state and others involved in the forest legacy program, then the city can move forward with improvements such as trails. By creating a master plan, the city can go through the approval process one time, rather than with every project.

Soil and Water recently received grant money to work on this plan, and staff will meeting with Tara Schmidt to go over a time line. The project funding requires the plan be completed by 2012. The Commission can expect to be involved in this project as the grant requires some public process, and you are advisory to the Council about the future of this land! Soil&Water has an existing plan for the demonstration forest, and they propose to update it, and expand it to include the city land. A lot of this work is making maps and cataloging the soil types, vegetation and documenting current conditions. Commission and public input will be needed on how the land should be developed in the future – ie what kinds of trails, parking facilities etc. are desired in the future...maybe the next 10-20 years. I may have an update at the meeting.

- Parks Summary – due to illness and more planning projects than anticipated, I have not made very much progress on a parks summary document. I will continue to work toward that goal.
- Update on Jack Gist Park and the \$52,000 stimulus money received. I spoke with the public works director, and there is a list of projects he hopes to achieve. Projects are listed in order by priority, and public works will do accomplish as much as possible with the money. These projects are tentatively scheduled for this spring.

1. 3rd field projects: (left side as you enter the park)

- Infield improvements (as has been accomplished on the other fields) \$16-20K
- Outfield drainage and improvements – topsoil to fill in low spots, seeding, etc
- Drainage along the 3rd base line and grading

2. A park sign. The posts are in place already

3. Possible additional parking along the road and the 3rd field (will take more money to complete, but PW hopes to make progress on this)

One more project is possibly running some pipe from the creek to the water tank, so the fields can be watered regularly. The fields will never reach their potential as a playing surface without regular watering.

**JACK GIST PARK
Memorandum of Agreement**

DRAFT

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Homer (City) and the Jack Gist Recreational Park Association (JGRPA), a non-profit organization, is made this ___ day of _____, 2010.

This MOA is entered into with respect to operation, maintenance and the usage on lands owned by the City identified as Jack Gist Park. The property is located at Lot 2, Jack Gist Subdivision and as per the Statutory Warranty Deed dated August 27, 1998 will be maintained in perpetuity as a recreational area.

The park is primarily used for recreational purposes including and not limited to adult and youth softball games/practices and disc golf activities.

Recitals:

1. In 2000, the JGRPA and City successfully applied and received a grant for partial construction of ball fields through a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.
2. The JGRPA board consists of equal voting members (2) from the Homer Adult Softball Association, Homer Little League, Homer High School Softball, Alaska Disc Golf Association and two ad hoc members representing the City. The City will have final authorization in all decisions.
3. The City wishes to authorize JGRPA use and assistance with construction and maintenance of all aspects of the Jack Gist Park.
4. This MOA is intended to establish the relationship between the City and JGRPA.
5. This MOA constitutes a land use permit which specifically authorizes the activities described herein.

LAND USE AGREEMENT/PERMIT

The City of Homer hereby grants permission to the JGRPA to actively maintain and operate the ball park, fields and parking lot. The City will provide assistance in the form of resources and staff when available and budget allows. A map of the existing park is attached and incorporated herein. This authorization is subject to the terms and conditions described below.

PERMIT: This permit conveys to JGRPA no interest in the property. This permit is revocable immediately and without notice. It is issued for authorized purposes to JGRPA. This permit represents a non-exclusive privilege authorizing special use of City of Homer Land.

Violation of permit conditions or the conduct of activities not authorized by this permit will result in permit revocation and may result in a claim for damages by the City and other civil and criminal penalties as applicable under law. The City may, at its option, direct that all activities under this permit stop until a violation of the permit conditions is corrected. Continued activity after notice to stop will be deemed a trespass by the City.

The City reserves the right to permit other land use activities in the permit area, provided that the City determines that such use will not unduly impair JGRPA's activities and is consistent with the land use designation.

PERMIT TERM: This MOA/permit is valid from _____ to _____.
This permit is revocable with or without cause by the City. If JGRPA wishes to terminate this permit prior to the end of the term, it must provide written notice 14 days prior to the termination date. The permit may be renewed if both parties are in agreement.

DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION

JGRPA shall indemnify, defend, save and hold the City, its elected officials and appointed officers, agents and employees, harmless from any and all claims, suits, demands or liability of any nature, kind or character including costs, expenses, and attorney fees resulting from JGRPA's performance or failure to perform in accord with the terms of this permit in any way whatsoever. JGRPA shall be responsible under this clause for any and all claims of any character resulting from JGRPA's or its officers, agents, employees, partners, attorneys, suppliers, and subcontractors performance or failure to perform under the agreement in any way whatsoever. This defense and indemnification responsibility includes claims alleging acts or omissions by the City or its agents which are said to have contributed to the losses, failure, violations, or damage. However, JGRPA shall not be responsible for any damages or claims arising from sole negligence or willful misconduct of the City, its agents, or employees.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

JGRPA shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the term of this permit the following insurance policies:

Commercial General Liability by JGRPA or insurance policies from individual user groups that are members of JGRPA. Policy to include bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage with respect to the property and activities conducted by JGRPA in which the coverage shall not be less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence or such higher coverage as specified by the City, JGRPA shall comply with the insurance policy requirement to maintain coverage for special events organized by JGRPA. The policy purchased shall name the City as an additional insured with respect to the activities conducted on the property.

Proof of Insurance: JGRPA shall deliver to the City certificates of insurance. This insurance shall be primary and exclusive of any other insurance held by the City. Failure to provide insurance as required by this section, or a lapse in coverage, is a material breach of the permit terms and the City may revoke the permit. Upon renewal of insurance coverage, during the contract, certificates of insurance shall be delivered to the City.

SPECIAL EVENT COVERAGE

In addition to commercial general liability insurance and automobile insurance, JGRPA shall comply with the insurance policy requirements to maintain coverage for special events organized by JGRPA.

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NOTICES

All notices, demands and requests from one party to another shall be delivered in person or sent by mail/email addressed to the other party at the following addresses:

CITY
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Coordinator
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-6090
907-399-6090
millg@ci.homer.ak.us

JGRPA
Name
Address

DRAFT

TRANSFER

This permit may not be transferred or assigned without prior written approval by the City of Homer.

ACTIVITIES

The following activities are specifically authorized under this permit: adult and youth softball games/practices, disc golf, special events and maintaining the park, fields and parking lots as needed.

JGRPA shall consult with the City regarding any and all schedules, activities, construction projects, work parties and other donated labor and materials prior to activity commencements.

All current and future structures, facilities, signage, fences, and dug outs shall be property of the City with the exception of the disc golf equipment.

The City of Homer expects no monetary compensation from the JGRPA with exception of reimbursement for portable toilet rentals. Receipt of donations or entry fees for Jack Gist Park functions will remain property of JGRPA. The use is anticipated to be year round for disc golf and summer months for softball activities.

Responsibilities of the Jack Gist Recreational Park Association

Scheduling:

JGRPA will work with the City in regards to scheduling the fields giving equal priority to all user group members with due respect given to traditional and seasonal demands of each respective organization. JGRPA shall also provide any and all scheduled activities such as games, practices, special events and volunteer work parties, on a weekly basis to the City which will be posted on a master schedule online for viewing.

Fees:

JGRPA may charge fees to all of its participating members to support the park and its obligations (insurance, construction, supplies, etc.) These fees are property of JGRPA. The City will charge JGRPA fees for portable toilet usage.

Parking:

JGRPA will work with all visitors to maximize parking efficiency and enforce general public safety rules. With limited parking, all members and affiliates of JGRPA will strive to car pool, walk or bike and assume all risk by parking near the ball fields that are subjected to potential damage due to haphazard foul balls.

Membership:

JGRPA shall allow other recreational user groups to join their association in regards to utilizing the Jack Gist Park pending the recreational purpose of the organization and space availability due to traditional park/field use upon approval from the City.

Maintenance and Operation

- The JGRPA shall assist the City with field maintenance. Any and all construction projects must be approved in advance by the City. The daily operation will be overseen by the designated JGRPA contact and the City contact.
- JGRPA shall work with the City to utilize volunteers for construction projects and upkeep at the park and fields.
- JGRPA shall maintain commercial liability insurance with the City of Homer listed as additional insured. Copies will be delivered to the City on an annual basis prior to commencement of all activities.
- JGRPA shall be allowed to store equipment at the park with City approval.
- JGRPA shall be allowed to hang banners of team sponsors and supporters at the park. Banners must be removed once the season is over. All signs/banners must be approved by the City.

