

Parks and Recreation Board

Monday, June 21, 2021

5:00 PM

Recreation Office,
2920 Douglas Street, Longview WA

1. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Rayleen Aguirre, Spencer Boudreau, Jenny Oskey, Michelle Rabideau & Claire Pang

Members Absent: N/A

Constituents Present: N/A

Staff Present: Jennifer Wills, Justin Brown, Melissa Harbour, Joanna Martin

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Rayleen Aguirre, seconded by Spencer Boudreau, to approve the minutes of 05.17.2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: All

Nays: None

21-000794 PRAB Draft Minutes - 05.17.2021

A motion was made by Rayleen Aguirre, seconded by Spencer Boudreau, to approve the minutes of 05.17.2021 as written. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: All

Nays: None

3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Recreation Department Report was moved to above constituent comments.

4. **CONSTITUENT COMMENTS**

None Present

5. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Spencer Boudreau requested an update on the 7th Avenue transient vandalism which has seen a rise in frequency in the recent past. The department is in a usage agreement with Longview Girls Softball who is currently researching the feasibility of fencing the park. Jennifer Wills discussed information obtained from Chief Huhta, who explained that because there is a park usage in place, the rules regarding park usage are slightly different and therefore the transients are technically trespassing as the parks are not open to the public as a general rule. Spencer Boudreau asked that the record to reflect the continued complaints regarding the lake transient usage and subsequent debris/waste left behind.

6. **TREE BOARD COMMENTS**

N/A

7. REPORTS**21-000806 Recreation Division Report June 2021**

Recreation Manager Justin Brown provided a written report which is embedded in to the agenda as well as a verbal report of those same items. Additionally, today marks the first day of Summer Camp 2021. The Archie Anderson free drop-in program, funded by CDBG will kick off in July and run for 6 weeks. A summer school partnership is also underway with the school district conducting summer school in the morning and recreation providing PE type programs in the afternoon for one pod and vice versa for the second pod.

21-000807 Park Manager Report-VERBAL

Joanna Martin, Park Manager provided a verbal report on the ongoing Go 4th preparation, including irrigation system maintenance. The Urban Forestry division continues to receive ongoing work orders while simultaneously making progress on the backlog of workorders. Additionally, Roy Morse Park updates to bathrooms have happened and include new paint which has provided a fresh and updated look. The Roy Morse Softball fields are maintained on a regular basis by the crew with 3 to 4 fields being used continuously and have also seen a rise in rentals. The Babe Ruth Neighborhood Park Grant work was in part to repair indoor plumbing and has been completed, however the exterior grant funded work will be done at the end of the ongoing softball season. Board members questioned the use of port-a-pottys at Roy Morse specifically; Joanna will research and report back as appropriate.

21-000855 Directors Report-VERBAL

*Director Jennifer Wills provided a verbal report on the following topics:
CDBG Archie Anderson Grant (also discussed at length in the details listed under Recreation Report)
A grant for the planning of Cloney Park was received and will be reported on as appropriate.
July 17th Community Clean up of city owned parking lots lead by P&R saw 70 volunteers and lasted about 4 hours.
Mint Valley Golf Course continues to experience an increase in usage and the recent water shortage has created the need to evaluate and prioritize how the course will be watered moving forward. The Recreation Department has slowly started planning for future programs and remains cautiously optimistic that participation will continue to increase.*

8. OLD BUSINESS**21-000802 Naming of Archie Anderson Playground Update - Felicia Connelly**

Jennifer Wills and Rayleen Aguirre will have an off-line discussion and bring this issue back to the board next month.

21-000803 Cloney Park Playground Plan Update

See Directors Report

21-000804 Student Representation on Board - Update

Melissa Harbour, Administrative Assistant provided a report on the current state of student representation within the city. Only two advisory boards currently hold a space for a student member, Recreation and Stormwater. Stormwater does not currently have a student member however in the past their member has had full voting rights. The board discussed voting rights of a potential student rep as well as potential requirement of residing within the city limits. As a result of this discussion, the bylaws will be reviewed by the board next month during New Business.

9. NEW BUSINESS**21-000795 New Memorial Bench Approvals - Lake Sacajawea**

Bill Kasch, a robust City of Longview advocate has requested that a bench funded by him personally be placed end of Lion's Island below the totem pole. There is not a current bench there so this project would be a new installation. The Parks Department regularly receive requests for benches at the lake, with Joanna Martin reporting 1 to 2 per week requested since the beginning of January 2021. A current waitlist is quite extensive and at the current rate of bench replacement would take upwards of 20+ years to see any progress working through that list. As a result of the extensive waitlist and the above-mentioned ask from Bill Kasch, the board was asked to consider the request. The board discussed many options including but not limited to the creation of a Kuntz Fund bench as to alleviate the concern of preferential treatment while still providing the convenience and esthetics of a bench in that location. A Motion was made by Rayleen Aguirre that a formal request be made to the Kuntz Family Fund for a bench. After additional discussion the motion was rescinded. Joanna Martin will return to the meeting next month with a full park bench count and the number of families on the waitlist for park benches. The board will then discuss the request further. Joanna will also report back to the board on any Kuntz Fund benches currently in place on Lion's Island.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at : 6:21 p.m.

Melissa Harbour

Administrative Assistant

Next meeting - July 29, 2021