

Session 11-03, a Special Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Bremicker at 6:35 p.m. on April 19, 2011 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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

STAFF: CITY MANAGER WALT WREDE
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR CAREY MEYER
RECREATION SPECIALIST MIKE ILLG
DEPUTY CITY CLERK I RENEE KRAUSE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

There was no discussion.

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *(Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings.)*

There were no minutes for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments.

VISITORS

There were no visitors in attendance.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items scheduled for reconsideration.

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS

There were no Staff Reports submitted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings were scheduled.

PENDING BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Preliminary Engineering for Karen Hornaday Park
 - a. Bridge over Woodard Creek- Volunteer Engineer - Visitor
 - b. How the Preliminary Engineering Scope of Work will be Developed and Scheduled

City Manager Wrede gave a summary on the reports given to council at the last council meeting. There were comments that doing the road realignment would be very costly and there is not much future in getting funding for completion of this project. In response to a question from the Commissioners he believed council would like more defined line items that can be included specifically with an ordinance.

Commissioner Harrald recapped the decisions made at the last meeting, it was acknowledged that there is a lot going on in Phase I and II but that there is no information on what is feasible, such as the bridge, so if down the line the Friends of Woodard Creek or another group(s) may be able to go for a grant this would allow them some idea if it is even feasible to place a bridge in that spot.

Chair Bremicker noted that council wants direction and line items and agreed with getting some numbers on what it will cost with the preliminary engineering.

Discussion ensued on the following points:

- Relocating the road to make pedestrian and bicyclist traffic safer.
- the feasibility of installing a pedestrian bridge across Woodard Creek
- there was no current knowledge of the cost to install a bridge, realign the road and drainage issues and engineering would assist in directing future decisions.
- the drainage issues were large and impacted a number of features at the park
- temporary spot fixes were not wanted and considered a waste of funds.
- Staff agreed with drainage repair and preliminary engineering for the park.
- it was agreed that by solving the drainage issues the parking lot would be in better condition.
- explained how the need for a bridge originated.
- the ball fields deserved a real fix not just a band aid.
- use of natural elements to deal with drainage and water issues
- slope and sloughing
- Repair and Replace the playground facilities - unsafe and in severe disrepair - Commissioner Brann volunteered to fix.
- The use of the gangway currently in the Port and Harbor possession possible use as bridge over creek.
- The need to get something tangible completed as the future of obtaining additional funding or grants is very slim.
- Public Works Director offered to supply information and cost figures and assist with engineering on some of the items to complete some portions of the overall project that can be realized by the community.
- Playground improvements
- Overall Master plan is a twenty year effort.
- the parking lot and road realignment would be extremely costly due to the materials, equipment and labor needed.

LILLIBRIDGE/CUMMING - MOVED TO DIRECT STAFF TO DRAFT AN ORDINANCE OUTLINING LINE ITEM EXPENDITURES FOR THE FOLLOWING; PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING TO INCLUDE ROAD REALIGNMENT, AND THE DRAINAGE ISSUES FOR THE PARKING, PLAYGROUND AND BALLFIELDS; AND UP TO \$5,000 FOR LITTLE LEAGUE TO IMPLEMENT BALLFIELD IMPROVEMENTS, AND NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

Discussion included the importance to the community to make improvements to the ballfields this season; why the engineering was needed to implement permanent drainage fixes and repairs which would provide immediate improvement to the overall area.

ARCHIBALD/HARRALD - MOVED TO RECOMMEND AMENDING THE AMOUNT TO INCLUDE \$10,000 FOR BALLFIELD IMPROVEMENTS.

Commissioner Archibald explained that there are numerous improvements and that increasing the amount would allow for repairs to the dugouts, purchase new equipment, etc.

VOTE. (First Amendment) YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

CARLINSCHAUER/LILLIBRIDGE - MOVED TO INCLUDE THE BRIDGE OVER WOODARD CREEK BACK INTO THE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REQUEST.

There was a brief discussion on the importance to include the bridge in the preliminary engineering report. It would allow them and the other groups to plan whether the overall project is feasible or will need to be delayed or not done at all due to the cost.

VOTE. (Second Amendment) YES. HARRALD, BREMICKER, ARCHIBALD, CARLINSCHAUER, BRANN, LILLIBRIDGE

VOTE. NO. CUMMING.

Motion carried.

LILLIBRIDGE/HARRALD - MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO INCLUDE \$5000 FOR PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS.

Discussion on designating a specific amount and making it nonspecific for playground improvements instead of limiting it to new equipment since there was more that could be done and needed than equipment. City Manager Wrede commented that the amendment is good and explained that it offers flexibility.

VOTE. (Third Amendment) YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VOTE. (Main Motion) YES. LILLIBRIDGE, BRANN, CARLINSCHAUER, ARCHIBALD, BREMICKER, HARRALD, CUMMING.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. City Manager Wrede Report from the City Council Packet for the Meeting on April 11, 2011
- B. Memorandum dated March 18, 2011 to City Manager Wrede and Public Works Director Meyer
Re: Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Recommendations for Karen Hornaday Park
Funding from Planning Technician Engebretsen

There was no discussion on the informational materials.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

There were no audience comments.

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

None.

COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS

City Manager Wrede responded to Commissioner Harrald outlining the process that is followed by the Finance Department regarding the project funding.

Public Works Director Meyer and Deputy City Clerk Krause had no comments.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner CarlinSchauer had no comments.

Commissioner Harrald questioned the City Manager if the monies appropriated would be available immediately.

Commissioner Cumming appreciated Walt and Carey attending the meeting and answering their questions.

Commissioner Lillibridge reminded the Commissioners about the Park Walk through on Wednesday April 20, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. They will meet in the parking lot and carpool to the Spit.

Commissioner Archibald commented that he will be out the next eight weeks and will hopefully be able to participate telephonically. He appreciated Walt and Carey attending this special meeting.

Commissioner Brann commented they have a lot on their plate but they are making some progress.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Bremicker commented that everyone has done a good job and thanked the staff.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission Chair Bremicker adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. There will be a Spring Parks Walk Worksession on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. The next regular meeting is Thursday, MAY 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers.

RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: _____