Responsibilities of the City of Homer

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Scheduling:

The City shall work with JGRPA with field scheduling and post a master schedule of the park/field activities on the City's Park & Recreation website.

Access and facilities for Jack Gist Park:

- Access to the park is maintained on an as needed basis and is not scheduled for winter maintenance. Keys for the gate and field will be provided
- The City of Homer will provide waste receptacles for garbage in the summer months and empty them as necessary, but the LEAVE NO TRACE behind should be enforced by the users.
- There is currently no sewer, water or electrical capabilities on this property.
- The City of Homer will provide 1-2 portable toilets from May 15th through September 15th. JGRPA will reimburse the City for the cost of the toilets.
- The City of Homer will assist with field maintenance and construction projects as funding/resources and manpower is available.
- The City of Homer will provide lawn mowing for the fields.
- The City of Homer is not responsible for any injuries or negligence in the use of this course by JGRPA.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS

The individuals authorized to act as the agents on behalf of the parties of this agreement are:

CITY OF HOMER
Walt Wrede, City Manager
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-8121 ext 2222

Jack Gist Recreational Park Association

Walt Wrede

State of Alaska)
 ss
Third Judicial District)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
____ day of _____, 2010.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

State of Alaska)
 ss
Third Judicial District)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____
Day of _____, 2010.

NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

DRAFT

What is "Parks & Recreation?"

America's communities are connected by more than just people.

What is a public park? A public park is any area or portions of areas dedicated or designated by any Federal, State or local agency primarily for public recreational use.

What is public recreation? Public recreation includes activities that take place at a public park/facility - sports, physical activities, exposure to natural surroundings, arts and culture, to name a few. These activities may be passive or active and may be performed at will by the visitor or be organized by a public agency.

Parks and recreation are resources and services provided for the purposes of leisure, entertainment and recreational pursuits by the citizens of the US or a specific subunit. Resources may be public spaces and facilities like parks, nature preserves, open space areas, greenways, trails, and built structures for sport, recreation or arts programs. Examples of services include recreation activity programs, athletic leagues, special events, arts programs, and environmental education programs.

The field of parks and recreation also encompasses resources and services offered by sector, though they are only delivered to members or paying visitors. Examples include YMCA, health and fitness centers, resorts, and guide services. There are also quasi-public providers like power companies, land trusts and other authorities that manage resources that may be used for recreation purposes.

Public parks and recreation are provided at all levels of government: federal, state, and local.

Federal Agencies - National Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation and resources and services provided at military bases.

State Agencies - Department of Natural Resources, State Parks, Fish and Game, State Historic Preservation Office

Local Agencies - county/borough and municipal governments (city, town, township, village) governments, special park districts or authorities



National Recreation
and Park Association

Parks & Recreation

The world of Parks and Recreation touches more than 300 million people in this country. From the largest cities to the most rural communities, public park and recreation agencies around the country are united in their mission to improve health and well being, provide safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities, better the environment, and provide Americans with a higher quality of living. Here is a closer look at parks and recreation in the United States.

Scope

The National Recreation and Park Association reports that in 2009 there were 9,000 local public park and recreation organizations within the United States.

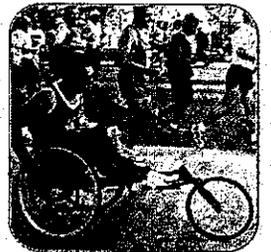
In a 2004 report issued by the National Association of State Park Directors, there were more than 5,800 state park areas comprising more than 13 million acres and 43,000 miles of trails. In that year there were 827 million visitors to state parks.

The Trust for Public Land lists total acreage of urban parkland in the United States as exceeding one million acres, with parks ranging in size from the 1.7-acre Post Office Square in Boston to the 490,125-acre Chugach State Park in Anchorage. Urban parkland usage surpasses that of the national parks. Lincoln Park in Chicago receives upwards of 20 million users each year. Central Park in New York has 25 million visits annually, which is more than five times as many as the Grand Canyon.

In 2004, funding for state parks represented 0.24% (less than 1/4 of 1%) of total state budgets as cited by the National Association of State Park Directors. Operating expenditures totaled \$1.8 billion, with less than 50% provided by the general fund of states.

U.S. Census Bureau records indicate that in 2002 there were 226,031 local and 36,211 state jobs in parks and recreation. By 2008 that number had been cut to 167,220 local and 27,549 state jobs, a decline of 26% and 24%, respectively.

The National Park Service reports that in 2009 alone, there was more than \$12 billion in unfunded and unmet needs reported to the Land and Water Conservation Fund affecting public parks and recreation in the United States.



Local Economy

The Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence found that in 2007 the Philadelphia park system provided the city with revenue of \$23.3 million, municipal savings of \$16 million, resident savings of \$1.15 billion, and a collective increase in resident wealth of \$729 million.

The National Association of State Park Directors reports that America's state park system contributes \$20 billion to local and state economies.

Management-consulting firm KPMG surveyed 1,200 technology workers in 1998 and concluded that a community's quality of life increased the attractiveness of a job by 33%.

Property Value

In 2007, the Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence found that Philadelphia properties within 500 feet of parks or recreation land were worth an average of 5% more than land without this proximity. Researchers calculated this total increased value at \$689 million and additional property taxes of more than \$18 million.

In 2001, MIT researcher Andrew Miller investigated land values in suburban communities in north Texas and found that homes immediately adjacent to parks were worth 22% more than homes 2,600 feet away from a park.

A report by New Yorkers for Parks and Ernst and Young on the impact of park renovations on property value in New York City found that between 1990 and 2002, rents for commercial office space around Bryant Park increased from 115% to 225%, while surrounding submarkets saw only a 41% to 73% increase in similar properties.





National Recreation and Park Association

"LEAVE ALL THE AFTERNOON FOR EXERCISE AND RECREATION, WHICH ARE AS NECESSARY AS READING. I WILL RATHER SAY MORE NECESSARY BECAUSE HEALTH IS WORTH MORE THAN LEARNING."

~Thomas Jefferson

Youth Safety

As reported by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, the peak hours for violent juvenile crime are from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. These are also the hours when children are most likely to become victims of crime, be in an automobile accident, smoke, drink alcohol, or use drugs. A 2006 survey by the Afterschool Alliance found that three out of four afterschool programs were full or overcrowded and 86% of providers surveyed said children in their communities who need afterschool programs do not have access to them.

Fort Myers police documented a 28% drop in juvenile arrests after the city built a new youth recreation center and started a new recreational and academic program.

Phoenix basketball courts and other recreation facilities are kept open until 2:00 AM throughout the summer. During this time police calls reporting juvenile crime drop by as much as 55%.

Los Angeles, through its Summer Night Lights program, keeps the lights on in 16 high-crime parks and adjoining recreation centers. The city organizes sports, music, food, and connections to summer jobs for participating young people. In 2008, the first year of the program, city officials reported that affected communities experienced significant declines in violent gang-related crimes (down 17%), homicides (down 86%) and aggravated assaults (down 23%).



Health & Wellness

The number of Americans over age 65 is expected to reach 71.5 million by 2030, twice their number in 2000. In partnership with four other national organizations, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging released "The Maturing of America" report in 2006 that found that only 46% of American communities have begun to address the needs of the rapidly increasing aging population. Survey findings indicate that local governments do not yet have the policies, programs or services in place to promote the quality of life and the ability of older adults to live independently and contribute to their communities for as long as possible.

The California Department of Health Services estimates that physical inactivity costs the state \$13.3 billion per year in medical care, workers' compensation, and lost productivity. If Californians increased their physical activity and lost 5% of their collective weight over five years, they would save more than \$1.3 billion. Public park and recreation organizations enable residents of all abilities to participate in physical activity.

A statewide study in West Virginia found that counties with greater recreational opportunities (e.g., existence of parks, number of facilities, acres of recreation lands) also had higher rates of physical activity, lower health care expenditures, and lower obesity rates.

