



CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

May 16, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.
COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Cranston, Chair
Mike McDowell
Bridget Hill
Jim Lien
Ginny Tate
Warren Bakes
Christie Wood
Alysha Vilelli, Student Rep
Brighton Spencer, Alt Student Rep

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Greenwood, Parks & Recreation Director
Monte McCully, Trail Coordinator
Melissa Brandt, Transcriptionist

GUEST:

Kevin Prather, KJ Watersports

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cranston called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Eight members present, resulting in a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Action Item*

Commissioner Tate made a motion to approve the minutes of March 14, 2022.
Commissioner Hill seconded the motion, there being no discussion and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Director Greenwood: Recreation is wrapping up spring soccer with 800 participants, 200 more children from last spring. Baseball registration just ended with 350 kids participating, season will start in June. Swim classes continue to fill up and are very popular. Halfway through t-ball camp for 3 and 4 year old kids; 50 have participated. Adam Rouse is managing the Jewett House calendar and has fifteen weddings scheduled and two other events; we're making better use of the facility. Mooring dock lights have been replaced with LEDs. This week planning of 4,000 annuals and perennials will take place. Continue to have difficulties with seasonal staffing. Person Field restroom replacement going well, a new water line was put in over the weekend to accommodate the building, a modular concrete unit similar to what we have a City

Park but smaller, should be operational in late July. Nick Goodwin worked with the Tubbs Hill Foundation planting leftover Arbor Day seedlings of Larch and White Pine on Tubbs Hill.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

8. PRAIRIE TRAIL EXTENSION GRANT – *Information Item*

Monte McCully: We are applying for a Children Pedestrian Safety Program grant of \$250,000 to extend the Prairie Trail from Huetter to Meyer Roads. The Prairie Trail has had a lot of moving parts with this grant we are working with Post Falls Highway District. This area is part of the future Huetter Bypass and planned development within the Post Falls area. Extending the Prairie Trail between Huetter and Meyer will benefit citizens of Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls. The City is working with PFHD to finalize an easement that extends 360 feet east of Meyer to the existing Coeur d'Alene property. The funding will help establish the trail in city limits of Coeur d'Alene. An anonymous donor gave \$50,000 to go toward this effort. A rapid flashing beacon will also be installed to make it even safer for children to cross.

Commissioner Cranston: What is the timeline? McCully: Application is due in June; award will take place in July with funds available shortly thereafter. This will go out for bid in the fall with the working being done next spring.

Commissioner Bakes: All the changes with Highway 41, where will it intersect? McCully: North of Prairie where the BNSF line connected, will follow the same angle. Trail users will get to Highway 41, then go down to Prairie at the light to cross.

9. COMMERCIAL DOCK AT HARBOR CENTER – *Action Item*

Commissioner Cranston read the staff report for the record.

Director Greenwood: We received three submissions, once scoring took place, KJ Watersports received the higher score and given first choice, they requested the "B" dock. King Morton aka Hayden Paddleboard & Jet Ski was second. Both companies utilize the launch docks, this new location will alleviate congestion. They will keep their vessels moored, and not have to drive through downtown to the launch dock.

Commissioner Wood: There has been concern about the docks and the impact with traffic on the river, understand the concern for safety. Safety is concerning in the downtown area as well. Can you dig into this before the city council meeting? Greenwood: I did reach out to the sheriff's office. There are accidents on the lake, we have accidents at the docks, but we don't close the docks. There are no reported injuries in this area.

Commissioner Cranston: The proposed docks will be in the existing no wake zone, part of the proposal to manage this area is for the vendors to encourage them to head toward the lake instead of down the river. Will help alleviate that concern. Greenwood: The vendors will

encourage people to go back up to the lake, each boat has GPS so the vendors will know where they are going, they are told to stay on the lake and not to go on the river.

Commissioner Tate: Spoke with the sheriff's office, and there seemed to be a 50/50 split as to how their interference with boaters was viewed, either not enough, while others felt there was too much control. Traffic alleviation does take some pressure off downtown. Equal water access for all people; it belongs to everyone not just homeowners along the river.

Commissioner Bakes: Seasonal depth of the water, is there concern to have enough depth?
Greenwood: We have had docks there before, the vendors can build them in a way that they sit on a rack, or they could store them. We store our docks at Johnson Mill River and Atlas Mill Park.

Commissioner McDowell: Launching at some point, watercraft at the docks. Greenwood; Blackwell.

Kevin Prather, owner KJ Watersports: We have GPS to monitor the boats, good relationship with the sheriff's department. They inspect our boats each year, no alcohol for the driver of the boat, any situation with our boats they call us. Contract states that if the user is doing anything illegal, we pull that boat. We track each individual boat. The river itself, most people don't want to go on the river, most of our business is pontoon boats, jet skis, and a surf boat. The boats will be out of the water at 3rd street and Blackwell. We have restricted the Coeur d'Alene River and the Saint Joe, we give them maps of areas to stay out of, if they cross a border, we immediately get in touch with them. Growing business, continuing to grow. Good way to relieve the third street boat launch. In business for 18 years. Operated the same type of system where we have all our boats on the docks in Washington, dock is gated, we know the system well.

Commissioner Cranston: For the surf board or wake boats, do you provide a captain?
Timeline if council approves these leases, the hope is for the docks to be constructed and ready for next season? Prather; No, we do not, you have to be 25 years old and have experience. Greenwood: The other vendor was not available to attend. We have a late start getting approvals, no funds will be collected this year. Both vendors are having a hard time finding materials due to supply chain issues. There are some deadlines and milestone dates, we won't hold them to it we will get this operational for next season.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to recommend to city council the approval of the selection of vendors, KJ Watersports, and Hayden Lake Paddleboard and Jet Ski from the RFP selection committee, to build the docks and operate a water-based recreation facility for the public at the city owned property along the Spokane River near the Harbor Center. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

10. CONCESSIONS AT ATLAS PARK – Action Item

Commissioner Cranston read the staff report for the record.

Director Greenwood: We were disappointed in the number of proposals we received; only one. We didn't do anything different than when we advertised for Independence Point. We received six for Independence Point, and was seeking four vendors for Atlas Mill Park. Would like to be given the ability to discuss the opportunity for food vendors who are interested to submit a proposal directly to the department, and not go back out for another RFP.

Commissioner McDowell: Will you have a variety of vendors for this location? Greenwood: Yes, we hope to have some different food offerings. We will be flexible and tailor operation hours to the type of vendors' food/beverage offering.

Commissioner Hill: How much experience does this vendor have, does he have a truck? Greenwood: He has not operated a food truck but is getting his truck and items together. We will also be flexible in meeting timelines and deadlines with this vendor due to the time necessary to get approvals.

Commissioner Lien made a motion to recommend approval of the proposal received from Paul Mason Food Truck for food concessions at Atlas Park and authorize staff to negotiate with possible food vendors for the remaining three locations. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

MEETINGS / ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cranston asked for any additional comments.

Commissioner McDowell: Reminder to get out and vote if you haven't done so already

Upcoming meeting dates:

- Tuesday, June 7, 2022; 11:30 a.m., Workshop; Conf Rm 6 City Hall
- Monday, June 20, 2022: 5:30 p.m., Meeting; Library Community Room

Commissioner Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Wood seconding the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.