



# CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL, 710 E. MULLAN AVENUE  
COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83816-3964  
208-769-2252 – FAX 208-769-2383

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

September 18, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Scott Cranston, Chair  
Mike McDowell  
Christie Wood (*late arrival 5:33 pm*)  
Jim Lien  
Ginny Tate

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Bill Greenwood, Parks & Recreation Director  
Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester  
Monte McCully, Trail Coordinator  
Melissa Brandt, Administrative Assistant

### **ABSENT:**

Warren Bakes  
Bridget Hill

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Cranston called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

Five 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 McDowell made a motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, there being no discussion and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

### **5. STAFF COMMENTS**

Nick Goodwin, Urban Forester: Update on work being done by Trails & Trees Division. Veterans Centennial grant work will begin this week on the eight-acre parcel to include some tree removal and brush and ladder fuel cleanup, there are no plans to burn. Limited impact on the neighborhood should only be about two weeks. Some trail improvement, that is our portion of the grant match, that will come from the work we do on the trails. Received a grant MOU in the amount of \$250,000 total grant funds for the Canfield Natural Area to include fuel mitigation, this grant does not require matching funds. Steve Bloedel with Inland Forest Management will manage this project, he has managed other grant projects for us. We will have some public meetings before beginning this work, the project will begin and end in spring 2024. Just received news we were awarded the fuel mitigation grant for Tubbs Hill we were recommended for

funding to the Forest Service by the State should receive MOU any day. Public outreach will be a big focus for this work, we will lean on the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Tubbs Hill Foundation, and our fire department to make sure we're meeting all the goals. Very similar to the grant we received a couple years ago for the Fernan Hill natural area. This grant does require matching funding, we appreciate the Tubbs Hill Foundation is partnering with us to contribute toward this match. Thank you to Monte McCully's work on the grant application, a lot of good work being done, over \$1.5 million in grant work for various projects through 2025. There are some tree removal requests to make the public aware of, walnut trees with twig beetle and thousand canker disease targeting black walnut and butternut trees in our City. Beetle spreads a fungus, and there is no treatment. Most damage is in the downtown area, and is most evident in July and August. The fungus causes top-down die back. Working with local entomologists on some pre-treatment or deterrent options. Working on press release this week to let the public know what is going on. Damage/disease won't stop, these are very small bugs, they destroy the wood. May have to burn the wood to stop infestation. Public can help by reporting trees they see with dead tops to the City. Do not transport walnut wood especially across state lines. Also have had a recent issue with the topping of public trees. Government Way has trees that were topped the result of doing this causes weak trees, tree removal, and fines up to the appraised value of the tree. Public reminder, not good for the tree, the community, or you as a property owner.

Director Greenwood: Shade structure at Riverstone was taken down after Labor Day; it will go back up just before Memorial weekend next spring. City Park and McEuen basketball courts were recently resurfaced. City Park courts were installed in 1999, first time they've been resurfaced. Budgeted this next fiscal year for Ramsey tennis courts to be resurfaced. At McEuen, between the basketball courts and playground a picnic shelter is being installed and should be completed by next week will provide more shade for folks who are enjoying the playground. Museum landscaping coming along nicely. When we went to bid five items were held out to make budget, one was a paver project at \$13,000. Instead of pavers, we were going to pour concrete. Greg Peck has offered to donate the pavers for the project, a big thank you to him. We had a bear sitting last month at Cherry Hill. Jewett House garage is underway, should be completed before the snow flies. Recently had to shut down Bluegrass Park playground due to a large wasp nest, had a professional exterminator come out and spray twice. Blowouts start Monday for sprinklers, we have 45 days to get through all the systems. Did not refill irrigation tech position, staff will handle their own areas for irrigation needs, so the work is distributed to each area staff instead of one person. This past weekend friends and family of Dwight Bershaw were at McEuen park along the southside of the park planting and replacing some perennials at Dwight's memorial site.

**6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

None.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **8. THIRD STREET MOORING DOCK BID CONTRACT AWARD** – *Action Item*

*Monte McCully read the staff report for the record.*

Monte McCully: Clarify and give credit to the County for their help with the application that went to the State. The original estimate to rebuild the docks was \$511,500 with the city committed to paying a 32% grant. The project went out to bid and R&R Northwest LLC was the lowest bidder at \$483,823.75. The city's match will be \$154,823.60 for a total of \$483,823.75.

Commissioner Cranston: Will they look the same, or match, the docks at 3<sup>rd</sup> street? McCully: Yes.

Commissioner McDowell: How will they float does the material can get slippery when wet?

Greenwood: The docks sit on steel frame boxes that holds air. McCully: the steel frame will last a very long time, and the composite decking can easily be replaced if needed, the deck should last 50 years. Greenwood: We have not seen that at the launch docks, same material, they do not get slippery. The material is similar to Trex decking and has some tread material on the gangway that has some grip.

Commissioner Tate made a motion to recommend Council accept the bid for the Third Street Mooring Dock Replacement Project from R&R Northwest LLC, Commissioner Lien seconded, motion passed unanimously. Item will go to City Council on October 3, 2023.

## **9. NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Cranston announced next meeting date.

Next meeting date:

- Monday, October 16, 2023, 5:30 p.m., Library Community Room

*Commissioner Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Tate seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.*