As referenced by the U.S. Olympic Committee, Paralympic Division there are 21 million physically disabled Americans, including more than 35,000 military personnel who've been severely injured during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Public park and recreation organizations provide vital rehabilitative services to these individuals.



Public park and playground use has increased 30% by families with children during the current period of economic difficulty, as identified in a July 2009 report by the Trust for Public Land.



About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is a national, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing park, recreation, and conservation efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people. NRPA and its 21,000 members promote and engage communities in healthy lifestyles, recreation initiatives, and conservation of open spaces and cultural resources. Since 1965, NRPA has been the voice advocating the significance of making parks, open space, and recreational opportunities available to all Americans. NRPA's vision is that, by 2020, every person in America will have convenient access to safe and affordable public park and recreation opportunities.

City of Homer Community Recreation Program Summary

Background

The Community Recreation program operates with one full time employee, two temporary part-time office assistants to fill in as needed in the absence of the Coordinator, 50 contracted instructors and 25 regular volunteers. The instructors are contracted employees of Community Recreation, with many operating their own business. The instructor is required to have a valid business license, collect fees from the participants, handle their own tax information and payment process, carry additional insurance (when applicable) and maintain direct communication with participants regarding class information. This is a major cost savings for the City as it eliminates the need for staff time in finance and administration with payroll. Our volunteers donate their time in exchange for participating at no cost in the activity they are assisting. Most volunteers have direct supervision over the event they are assisting, collect participation fees and require participants to sign participation/release forms.

Community Recreation has and continues to provide an economic benefit to our local community. The program provides part time jobs for instructors and has led to the creation of new businesses within the community. The creation of new businesses and partnering with existing businesses enhances the social value by offering an array of programs from starting an internet business to kayaking safety courses that eventually provides additional jobs and career opportunities for local residents.

In 2009 Community Recreation had 100 volunteers donating over 2,743 volunteer hours. The 2008 average volunteer value within the State of Alaska is \$20.71/hour* (Source: http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html).

The total volunteer value donated to Community Recreation for the 2009 was **\$56,807**. This figure represents the strong support and dedication from the community and its commitment towards making the Community Recreation program a success. It also represents a major cost saving for the Community Recreation program as we are able to use volunteers instead of hiring additional employees.

All of the Community Recreation's employees, volunteers and instructors have completed City of Homer job applications and a State of Alaska background check (\$20 fee paid by the City). Community Recreation primarily operates within the local school facilities in the Homer area (city limits) through an agreement with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. There are classes and events at Homer High School and Homer Middle School where the City pays \$6,000 annually to use the facilities (In 2010, it was first time in 30 years the program has to pay to use the school facilities). The program used to be able to use West Homer Elementary and Paul Banks Elementary and the borough fields but that is no longer allowed as detailed in the new agreement. We also pay the hourly rental fee to use the Homer High pool. There are times when additional custodial and technician fees are charged for large specialized events. The current two year agreement is up for renewal in June 2012.

Community Recreation also offers classes off school grounds providing that the instructors carry insurance with the City of Homer listed as additionally insured. Community Schools will also use the City owned the Homer Boys and Girls Club facilities for morning and evening activities when the school facilities are not accessible during school hours or there is limited space availability. This is a very important component of our program to have access to this building.

Summary: Class/Activity Fees

Homer Community Recreation offers a variety of programs and activities where a CR fee is charged for most activities with the exception of large partnered community events, such as the Safe Kids Fair/Bike Rodeo. In addition to the charged CR fees, some of the activities we offer also include an instructor's fee where applicable. After each quarter the revenue and expenses of each class is reviewed.

There are two categories of CR activities. Drop –In activities and Designated Activities. The CR drop-in activities are all recreational activities. These include; basketball, volleyball, climbing, weight room, play group and soccer. Most of these activities are ongoing with the exception of the summer months where recreation is moved outside. Participants purchase punch cards for each activity as opposed to paying each time they participate.

The current punch card rate for all ages is \$3/visit. This will soon increase to \$4/visit.

Most of these activities are operated by CR volunteers and do not require an instructor's fee. The punch cards carry over from one session to the next (fall, winter, spring, summer) and we also allow families to share punch cards.

The Designated Activities are classes that have set days, dates, times and prices for each activity. CR charges a fee for each person for each activity regardless of how many times they take a class. The CR fees range from \$15 to \$100. CR fees for the activities are determined based upon the number times the class meets, how much time and equipment is required by the CR Coordinator and the level of skill and expertise needed for activity by the instructor. The instructor and the coordinator negotiate and determine what the instructor rate will be for each class they offer. Participants pay the instructor's fee and CR fee directly to the instructor. Once the activity ends, the instructor submits payment to CR based upon the number of participants times the designated CR fee for that class.

The Designated Classes range from one day events to a whole quarterly session. A quarterly session is a three month time period: Fall (Sept.-Nov.), Winter (Dec.-Feb.), Spring (March-May) and Summer (June-Aug.).

A few examples include:

- Beginner Irish Step Dancing: Meets for six weeks for one hour; \$45 instructor fee plus \$15 CS fee.
- Introductory Silversmithing: Meets FRI/SAT/SUN, 16 hours; \$125 instructor fee plus \$25 CS fee.

- Gymnastics Equipment Class: Meets for five weeks for two hours; \$50 instructor fee plus \$25 CS fee.

Since the fall 2010, CR raised fees by \$3-5 for most of the designated classes.

The City of Homer Community Recreation operates and offers activities and classes on a quarterly based system. As a result of the quarterly sessions, some figures carry over from one fiscal year to next during the winter session months of December, January and February.

<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Month</u>
Winter	December, January, February
Spring	March, April, May
Summer	June, July, August.
Fall	September, October, November

Cost Saving/Additional Revenue Sources

Since 2006, Community Recreation has been diligent in seeking and implementing cost saving measures without compromising the quality of programs and service that city residents expect. Since 2006 we have implemented the following changes:

Switch from Hourly Instructors to Contracted Instructors- 2006

Instead of hiring instructors as part time city employees, CR uses contracted instructors that generate revenue for the CR program at no cost to the program. Instead of CR collecting all of the participation fees and then paying the instructor, handling taxes, payroll, paperwork, etc., the fees are paid directly to the instructor who then pays CR its required fees. This is a major cost savings of staff time in the Administration and Finance Department.

Printing and Mailing Catalogs Bi-Annually Instead of Quarterly- 2008

In 2008 we moved from quarterly printing and mailing of catalogs to biannual. We combined fall and winter catalogs and the spring and summer catalogs. The catalog was increased from a 16-page booklet to a 24-page booklet to compensate for the biannual production. In addition to these changes, we also sought to expand our website as an improved medium of delivering information which continues to be a work in progress. This resulted in an estimated savings of \$1,500 annually.

Advertisement- 2008

In addition to expanding our catalogs from 16 pages to 24 pages, CR also sought to increase revenue by soliciting local business and non-profit groups to pay for advertisements in the CS catalogs. The benefit of advertising in the catalog improves the visibility of the advertiser,

displays support for the CR program and generates revenue to offset the CR budget. The catalog is available on the city website in addition to printed copies. The estimated annual revenue is \$2,500 to \$3,000 annually.

Catalog Distribution-2009

As CR continues to seek ways to provide excellent services at minimal cost, we opted this fall to distribute our Fall/Winter catalog as an insert in a local newspaper instead of paying for a mass mailing. One of the advantages of using the newspaper is to reach potential participants and expand the distribution of our printed catalog. The rate of \$315.00 to insert 3,500 catalogs, as opposed to \$800 plus to mail 3,800 catalogs is major cost savings. Estimated annual savings are \$970.

Grants/Donations

Community Recreation has received some grant funding to assist with operations and equipment purchases. Most notable was \$30,000 from the State of Alaska through our local State Representative Paul Seaton. We have also been awarded a grant of \$500 to help with expanding and promoting archery. There is also a donation account that is set up for community members to make donations to help support the recreation program. We have been able to make various equipment purchases with these funds thus alleviating the CR operating budget.

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624
(907) 235-3130

(907) 235-8121
Extension: 2227
Extension: 2224

Fax: (907) 235-3143
Email: clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: JANUARY 12, 2011
RE: KACHEMAK BAY WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY (KBWBS) LEASE PROPOSAL

Background

At the November 18, 2010 regular meeting the Commission agreed to postpone their recommendation to City Council until more information and a site visit was conducted on the proposed location.

