

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

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES October 18, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Cranston, Chair Mike McDowell Jim Lien Bridget Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ginny Tate Christie Wood

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Greenwood, Parks & Recreation Director Nick Goodwin Melissa Brandt, Transcriptionist

GUESTS:

Gina Davis, Urban Forestry Committee Jon Mueller

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

1. ROLL CALL

Four members present, resulting in a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action Item

Commissioner Lien made a motion to approve the minutes of August 16, 2021. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion, there being no discussion and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Director Greenwood: Ryan Steinberg, an Eagle Scout, has installed a flagpole at Cherry Hill BMX Track. We have another Eagle Scout building a porta potty structure for one of the Sherman pocket park locations. We appreciate all the Scout projects completed for the parks over the years. Interviews will take place for a new position, a parks mechanic. Our department has a large rolling stock of equipment and vehicles, we have been served by the street department and have taken a lead position and made it a mechanic position. CDA on Ice has been busy getting set up, with their opening taking place on October 30th. We will be locking the cemetery gates on Halloween as has been tradition. This year they will be open each morning by 7:30

a.m., and locked each afternoon late on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Restrooms have been locked up for winter so that has helped curtail vandalism.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

This item will replace agenda item 8) Commissioner Reappointments. Bridget Hill, Ginny Tate, and Scott Cranston will serve another term. The reappointments will move forward to City Council.

McDowell: You never know what the Eagle Scout projects will produce, 30 years ago my son was a Scout, he rebuilt the swinging bridge on Tubbs Hill, he is now a bridge engineer.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

8. **DOUGLAS FIR BEETLE** – Information Item

Nick Goodwin introduced Gina Davis, a member of the urban forestry committee. We applied for and received a \$2,000 USFS grant to purchase 650 bubble cap pheromones to keep bark beetles from infesting city trees. USFS offers the urban grant program to address the outbreak in beetles due to downed materials from windstorms and the early snow storm. We were awarded Idaho Canopy Pest Preparedness Grant to mitigate losses of Douglas Fir from Douglas Fir beetles. Beyond the windstorms, many trees are in drought condition and take 5 to 10-year response time after extreme drought. The beetles are native to Idaho, outbreaks are common after storms or fire damage and can last 3-4 years. More information will be shared in January with the public.

9. FERNAN PROGRESS UPDATE – Information Item

Nick Goodwin gave an update of the hazard treatment at the Fernan Lake Natural Area, 29 total acres. The treatments increase public safety in the event of a wildfire, reducing the fuel load. The work is part of an Idaho Department of Lands grant. Chipping has taken place, money may be left over and looking at best ways to use that with the fire department. Hand work is 100% complete and mechanical work is 80% complete. Work should be finished up this week. Pile burning tentatively to begin in early November. After burning, grass seeding will take place as well as tree planting. The work will improve the trails in the natural area. And fuel break maintenance will continue to keep the area in shape.

Commissioner Lien: Are you looking for volunteers? Goodwin: We have a group of volunteers who have helped do some trail work, no dates are set yet for the seeding and tree planting, but anyone interested can contact urban forestry.

Commissioner Cranston: Are there any limitations to public access? Goodwin: We have had some areas shut down during the mechanical treatment and when burning takes place. Once burning takes place, there will be no restrictions.

10. ROW AGREEMENT RENEWAL – Action Item

Commissioner Cranston read the staff report for the record.

Director Greenwood: Peter Grubb and his team have been great to work with and they offer a nice service. Great asset and great for the community. Dates of the agreement are the only changes.

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to recommend to City Council that the three (3) year agreement with ROW Adventures for this activity be renewed, Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

11. ELEVENTH STREET DOCK AGREEMENT RENEWAL – Action Item

Commissioner Cranston read the staff report for the record.

Director Greenwood: Value of the change is the .25% of yearly gross slip sales, the slip for the fire and safety vessels, and the pump out station. We will reach out to them about putting a sign out for public awareness of the pump out station.

Commissioner Lien made a motion to recommend City Council approve the renewal of the lease with the Eleventh Street Dockowners Association for another five-year term, Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

12. SHERMAN PARK SQUARE MOU – Action Item

Commissioner Cranston read the staff report for the record.

John Young: Co-Chair of the Rotary Park design committee. Presentations were made to many different agencies on the proposed concept and moving out into the street, have worked to make it as maintenance free as possible and make sure snow plowing is addressed.

Bob Burton: Worked with many groups to ensure support from all impacted entities. Drew up the MOU to ensure it would be acceptable to everyone. Ready to get going on the location and receive the commission's endorsement.

Commissioner Lien made a motion to recommend approval of the concept of the Coeur d'Alene Rotary Centennial Park and recommend to Council that it approve the Memorandum of Understanding, Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

13. MEETINGS / ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cranston asked for any additional comments. Potential agenda item will be MOU with pickleball association for a standalone court.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- Tuesday, November 2, 2021; 11:30 a.m., Workshop; Conf Rm 6 City Hall
- Monday, November 15, 2021: 5:30 p.m., Meeting; Library Community Room

Commissioner Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Lien seconding the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm.