



CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL, 710 E. MULLAN AVENUE
COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83816-3964
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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

March 19, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.
COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Cranston, Chair
Mike McDowell, Co-Chair
Ron Edinger, City Council Liaison
Ginny Tate
Bridget Hill
Hart Parr Dal Pra, Student Rep
Kinsey Freeman, Alt Student Rep

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Lien
Christie Wood

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Greenwood, Parks & Rec Director
Katie Kosanke, Urban Forester
Monte McCully, Trail Coordinator
Mike Kempton, NOSC Liaison
Melissa Brandt, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Brad Cederblom-N Idaho Central Labor Council

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cranston called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Six members present, resulting in an official quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Edinger made a motion to approve the minutes of February 26, 2018. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion, there being no discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Bill Greenwood: Spring is here and we are getting busy. Little League was out getting Canfield ready for their season. NIC is getting Ramsey ready for practices. Parks Department installed bollards around the K27 water feature and irrigation is in ready and in place. Front side will have bollards with single chain loop, back side will have double chain loop. Katie Kosanke will be talking about a grant she received for Seagraves Park. Our crew worked at City Park and the cemetery pruning trees and

Jeff Crowe produced a nice video about the work in City Park. Renting a lift and completing this type of pruning will be done annually going forward.

There will be another open house meeting regarding the Atlas property this Thursday at 5:30 pm at Frontier Ice Arena. Another opportunity for the public to give comment, there is to be one more meeting, date to be determined.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

Katie Kosanke: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day will take place on Saturday, May 5, at Veterans Centennial Seagraves Park. The event will educate the public about wildfire preparedness, urban interface, and will include a sample fuel reduction area on the east side wooded area. The fire department will have a signup sheet for courtesy inspections and recommendations for pruning up trees, using plants that are beneficial and fire tolerant, and creating buffer areas. We have submitted an application for a FEMA grant for fuel reduction on the entire site and in the meantime we have received a small grant for this event. We will use this money for tools and educational information to hand out. There will be a second event specifically for the residents of the Armstrong Park neighborhood, once the date is confirmed we will get that information out. Join us May 5th for our Wildfire Community Preparedness Event.

Commissioner McDowell: How much of the land at Seagraves park will be treated?

Kosanke: Maybe a 20 foot swath; it will depend on how many experienced pruning volunteers we have who can help. The sample will serve as an educational component for the neighborhood and public in general, a demonstration of how fuel reduction is done. Greenwood: Our staff will do a lot of the cleanup in this area going forward.

9. FOOTHILLS TRAIL

Monte McCully: This trail component has been in our master plan for several years. We are just starting to look at how the development of the trail will move forward. We would need to identify funding sources and property available to make the trail work. This trail would provide a north/south corridor on the east side of town for both recreational use and for non-motorized transportation. This trail will connect neighborhoods. It would be a multi-use trail in the Idaho Transportation Department right-of-way from Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive at Silver Beach all the way up to 15th street, in an initial phase, and then down 15th street to canfield mountain. The idea for this trail is also part of the NOSC management plan. The trail would be about 4-5 miles long, along the mountains at the edge of the trees. We would like to see the trail go all the way up to Best. Benefits of this trail would be economic impact, keep the community active, and get kids to school safer. We are looking at possibly a start at the Centennial Trail at the parking lot out by Silver Beach, following down through Fernan Village, all the way down to Pennsylvania, where it will cross under the freeway and connect with 15th. Possibly bring the trail into some of the areas being developed right now, that would connect major

recreational areas in our city all the way to Canfield Mountain. Would like to keep fencing for safety as the trail goes into areas where there is new construction coming in.

Commissioner Cranston: Is there a date yet for 15th street improvements? McCully: I believe its next year when the funding for streets will be coming in, 2019 or 2020. The improvements are at least a year or more out.

Commissioner Hart: How far would the trail be from the start of the water area shown on your map, and what about privacy for homeowners? McCully: We would have to survey it and get permission, there is room for it; we would probably have the trail running higher up. We would have to get buy-in from homeowners we would have to get them to agree. Greenwood: Detail is quite a ways out, we are just letting you know what is being worked on, more details will come out as we put these together.

10. IDAHO WORKERS MEMORIAL

Greenwood: We've been working with Brad Cederblom for 10 years looking for a home for the worker's memorial. We have located a spot just a little bit west of the Bricks restroom in City Park, he is here today to give an update. Cederblom: We have a new design, the first being conceptual. We met on site and started mapping out the location. Everything is squared off makes it much easier to build with brick. We have a donation of pallets of bricks from a contractor supply here in town. There will be pieces of channel iron for an eternal flame. The CMU wall on the back, anything exposed, will be colored brick and landscaping to help cover the back. The plaques are black granite, similar to Fallen Heroes Plaza. He receives calls daily from people wanting to help. Fundraising has been going on for a year and they are very close to their target, and they are looking for volunteers to help build the memorial. Footprint is the same as the first one. There is a five or six week build out once they get started. April 28 is workers memorial day; there will be a ceremonial ground breaking. Construction will begin once all the funds are in place and volunteers are recruited.