The Commission requested this item to be on the January agenda.

The Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society is seeking to lease a ¼ acre portion of Tract1-A of the Fishin' Hole #2 Subdivision, Homer Spit for a period of thirty years for \$1.00 per year.

The proposed concept has been reviewed and supported by the Port and Harbor Advisory Commission.

The Lease Committee reviewed and made the following recommendations at their Regular meeting held October 14, 2010:

The Lease Committee recommends the Land Allocation Committee consider the proposal from Kachemak Bay Wooden Boat Society during the Land Allocation meeting in early 2011. The Lease Committee further recommends that if Council agrees to make the land available to Kachemak bay Wooden Boat Society that it should be advertised in a Request for Proposal in keeping with Chapter 4 of the City Lease Policy.



City of Homer Planning & Zoning

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7645

Telephone (907) 235-8121
Fax (907) 235-3118
E-mail Planning@ci.homer.ak.us
Web Site www.ci.homer.ak.us

To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
Date: January 11, 2011

Subject: Strategic Plan

Sometimes it is difficult for groups to figure out what their mission is, what their goals are, and how to achieve them. This has been an issue with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. About three years ago, the Commission drafted this strategic plan. The goals include physical improvements like trail construction, policy statements such as retaining and expanding open space, and budget changes like acquiring more funding for city parks and recs. After these goals were identified, we talked about ways to achieve these goals. The P&R Commission now reviews the plan quarterly, and it serves as a reminder of what the priorities are and helps the group stay focused on their goals. As a staff person, it helps me do a better job for the P&R commission, because their goals and interests are clear. And new commissioners see immediately what the goals of the group are. The Commission can change this document at any time.

The Commission has changed quite a bit since this plan was drafted; its time to review it and see if the goals are the same or if there are some new projects! Please come prepared to talk about the plan: Are there goals or objects that should be removed? Are there new ones to add?

What is a strategic plan?

A strategic plan is a written document stating what your goals are, what you are trying to accomplish, and what steps you will take to achieve the desired outcome.

Why have one?

It helps keep the group focused on measureable, achievable goals. And the plan tells us who is supposed to do what, to make the goals become reality!

Strategic Plan Outline:

1. Mission Statement (short version): Advise the City Manager and City Council on parks, recreation, and beach issues in the City. (paraphrase of HCC title 1)
2. Strategic Goals: What is the focus of the Commission's efforts? (3-5 year timeframe)
3. Strategic Objectives: These must be achievable, measurable results, in a 1-2 year timeframe
4. Action Plan: Who will do what, when and how?
5. Implementation: Do it!

Attachment: Draft Strategic Plan



Where the Land Ends and the Sea Begins

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2011 January Draft

MISSION STATEMENT

The Commission is established to act in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of parks, recreation facilities and public beaches within the City.

STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE COMMISSION – What is the focus for the commission?

3-5 Year Period

- Advocate for retaining open and green space
- Keep on top of future land disposals with attention to park and recreation needs
- Keep existing green space and public open space
- Preserve areas of natural beauty and access
- Preserve beach access – no vacations of public access

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION – Must have achievable results, an action statement.

1-2 Year Period

- construct a bike path along Kachemak Drive
- Develop park in Town Center and plan for pathways and trails
- Document current and historical trails, create a pamphlet to show hiking trails, beaches, recreational access points, parks, campgrounds and basic rules and etiquette
- Resolve damage to the Poopdeck Trail signs
- Continue work on Karen Hornaday park drainage, the parking lot, and master plan implementation
- Increase the city budget for parks and recreations
- Mariner Park driveway access and pedestrian access from the Homer Spit Road and bike path crossing of Homer Spit Road.
- Create an overall sign design for the City and Town Center. Work with Public Works.

ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION –Who will do what, when and how?

- Have a committee go to City Council with recommendations, action plan and time frame.
- Every time there is a memo from the Commission to City Council a Commissioner should go to the meeting and speak about it.
- Each month, a commissioner should attend a council meeting to speak with council and keep them informed about what the Commission is doing.
- One member of the Commission attend meetings of other user groups – skiing, co-host, etc. Create better working relationship and communication with user groups.

SHARED ACTIONS STAFF/COMMISSION

- Focus and monitor the HNMTP implementation
- Create a document with a summary of each park



**CITY OF HOMER
CITY HALL
MEMORANDUM**

To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Anne Marie Holen, Special Projects Coordinator
Date: June 11, 2010
Subject: What next for Karen Hornaday Park

The purpose of this memo is to bring the Parks and Recreation Commission up to date on developments related to Karen Hornaday Park improvements.

As you know, the City submitted an application to Alaska DNR/Land and Water Conservation Fund for \$372,000. We pledged an equal amount of match to meet the 50% match requirement. Although we received only positive feedback from DNR about our application, it wasn't funded. We have been encouraged to submit again next year. There was only \$295,000 available for regional/local projects this year; it is unknown how much will be available next year. If it's the same, we might see three grant awards in the range of \$100,000 each (requiring \$100,000 match from each applicant).

The following is intended to summarize the discussion and consensus reached at a meeting yesterday morning about strategy for accomplishing improvements to Karen Hornaday Park in light of the fact that our LWCF grant application was not successful. Participants in the meeting were City Manager Walt Wrede, Community Recreation coordinator Mike Illg, local volunteer and retired State Parks employee Jack Wiles, myself, and Mayor Jim Hornaday.

First we looked at our financial situation:

\$250,000	Legislative appropriation for FY 2011 was not vetoed
<u>+\$55,000</u>	City Council recently approved for KH Park, no strings attached
\$305,000	Money we have for sure (SCENARIO A)
+\$75,000	City Council pledged as match for LWCF application. Best guess is that Council will do so again if we submit a new application.
+\$9,000	Pledged by Friends of KH Park for the LWCF application. Hopefully would be available as match for a new application.
+\$5,000	Pledged by Homer Little League for the LWCF application. Hopefully would be available as match for a new application.
<u> </u>	
\$395,000	Potentially available (SCENARIO B)

There was agreement at the June 10 meeting that we should try to reserve \$125,000 of the money we have now to serve as match for a new application.

With Scenario A above, that would leave \$180,000 to be spent now. (Scenario B would increase that to \$270,000.)

Question: What's the highest and best use of \$180,000 (or more) to be spent in advance of a new LWCF application? The group reached agreement on the following:

1. Drainage is the biggest issue. We need to address this along the northern edge of the parking lot, day use area, and ballfields. It is important that the drainage plan include a catchment basin before dumping storm water into Woodard Creek. Drainage work will require having survey/elevation work done first.
2. The big storage shed should be removed (possibly relocated to Jack Gist Park, though the desirability/feasibility of this has yet to be determined).
3. Expand and make improvements to day use area as outlined in LWCF proposal, including construction of ramp between day use area and playground.
4. Reconfigure/improve parking next to day use area as described in LWCF proposal.

It was also agreed that City personnel might want to work with interested parents over the fall/winter to come up with more concrete recommendations for improving the playground. Those could then be incorporated in the 2011 LWCF proposal. Homer Little League could also be encouraged to engage in further fundraising; e.g., through an application to the Homer Foundation.

It was also mentioned that if any HART funds are available it would be great to have the hospital trail bridge abutments engineered so we can move directly into purchasing the bridge and installing the abutments and bridge.

Major focus of the 2011 LWCF proposal would be playground improvements, ballfield improvements, and the Woodard Creek Trail/bridge. These are likely to score well in the LWCF review process, which places high priority on playgrounds, trails and trailheads, and rehabilitation of existing facilities.

There was a fair amount of discussion about the wisdom of spending money now to complete all the necessary design work to at least 60%, which would provide us with good cost estimates/details for the next grant application. The mayor in particular did not like this idea. He wants to see tangible improvements to the park as soon as possible.

Next steps: Anne Marie will work with Carey Meyer to get cost estimates for the numbered list above. Mike will invite input from the Parks and Rec Commission. After that, Walt will communicate recommendations to the City Council.

