



CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE

PARKS DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL, 710 E. MULLAN AVENUE
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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 14th, 2013 – 5:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Cranston, Chair
Mike McDowell
Dave Patzer
Jim Lien
Bridget Hill
Mason Patzer, Student Representative
Addison Johnson, Alt. Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ginny Tate
Mike Kennedy

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Greenwood, Interim Parks Director
Doug Eastwood, Retired Parks Director
Steve Anthony, Recreation Director
Chenoa Dahlberg, Administrative Secretary

GUESTS:

No one who was present signed in on the sign-in sheet.

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

1. ROLL CALL

Seven members were present, resulting in an official quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Hill led the pledge of allegiance.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Patzer made the motion to approve the May 20th, June 4 & 17th, July 2nd & 15th, August 6th & 19th, September 3rd and 19th and October 1st meeting minutes from 2013. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. There being no discussion the motion passed with all in favor.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Bill Greenwood spoke about the McEuen Open House tour that took place during the past weekend and that they had over 1,000 people turn out for the event and had great weather as well. He added that winterizing the parks had started to take place and that restrooms in the parks would begin to be shut down. He gave an update on the IRPA/ MRPA/ IMASLA conference that was held in Coeur d'Alene last month and co-hosted by the Parks & Rec Departments. He stated that they had over 250 in attendance and gave kudos to those who helped make this a great event. There were no questions of the commission for Bill.

Steve Anthony reported on the Recreation Department's fall activities. He added they had 57 teams in the kids' soccer program and that the mini-kickers clinics were being held at Woodland Middle School. They had 60 students in the swim classes that they hold at the McCrane center in partnership with Kootenai Health. He added that this was the largest year for fall softball with 37 teams signed up. He listed the upcoming registrations and winter activities. He gave kudos to Bill and the staff that pulled off the conference. He spoke about the Art Tour that he and Fred Ogram had given during the conference and announced the one he would be offering this coming weekend. He added that scholarships are available for Recreation activities and that the form is available in the Recreation Department at City Hall. There were no questions of the commission for Steve.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Patzer thanked the Commission and staff for the hard work on the BLM project. Commissioner Cranston expressed his appreciation for the Commissions participation in this process.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. MEETINGS

Commissioner Cranston announced the upcoming meetings:

- Tuesday November 5th at 12 p.m. in the Old Council Chambers at City Hall.
- Monday November 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Library.

Commissioner Lien made a motion to recess into this evenings workshop @ 5:44 p.m. Commissioner Patzer seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

9. BLM/ 4 CORNERS WORKSHOP

The workshop was called to order at 5:51 p.m. Doug Eastwood addressed those in attendance and asked them for their input. He gave a history of the area and the projects and an update on what had been going on throughout the meetings that had taken place since May. He added that BLM had contacted the City about entering into a lease for the property. Doug explained that he took all the information from the input meetings at put it into the power point he would present tonight. He again asked for the audience to chime in with input as he went through the presentation. He provided handouts to the Commission members and then showed an overview map of the areas and then need for connectivity from McEuen Park to City Park in his power point presentation. During his power point presentation he spoke about ADA access at Independence Point and the need for a transition dock, the possibility of moving the skate park to McEuen, the grant that was applied for to fund the commuter trail, the idea of softening Mullan to connect Memorial Field and City Park as well as restructuring of the intersection at NW Blvd, and to reposition Memorial Field away from the Fort Grounds and towards NW Blvd. he went on to discuss the buildings along NW Blvd that have been or will be removed as well as the use of the Kerr Oil site for the Museum/HREI and Carousel. He spoke about the Worker's Memorial and Rock of Fame and the possibility of making those into a memorial garden area. He added that he wants the trail access to be ADA Accessible and presented the grade challenges and Hubbard and River. He presented the ideas for the BLM property which included the street tree arboretum, dog park, restoration of the boardwalk, view vistas of river, then went into a discussion about the Union Pacific property and the problems it is presenting. He then talked about the LWCF boundary and requirements and how those would be used in completing the BLM master planning. He then opened it up for comments from the Commission. Commissioner Cranston complimented Doug on the power point

presentation and the way it tied in all the items that had been mentioned. He then wanted to make sure that the education components and the community garden are incorporated as well. There is an opportunity for cultural history, information, urban forestry, CDA tribe, Fish & Game and Avista, just to name a few, to have an opportunity to teach the school kids about the region. It was added that a small natural amphitheater would be nice for seminars and lectures, and the need for parking access at both ends of the BLM property along with a bus turnout area. Commissioner McDowell added that there may be funding available for restoration of the erosion area that would also serve as an education piece. Commissioner Cranston asked about the scope of the public survey and Commissioner Lien asked if the master plan would be a working document. Doug explained the process that would take place and that if changes were made down the line after the master plan was approved that the City would need to revisit with BLM to make sure it meets their criteria. They then discussed the timeframe and when it would be ready to submit to BLM, and how long BLM would take to review the lease proposal. The Commission asked staff to be sure that this information gets out to the public as many ways as possible. Commissioner Cranston thanked Doug for all his work on this project.

Student Commissioner Patzer made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Lien seconded the motion. All were in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.