Commissioner McDowell: So your construction will start late summer or fall? Cederblom: Hoping for May, we are in need a mason to help get the work done.

11. BROOKS SEAPLANE

Commissioner Cranston read the Staff Report for the record.

Greenwood: Mr. Lunt apologizes that he could not make it, he is out of town and unavailable this evening. Neil and Anna Lunt are in the process of purchasing Brooks Seaplane from Grant Brooks. Our legal counsel, Randy Adams and City Administrator, Troy Tymesen, have talked with Mr. Lunt and are satisfied with him taking over the Brooks lease. His intent is to provide exactly what Brooks Seaplane has provided over many years.

Commissioner Cranston: Were there any repairs or anything that needed done to the dock?
Greenwood: Yes, those repairs have been completed.

Motion by Commissioner Edinger, seconded by Commissioner Tate to approve this lease with Neil and Anna Lunt, d/b/a/, Brooks Seaplane Service, LLC, there being no discussion and all being in agreement, motion passed.

Item will move forward to General Services.

12. VETERANS CENTENNIAL PARK

Commissioner Cranston read the Staff Report for the record.

Mike Kempton: We met last month and made modifications to the Veterans Centennial Park master plan. The space was donated to encourage the development of a park and recreation area for the benefit of the citizens of the city of Coeur d'Alene, keeping the park as natural as possible. This parcel represents the only public land east of 15th street and south of Hazel, there are no other public parks in this area. This plan was presented in June and we received a lot of public comment. We scaled back and presented a more reduced and simple plan and received more public comments; changes requested were made. The parking lot was reduced and the amphitheater was changed to a gathering place. This plan has gone through an extensive vetting process, beginning back in 2006. Park development was encouraged through the City's Comprehensive Plan. The NOSC wrote a management plan based on the feedback from citizens at that time. On June 19, 2017 at the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting, we presented a plan that included a large parking lot, Veteran's plaza, gazebo, restroom, amphitheater, walking path, new trees, and a rain garden. We received public comments in June, at a workshop held after the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on November 20, 2017, and at the February 26, 2018 Parks & Recreation Commission. Changes were made, after each meeting, based on citizen input: the trail was moved away from private property, the rain garden was removed, secondary pathway was eliminated, concept of an amphitheater changed to a small gathering area away from private property, parking area reduced further following fire department suggestions, simplified landscaping, reduced trees to be planted, and the trail will be gravel, not paved. There will be a restroom facility of some type, possibly a portable unit that will be serviced regularly and removed during the off season. The gazebo size would be similar to what is at Winton Park or North Pines Park, small wooden natural structures.

Commissioner Hill: There are no funds budgeted for this project, correct? Kempton: No, there are not, nothing will happen right away, we would like to get the road and the gravel parking lot established.

Commissioner McDowell: You have done a fantastic job adopting the comments, a great result and good direction. Kempton: This is the least we could do and have a park. Once this plan is approved, it protects the area and keeps it dedicated to this type of use and preserves it so another use can't be imposed on this property.

Kempton: A big thank you to Mike Walker for all his modifications through this process, all his work has been done as a volunteer.

Commissioner Hill: This does take a lot of work to collaborate, it appears we have something that is making everyone comfortable and following the wishes of our donor.

Commissioner Cranston: Vegetation in the open space, will that be maintained as natural grass? Kempton: We will plant some grass and administer weed control in the open areas. Some trees will eventually be planted with drip irrigation from a residential size meter. Maintenance will include daily rounds by staff to empty trash, clean the restroom facility, and check for graffiti. A rough mowing will occur a couple times through the year.

Commissioner Edinger: Anything else mentioned about the name, Veteran's Centennial Park or Seagraves? Greenwood: The deed given to me at the last meeting was a recorded document, the one that was a year later in our possession was not recorded. Blending of the two would be best, Emma's brothers were Veterans. Possibly something like Seagraves Veteran's Memorial Park would cover both documents and satisfy her wishes.

Shelly Hertado, 2795 E Fernan Hill Road: Thank you for a job well done. Thank you for listening to public input, a perfect example of how the system should work. From the neighbors at Fernan Hill we thank you. One question, do you know what the distance of the trail will be? Greenwood: Not at this time.

Gene Foster, 943 Victoria Drive: I'm a new resident and fully support what you have done with the plan. It's what I expected for the open space. Two comments: locking in this design protects the property; I agree with that. Take it to City Council for that purpose. Also, remind you there is a fire hazard there, need more funding for this safety issue, fire safety. The forest is heavily eroded and has decay. This park sits at a choke point at Fernan Hill Road and French Gulch, a hazard that could spread both ways.

Motion by Commissioner Tate, seconded by Commissioner Hill to recommend the city adopt the Veterans' Centennial master plan design as an addendum to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the city's Comprehensive Plan, there being no discussion and all being in agreement, motion passed.

Item will move forward to General Services.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cranston asked for any additional comments.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- Tuesday, April 3, 2018: Workshop; Caruso's Deli, Coeur d'Alene – 11:30 am
- Monday, April 16, 2018: Meeting; Community Room at the Library – 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Edinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Hart seconding the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.