D-6 COST ESTIMATE

*(from the City's application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for Karen Hornaday Park)
May 2010*

		units	quantity	unit cost	item cost
Site Preparation/Drainage Improvements					
Redefine ditch - north of fields		LF	900	\$15	\$13,500
Subtotal =					\$13,500
Ballfield Improvements					
Scarify and grade existing fields		SF	130,000	\$0.25	\$32,500
Install sod/topsoil and seeding on outfields		.	130,000	\$0.76	\$98,800
Add free draining material to infields		EA	3	\$15,975	\$47,925
Improve outfield fences		LS	-	\$12,900	\$12,900
Subtotal =					\$192,125
Playground Improvements					
Grading/drainage improvements		LS	-	\$9,000	\$9,000
Remove existing improvements		LS	-	\$6,500	\$6,500
Furnish & install new equipment		LS	-	\$90,000	\$90,000
Install soft surfacing		SF	15,000	\$1.20	\$18,000
Subtotal =					\$123,500
Trail Development					
Create gravel trail along Woodard Creek		LF	750	\$11	\$8,187
Construct gravel trail from fields to proposed Woodard Creek pedestrian bridge		LF	500	\$69	\$34,500
Construct footbridge to playground		LS	-	\$8,500	\$8,500
Subtotal =					\$51,187
Picnic Shelter Renovation/Expansion					
Repair and improve existing shelter		LS	-	\$4,190	\$4,190
Add amenities (seating, barbeque, expansion)		LS	-	\$9,500	\$9,500
Turf area/drainage/other misc.		LS	-	\$50,700	\$50,700
Subtotal =					\$64,390
Parking Lot Improvements (Northern Lot Area)					
Excavate new parking area		CY	750	\$12	\$9,000
F&I geotextile fabric		SF	9750	\$1.25	\$12,188
Import NFS gravel and compact		CY	750	\$22	\$16,500
Subtotal =					\$37,688
Complete Design of Master Plan Improvements					
Design/Cost Estimate to 50%		LS	-	\$115,000	\$115,000
Subtotal =					\$115,000
Total Construction Cost					\$482,390

(continued)

TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST	\$482,390
plus Planning Engineering and Construction Supervision	\$163,239
plus Contingency or Inflation Factors (10%)	<u>\$48,239</u>
equals TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$693,868
plus STATE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS 12%	<u>\$83,264</u>
equals TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$777,132
less SPONSOR'S SHARE (52.11%)	<u>\$405,000</u>
equals FEDERAL SHARE	\$372,132
less STATE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	<u>\$83,264</u>
equals MAXIMUM SPONSOR PAYMENT	\$288,868

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624
(907) 235-3130

(907) 235-8121
Extension: 2227
Extension: 2224

Fax: (907) 235-3143
Email: clerk@ci.homer.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: JANUARY 12, 2011
RE: UPDATING THE NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Background

Commissioner Brann requested this item to be on the agenda for discussion. He has noted that the Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan (NMTTP) had a recommended update schedule of five years and it has been six years.

Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



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MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: JANUARY 12, 2011
RE: WINTER CARNIVAL

Background

Commissioner Harrald requested this item to be on the agenda for discussion.

The Chamber of Commerce website shows February 10-13, 2011 for the Annual Homer Winter Carnival. I have listed the events shown on the Chamber of Commerce Website for information purposes.

Homer Chamber of Commerce

Annual Homer Winter Carnival Join us for a weekend of winter fun for the entire family including a Parade on Saturday with CASH prizes for entrants. Call 235-7740 for additional information or to register for an event or the Parade
Fri-Sun 2/11-13

Kevin Bell Ice Arena

Annual Winter Carnival Girls Hockey Jamboree - Call **235-8ICE** for game schedule Sun 2/13

Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

Winter Carnival Snowshoe Games held at the Wynn Nature Center, Mile 1.5 East Skyline Drive Call 235-6667 for more information Sun 2/13



CITY OF HOMER
Community Recreation
600 E. Fairview Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

Telephone (907) 235-6090
Fax (907) 235-8933
Web Site
www.homercommunityrecreation.com

Memo

To: Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Mike Illg, Community Recreation Coordinator
Date: 1/10/11
Re: Old Intermediate School

The City of Homer Economic Development Committee has been recently delegated by the City Council to explore possible uses of the City's Old Intermediate School/Educational facility once the local college vacates the building in June 2011.

The City of Homer Community Recreation program has a vested interest in the present and future usage of this facility. We currently use this building for a number of CR activities that many city residents and surrounding community members utilize and depend upon. We only utilize the gym through communication with the Boys & Girl's Club manager so as long as we do not conflict with their programs and activities. Because it is a city owned facility and we are a city program, we are not charged to use the building but we do allocate some money to the Boy's and Girl's Club for restroom supplies.

Our mission statement:

"City of Homer Community Recreation will promote community involvement in and life-long learning through educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages. This will be accomplished through maximizing usage of community facilities and resources while utilizing, expanding, and uniting local business and school resources and expertise. Our program will be designed to recognize cultural diversity and to address social and community concerns."

Here is a list of our present and future activities.

Present use:

Children's Playgroup

During the months of September to May, on Mondays and Fridays (10:30am-noon), we open the gym for parents and toddlers to come play, run and romp in a large, warm, clean indoor space during the cold months in Alaska. I estimate we have over 60 different kids that attend (thankfully not all at the same time). Many parents have expressed how important and fortunate they are to have this activity for their children's health, well being, socialization and the parent's sanity. We charge \$2 a visit for each child and we rely on volunteers to monitor the activities, make sure release forms are signed and collecting fees. The CR program does not have access to the other school facilities as schools are in session thus making gymnasiums unavailable.

Youth Basketball

Through the year we offer youth basketball through a program called Bruins Basketball. This is important as often at times the school gymnasiums are not available due to after school sports and activities. We also charge these participants a CR fee and is operated by volunteers. This is held in the evenings and sometimes on the weekends.

Future Use:

Archery

Community Recreation was recently awarded a grant to start an archery program. We tentatively have an instructor, purchased some equipment and will be planning on using the gym once or twice a week in the evenings pending enough interest. This is a great option as the local schools do not have the time or space available to accommodate this activity. This class would be held in the evenings.

Yoga

We are planning on offering beginner yoga when the instructor is healthy enough to start once she is healed from a recent injury. This class would be held in the evenings.

Boot Camp Fitness

We are planning on offering Boot Camp Fitness when the instructor is healthy enough to start once she is healed from a recent injury. This class would be held in the evenings.

In my opinion, I think there is so much more potential for this facility to be considered. In addition to allowing the Boys & Girls Club to stay and utilize the facility, I believe the CR could efficiently utilize the other parts of the facilities for educational classes, fitness classes/weight room, toddler/parent activities, home school physical education classes, lunch time basketball or volleyball, indoor walking space during the cold months. Having a facility that was open during the daytime opposed to waiting until school is out and limiting our offerings to afterschool and evening activities in the borough school facilities would be beneficial to the Homer community. In relation to economic development, all of our CR instructors if they are not volunteering are contracted instructors. Essentially they are part time businesses offering classes through our program creating local part time jobs and contributing to the local economic multiplier of exchanged services and goods. Many of our existing instructors have expressed how they rely upon teaching their classes as a source of income to survive. Many have gone on to be full time businesses or moved on to teach at the local college. Unfortunately I have had to turn away classes and instructors due to limited times and space in the local school facilities. Utilizing this facility for the CR program could potentially expand local commerce in the Homer community as we could have an expanded venue to offer more classes and activities.

I recommend the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission express support and interest of exploring the possibilities of using the Old Intermediate School for Community Recreation programs and activities.

Summary Fall 07-Summer 08

City of Homer Community Schools

Participants (Ages)

Session	Events	Programs	0-19	20 & up	Total	Total Visits (estimated)	Revenue	Volunteer	Vol. Hours	Vol. Value
Fall 07	2	70	721	709	1429	8,461	\$7,934	54	395	\$7,366.75
Winter 07-08	5	65	197	708	905	6,352	\$12,041	26	780	\$13,577.75
Spring 08	3	56	804	933	1737	9,686	\$4,688	47	1087	\$20,272.55
Summer 08	0	23	78	118	195		\$2,228	20	410	\$7,646.50
TOTAL:	10	191	1722	2350	4072	24,499	\$26,891	147	2262	\$48,863.55

* 2006 State of Alaska Average Volunteer Value: \$18.65/hour

* 2007 National average is \$19.51/hour

Source: http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html

Summary Summer 08-Spring 09

Participants (Ages)

City of Homer Community Schools

Session	Events	Programs Offered	Programs Cancelled*	0-19		20&up		Total	Total Visits (estimated)	Revenue	Volunteers	Vol. Hours	Vol. Value
Summer 08	0	23	6	78	118	196		2049	\$4,048			410	\$7,646.50
Fall 08	2	69	18	639	605	1244		7,223	\$5,396			839	\$16,453.00
Winter 08-09	4	53	8	215	536	751		5,582	\$14,041			874	\$17,139.00
Spring 09	0	59	14	202	206	408		3,927	\$8,299			889	\$17,433.00
TOTAL:	6	204	46	932	1259	2191		18,781	\$31,784		25	3012	\$52,671.50

2008 State of Alaska average volunteer value: \$19.61/hour

* 2008 National average is \$20.25/hour

Source: http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html

*Programs cancelled due to lack of participation, low enrollment or instructor's decision.

City of Homer Community Schools
Summary/Spring 09 to Winter 09-10

Session	Events	Programs Offered	Programs Canceled	Participants (Ages)			Total	Total Visits (estimated)	Revenue	Volunteers	Vol. Hours	Vol. Value
				0-19	20&up	Total						
Spring 09		56	10	202	191	393	3,807	\$ 7,989	22	857	\$ 17,748	
	1			250	100	350	350	\$ -	10	80	\$ 1,657	
Summer 09		17	4	48	72	120	704	\$ 2,303	10	280	\$ 5,799	
	0											
Fall 09		55	17	95	173	268	3,706	\$ 6,940	17	579	\$ 11,991	
	2			160	205	365	365	\$ -	11	34	\$ 704	
Winter 09-10		40	15	123	140	263	3,774	\$ 9,610	24	883	\$ 18,287	
	2			150	370	520	520	\$ 3,840	6	30	\$ 621	
TOTAL:	5	168	46	1,028	1,251	2,279	13,226	\$ 30,682	100	2743	\$ 56,807	

2008 State of Alaska average volunteer value: \$20.71/hour

* 2008 National average is \$20.25/hour

Source: http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html

*Programs cancelled due to lack of participation, low enrollment or instructor's decision.

Renee Krause

From: lgailey@ak.net on behalf of lloyd <lgailey@ak.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 5:37 PM
To: Renee Krause
Subject: Re: City of Homer Quarterly Newsletter - October 2010

Thanks for the update on what's going on in Homer. I run a charter business out of Homer and recall when the city decided to increase the revenue for the cruise ship to dock there. Guess what, They went to Seward! Now you have them back at least for awhile until some idiot decides to rip them off again! I have friends that work for the cruise lines and can't believe the stupid thing that Homer did to the cruise folks.

You also have a ridiculous ruling in the camp ground around the "Fishing Hole." Folks spend lots of \$ to get here and then you insist that they move every 2 weeks. This is not the Alaskan experience that they expected. I get a lot of complaints from visitors from out of state that tell me that that is why they came to Alaska, To avoid this sort of junk. Now you feed it to them! The loss of tourism revenue for Homer will decline if these practices are continued.

Solution, designate a parking area for long term campers and leave them alone.

The new lady that manages the camp ground understands this so please listen to her, Also, the part time camp ground collector of your fees, Dorothy also sees where this stupid thing is going and you need to revamp some thinking in Homer!

Don't send the cruise ships to Seward

Preserve the Gals that are presently taking care of our camp ground and let's make it an Alaskan experience for all contact me anytime , I love Alaska

Lloyd

Jessica Buckley
P.O. Box 2054
Homer AK, 99603
October 22, 2010

James C. Hornaday
419 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer AK, 99603

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Hello I am Jessica Buckley, a senior and active participant at Homer High School. I have lived in Homer for all of my seventeen years, of which I have played nearly thirteen years of t-ball, baseball, and softball. I will most certainly continue to play softball after I graduate at the intramural level wherever I end up attending college, if not competitively. I am forever grateful for the hard work of many parents and adult volunteers who've made this opportunity available to me, as it has most certainly contributed to who I am today. As we all know, these sports are an outlet for all ages in our community, all the way up from the toddlers to the "oldies" adult-leagues. What I can only hope is that the strong softball and baseball programs continue to flourish in our community for all walks of life. However, where my concern lies is along the narrow, sloping road that leads to the newly opened Jack Gist Park softball fields, and the cramped parking lot it leads to.

I firmly believe that the dangers of the road's width, which I am very surprised has not produced an accident yet, are unsafe for families with wide vehicles and even more so, with small children. I realize that the fields themselves have generated a great influx of community events and gatherings, but the areas those who have come to watch the games are simply not adequate. It is wonderful to see the faces of parents, family and friends in the stands as I walk up to bat, but I can't help to feel concerned that the bystanders, specifically small children, are not completely safe while doing so. The parking area does not provide enough room for cars to fit in an organized manner, leaving vehicles strewn about in chaos. When the evening's events are finished, the number of cars attempting to weave their way out of the parking lot, and up the narrow road is borderline ridiculous. This needs to be changed.

Where Karen Hornaday park succeeds the most as a community recreational area, is its consideration of all those who attend its event. The playground offers a safe location for younger children to play away from traffic. The barbeque pit is great source for visiting teams to commune over hotdogs, burgers, and whatnot. There is more than enough room for a plethora of local and visiting teams' vehicles. Last but certainly not least, I feel it is safe to say the bathroom facilities are greatly appreciated by everyone. These factors provide for everyone attending the fields, in a safe and effective manner. Were these factors to be incorporated into the Jack Gist Fields, I can affirm an even stronger community outlook on

softball and baseball would occur and continue to shape our little community into the fun loving town we are.

Mr. Mayor, I sincerely thank you for your time and appreciate your consideration of my proposal. I do hope to hear back from you regarding your opinion of the ideas proposed. I know that your dedication to the betterment of Homer is immeasurable, and I believe these ideas will aid in your mission to do so.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica F. Buckley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Jessica Buckley

1'2 14 10

Angie
- Corey
- Parks & Rec
Julie E
- Renee K

Jessica Buckley
Box 2054
Homer, Ak 99603

Hi Jessica:

Thanks for your letter. Having been involved in starting Little League in Homer and following my kids and grandkids in the program and high school softball, I appreciated your concern over the road to the new ball fields off East End Road. I will give you letter to the City Manager and request he submit it to the Department of Public Works and also The Parks and Recreation.

Hope you have a successful soft ball season.

Sincerely,

James C. Hornaday, Mayor

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

City Clerk/
Parks and Recreation
Advisory Commission

RESOLUTION 10-96

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, AMENDING THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION BY-LAWS TO ESTABLISH THE TIME OF 5:30 P.M. AS THE REGULAR MEETING TIME.

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meetings regularly start at 6:30 p.m. and depending on the Agenda the meeting can run late into the evening; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission recommend adjusting the regular meeting times in order to provide a more consistent and efficient meeting schedule; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission introduced the amendment at a Special Meeting held October 25, 2010 and took final action to approve the amendment at the Regular Meeting on November 18, 2010; and

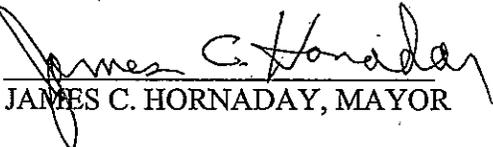
WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory meetings will be held monthly May through September and bi-monthly October through April with regular meetings the third Thursday of each month at ~~6:30 p.m.~~ 5:30 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, amends the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to establish 5:30 p.m., as the Regular Meeting time.

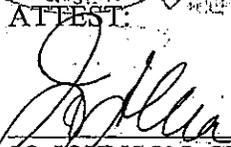
PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL this 13th day of December,

2010.

CITY OF HOMER


JAMES C. HORNADAY, MAYOR




JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal Note: N/A



Office of the Mayor

James C. Hornaday

Homer City Hall
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603-7624

Phone 907-235-8121 x2229
Fax 907-235-3143

November 23, 2010

Bumppo Bremicker
P. O. Box 2674
Homer, Ak 99603

Dear Mr. Bremicker,

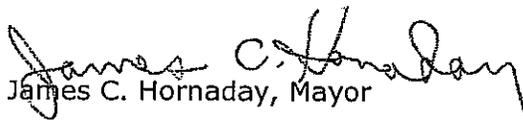
Congratulations! Council confirmed/approved your reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission during their Regular Meeting of November 22, 2010, via Memorandum 10-134.

Your current 2010 Public Official Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement is already on file.

Thank you for your willingness to continue serving the City of Homer on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. There certainly are exciting times ahead.

Your term will expire October 31, 2013.

Cordially,


James C. Hornaday, Mayor

Enc: Memorandum 10-134
Certificate of Reappointment

Cc: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

City of Homer

Homer, Alaska

Mayor's Certificate of Appointment

Greetings

Be It Known That

Bumppo Bremicker

Has been reappointed to

serve as

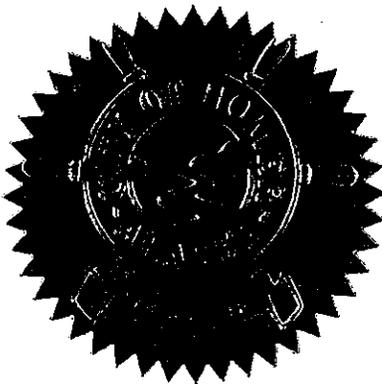
“Commissioner”

on the

“Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission”

This appointment is made because of your dedication to the cause of good government, your contributions to your community and your willingness to serve your fellow man.

*In Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand
this 23rd day of November, 2010.*



James C. Hornaday
JAMES C. HORNADAY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jo Johnson
JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

From: Geoffrey Orth -- Alaska Trails <geoffrey.orth@alaska-trails.org>
Subject: **AK Trails: RTP Funding Threatened!**
Date: December 29, 2010 8:08:46 AM AKST
To: undisclosed-recipients;
▶ 1 Attachment, 25.1 KB



Major trail funding program needs help now

One of the most important sources of funding for trails in Alaska and across the nation, is in danger and needs your help. Trail and trail-user groups need to show their support for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) by explaining to Congress that trails are an essential form of transportation, as well as being vital to our nation's health, and therefore deserve a consistent and appropriate funding source.

What is the RTP and why is it important?

The RTP is part of the existing federal surface transportation funding program, known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which was to officially expire at the end of 2010. Funding for these transportation programs is typically approved for several years, which is why little lobbying for this particular program has been needed for the past few years. A new multi-year transportation funding program is being worked on but has not been passed. Because of the current economy and political gridlock, SAFETEA-LU funding has been extended only temporarily through continuing resolutions.

The major catch of continuing resolutions is that they don't guarantee full fiscal year funding and the money comes in increments. Currently, Alaska's RTP funding has been allocated only \$480,000 instead of the typical \$1.5 million they program has received the for each of the past three years. If Congress does not act to extend funding of the bill before the end of this calendar year, then the \$480,000 is likely what Alaska's Recreational Trails Program receives for all of 2011.

Also, while political wrangling goes on to develop a new multi-year transportation bill, some groups and politicians have been trying hard to strip or severely cut back trails funding from transportation programs. Those groups and politicians argue that trails are not essential to the nation's transportation.

Alaska Trails and many others think this is outrageously unfair and extremely short sighted. Funding for the RTP comes from federal taxes on that portion of gasoline purchased for off-road motorized vehicles. If trails funding is cut from this transportation funding legislation then those gas taxes will pay only for highway construction and maintenance. Those funds pay for a variety of trail projects, so non-motorized users will be affected, too.

Not only would taking the off-road gas taxes from trails be unfair, it would be bad for the nation. Trails get people outside and keep them active. Trails are a key factor in battling our nation's obesity epidemic. Quite a few people commute via trails, so that's less traffic and wear and tear on the roads. Trails allow people to get out in nature and take a mental break from life. The list goes on. If trails take a major hit, the nation takes a hit.

Does this program really help Alaska?

Yes! Every state gets RTP money and has a lot of say in how those funds are used. Alaska has received more than \$1 million each year in RTP funding and distributed those funds to local groups and governments through the Alaska Recreational Trails Grant Program. To see a list of specific trail projects from across the state that have benefited from RTP funding, see the state's RTP page (<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/trails.htm>). Scroll down to the bottom for a list of awards granted from 2006 to 2010.

How can you fight for the RTP?

If you believe that trails are an essential form of transportation and vital to our nation's health then now is the time to speak up! Trail groups, trail user groups, individual trail users, trail managers, and anyone else involved with trails can influence this debate by letting their voice be heard loud and clear.

Here are some suggestions:

Call, write, or email our Congressional delegation

- * Congressman Don Young: <https://donyoung.house.gov/Contact/default.aspx>
- * Sen. Lisa Murkowski: <http://murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Contact>
- * Sen. Mark Begich: <http://begich.senate.gov/public/>

Get local governments to pass resolutions in support of RTP funding and then make sure our delegation gets that information.

Get your group to support the Coalition for Recreational Trails: www.americantrails.org/rtp/crt.html

Don't procrastinate!

Many people, including legislators, want the surface transportation funding bill to be passed soon. Many voices will be fighting for and against

including RTP funding. If the bill is passed it likely will be in effect for several years. If we don't save RTP funding now, we won't have another reasonable chance to save this major trails funding source for several years. Please act quickly and loudly. At last report an extension of SAFETEA-LU (with the RTP included) passed the House and is awaiting Senate action. Such action will probably not take place until the new Congress is seated. With the current mood of change, a lot can happen. Please don't be complacent and assume it will get passed. Besides this extension will last only until Sept. 2011.

For more information on how you can help this essential program see this American Trails webpage: www.americantrails.org/reauth.html.

--

Geoffrey Orth, Board President
Alaska Trails www.alaska-trails.org
P.O. Box 100627
Anchorage, AK 99510-0627
Anch: 907.334-8049 Fbks: 907.479.0014
geoffrey.orth@alaska-trails.org

Save the Date



CALLING ALL TRAIL ENTHUSIASTS!

New / Experienced – Professional / Recreational

Hikers, bikers, 4-wheelers, canoes, ATVs, skiers, kayakers, snowmachiners, horseback riders, mushers...

GOT TRAILS? USE TRAILS? WANT TRAILS?

If so, then make tracks to the

FIRST BIENNIAL TRAIL RONDY®

April 15-17, 2011

Alaska Job Corps Center
800 E. Lynn Martin Drive, Palmer

Join us for 2-3 exciting days of training, discussions, hands-on demonstrations, and vendors focused on the needs of Alaska's trail community. This will be a great opportunity for all trail enthusiasts, planners, and builders to learn new skills and techniques, test out the latest equipment, network, find opportunities for future employment, and share ideas about how we can all work together to make Alaska's trails the best they can be.

More to come on Alaska Trails WEBSITE and FACEBOOK!

www.alaska-trails.org

RONDY is a Registered Trademark of Greater Anchorage, Inc. and is being used with permission.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Annual Calendar
2011

January

February No Meeting

March Land Allocation Plan

April No Meeting

May Spring Park & Beach Walkthrough
Decide if Park Day will be an event this summer

June Start Planning Park Day, select date (if desired)

July Review Capital Improvement Plan
Budget Process begins at Council, Departments

August Talk about the annual budget, make recommendations to the City Council
Park Day (?)

September Fall Park & Beach Walkthrough

October No Meeting
Mayoral Appointment/Reappointment of Commissioners

November Elections

December No Meeting

2011 Homer City Council Meetings
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Attendance

It is a goal of the Commission to have a member speak regularly to the city council at council meetings. There is a special place on the council's agenda specifically for this. After the Council approves the consent agenda, there is a spot for visitors, and then agenda item number seven, announcements, reports from Commissions, the Borough, etc. That is when you would jump up and speak. If the mayor moves on to public hearings, you have waited too long! Typically if there is no visitor or special presentation, you would be talking within the first half hour (or less) of the Council meeting.

Each commissioner is assigned a month is responsible for attending one of the two council meetings, OR finding another commissioner to do it in their place.

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>
January 10, 24	Archibald
February 15 (Tuesday), 28	
March 14, 29	
April 11, 25	
May 9, 23 (may reschedule if conflicts w graduation)	
June 13, 27	
July 25	
August 8, 22	
September 12, 26	
October 10, 24	
November 28	
December 12	

* November and December meetings typically focus on the budget.

**CITY OF HOMER
2011 OPERATING BUDGET**

NARRATIVE

GENERAL FUND - PUBLIC WORKS PARKS & RECREATION

Enhance the beauty and functionality of the parks, City property, trails and camping areas within the City of Homer. Administer the Homer Beautification Project and coordinating efforts with the Community Schools, Trails Committee and various organizations.

Costs associated include parks and trails (18 areas from the top of Baycrest to the end of the Spit) clean-up/repair, lawn mowing contract, campground fee collection, garden & greenhouse supplies, dust control (camping areas); minor park improvements, playground equipment maintenance, fence maintenance and restroom operational maintenance, including the Spit and Baycrest areas.

**CITY OF HOMER
2011 OPERATING BUDGET**

**FUND 100
175 - PARKS/RECREATION/CEMETARY**

	FY2007 Actual	FY2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Adopted Budget	FY 2011 Preliminary Budget	Difference Between 2010 Adopted & 2011 Preliminary Budget	
Salaries and Benefits							
5101 Regular Employees	\$ 125,005	\$ 104,238	\$ 82,881	\$ 88,731	\$ 90,462	1,731	1.95%
5102 Fringe Benefits	63,798	66,336	59,300	67,969	61,910	(6,059)	-8.92%
5103 P/T Employees	44,803	76,436	77,537	78,364	57,091	(21,273)	-27.15%
5104 Fringe Benefits P/T	11,135	13,378	11,729	10,579	7,707	(2,872)	-27.15%
5105 Overtime	4,118	1,548	2,682	1,520	1,520	-	0.00%
5107 P/T Overtime	551	2,325	835	-	-	-	0.00%
Total Salaries and Benefits	249,411	264,261	234,963	247,163	218,689	(28,474)	-11.52%
Maintenance and Operations							
5202 Operating Supplies	12,341	11,541	9,325	11,700	11,700	-	0.00%
5203 Fuel/Lube	13,682	25,289	16,328	22,821	22,821	-	0.00%
5208 Equipment Maintenance	108	529	303	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%
5209 Building & Grounds Maintenance	28,054	26,034	19,132	29,000	19,000	(10,000)	-34.48%
5210 Professional & Special Services	24,128	28,740	29,263	34,200	34,200	-	0.00%
5214 Rents & Leases Expense	-	-	-	2,500	2,500	-	0.00%
5215 Communications	1,334	1,497	170	800	800	-	0.00%
5217 Electricity	8,296	9,073	8,968	11,325	11,325	-	0.00%
5218 Water	9,548	12,282	17,666	14,028	14,028	-	0.00%
5219 Sewer	11,659	12,749	17,543	11,000	11,000	-	0.00%
5220 Refuse/Disposal	21,788	25,659	1,489	25,000	25,000	-	0.00%
5227 Advertising	352	219	92	400	400	-	0.00%
5231 Tools/Equipment	1,136	350	1,719	3,350	3,350	-	0.00%
5235 Memberships/Dues	230	250	55	250	250	-	0.00%
5236 Transportation	207	1,559	926	-	-	-	0.00%
5237 Subsistence	-	223	330	-	-	-	0.00%
5251 Pioneer Beautification	733	924	1,040	618	618	-	0.00%
5252 Credit Card Expense	-	-	-	80	80	-	0.00%
5601 Uniform/Clothing Allowance	154	198	216	300	300	-	0.00%
5603 Employee Training	943	548	154	900	900	-	0.00%
5604 Public Education	593	327	-	500	500	-	0.00%
Total Maintenance and Operations	135,285	157,989	124,720	169,772	159,772	(10,000)	-5.89%
Capital Outlay, Transfers and Reserves							
5990 Transfer to	20,100	30,000	12,000	-	-	-	0.00%
Total Capital Outlay, Transfers & Rese	20,100	30,000	12,000	-	-	-	0.00%
Total	\$ 404,796	\$ 452,251	\$ 371,683	\$ 416,935	\$ 378,462	(38,474)	-9.23%
Staffing History	4.44	5.60	4.60	4.67	3.87		

LINE - ITEM EXPLANATIONS:

Revenues anticipated to be generated by Parks, Recreation & Cemetery are:
Spit Camping Fees - \$175,000, City Campground Fees - \$20,000, Cemetery Plots - \$5,000.

5101 - 5106 - In 2010, part of the Community Schools Coordinator has been budgeted (12%) in Parks and Recreation's Budget. During summer months this position will help with the coordination of and scheduling therein various parks activities.

Account Number Explanations: Sec G-17

Dept	Reserve	2011 Beg Bal	Transfers In	Expenditures	2011 End Bal
385	Depreciation Reserve	20,353			20,353

Park Day Budget

**CITY OF HOMER
2011 OPERATING BUDGET**

NARRATIVE

GENERAL FUND - COMMUNITY RECREATION

Homer Community Recreation promotes community involvement in and life-long learning through, educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages. This is accomplished through maximizing usage of all community facilities and resources, while utilizing, expanding and uniting local business and school resources. The program is designed to enhance quality of life through participation in programs which will reduce stress, provide for socialization, mental and physical well being.

FY 2011 Objectives:

Offer educational, recreational and leisure opportunities for Homer in a safe, cost effective manner.

Seek alternate revenue sources such as advertisements, sponsorships, grants and donations.

Maintain adequate fees to assist with sustaining overall program.

Provide volunteer opportunities for community members who would like to support the Community Recreation program.

Collaborate with Parks & Recreation with coordinating, promoting and improving, existing parks, trails, user group agreements and other related activities and projects.

CITY OF HOMER
2011 OPERATING BUDGET

FUND 100
115 - COMMUNITY RECREATION

	FY2007 Actual	FY2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Adopted Budget	FY 2011 Preliminary Budget	2010 Adopted & 2011 Preliminary Budget	
Salaries and Benefits							
5101 Regular Employees	\$ 41,980	\$ 51,390	\$ 53,771	\$ 48,418	\$ 51,199	2,780	5.74%
5102 Fringe Benefits	26,476	31,787	34,374	31,563	29,991	(1,571)	-4.98%
5103 P/T Employees	3,726	2,854	2,276	2,000	4,000	2,000	100.00%
5104 Fringe Benefits P/T	399	245	192	186	184	(2)	-0.97%
Total Salaries and Benefits	72,581	86,276	90,614	82,167	85,374	3,207	3.90%
Maintenance and Operations							
5201 Office Supplies	404	121	-	500	500	-	0.00%
5202 Operating Supplies	586	1,650	1,440	2,500	2,500	-	0.00%
5208 Equipment	-	453	193	500	500	-	0.00%
5210 Professional & Special Services	9,317	10,430	4,875	9,500	15,500	6,000	63.16%
5215 Communications	1,883	2,434	1,734	1,950	1,950	-	0.00%
5216 Postage/Freight	2,126	1,927	364	750	50	(700)	-93.33%
5223 Liability Insurance	696	1,473	1,529	1,666	940	(726)	-43.59%
5227 Advertising	251	522	-	250	950	700	280.00%
5235 Memberships/Dues	-	175	183	185	185	-	0.00%
5236 Transportation	129	1,081	283	100	250	150	150.00%
5237 Subsistence	25	187	189	-	250	250	0.00%
5238 Printing/Binding	2,245	2,060	1,560	1,600	1,800	200	12.50%
5603 Employee Training	-	1,988	2,000	-	250	250	0.00%
Total Maintenance and Operations	17,661	24,501	14,350	19,501	25,625	6,124	31.40%
Total	\$ 90,242	\$ 110,777	\$ 104,964	\$ 101,668	\$ 110,999	9,331	9.18%
Staffing History	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.88	0.88		

LINE - ITEM EXPLANATIONS:

5101 - 5104 - Part of the Community Schools Coordinator Position was moved to Parks & Recreation (.12), where this position will assist in coordinating summer events.
 5103 - To increase P/T Wages for the collection of fees at events.
 5238 - Quarterly binding was switched to bi-annual printing.
 5210 - Basketball Referees', background checks, and KPB user fees of \$6,000.

Account Number Explanations: Sec G-17

