



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022

### Virtual on Webex



#### I. Call Meeting to Order

President Crosby called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

#### II. Roll Call

Present: Amanda Crosby, David Demmer, Britt Rohrbaugh, Barb Darland, Natalie Chin, Kala Pedersen, Jennifer Peterson, Terese Tomanek – City Council Liaison, Amber Sadowski – ISD 709 School Board Liaison

Not Present: Noah Kramer, James Jones, Tjaard Breeuwer, St. Louis County Commissioner – Ashley Grimm

#### III. Approval of the January 12 Meeting Minutes

**Commissioner Pedersen motioned for approval of the January 12 meeting minutes; second by Commissioner Jenny Peterson. Unanimously approved.**

#### IV. Presentations

- A. Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory Site Plan (Informational) Janelle Long, HRBO and Luke Sydow, SAS & Associates

Demmer questioned whether they have gotten any public comments about the aesthetics of the shelter. Sydow stated that they have not received any comments, but they did take the location of the shelter into consideration. Long stated that they are taking the aesthetics of the site into consideration.

Crosby questioned how long their public comment period would be open. Long stated that they would follow the Commission meeting timeline.

Chin questioned if they had a sense of how this plan would impact a variety of diverse demographics. Long stated that their goal is to get their education programs to diverse groups and create more opportunities for more people.

Peterson asked about the questions and comments gathered from the Open House meeting. Long stated that the response was positive and affirmed a lot of their goals. Peterson questioned what their plans are for parking. Long stated that it will be an important ongoing conversation to identify how to incorporate more parking.

Rohrbaugh questioned if closing the road to cars has been a part of the conversation. Long stated that it was likely beyond the scope of this plan.

Demmer questioned how other user groups have responded to the plan, specifically mountain biking groups. Long stated that she expects positive feedback. Demmer questioned if Hawk Ridge would be responsible for additional maintenance of the facilities. Long stated that she expects that they would be responsible. Demmer questioned whether the restrooms would be open at other times than peak migration. Long stated that there have been conversations about the need for more year-round facilities.

- B. Capital Project Overview (Informational) Jessica Peterson, Parks and Recreation Manager

Jennifer Peterson questioned if there are any improvements planned for Grant Recreation Center. Jessica Peterson stated that there are no plans for this year.

Demmer questioned what the timeline is for the priority land acquisition. Peterson stated that the goal is to complete the transfer of the priority districts by the end of 2023. Demmer questioned how much of the grant



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022

### Virtual on Webex



money is derived from Legacy funding. Peterson stated that the projects for this budget year fall under various state grants.

#### V. Commissioner Committees

Administrative (E-Board) meeting date: Thursday, March 31 at noon, virtual meeting on Webex  
Amanda Crosby, David Demmer, Natalie Chin [Jessica Peterson, Bridget Erickson]

Public Golf Committee – Tuesday, May 17 at 5 p.m., virtual meeting on Webex  
David Demmer, Noah Kramer [Jessica Peterson, Bridget Erickson]

#### VI. Commissioner & Liaison Reports

#### VII. New Business

#### VIII. Old Business

#### IX. Division Report

Chin asked how the Snow Stomper program went this year. Peterson stated that there was an overwhelming response and all slots were filled. Stated that snowshoes were handed out to volunteers who kept them through the season. Stated that a full update would be included in the next Division Report.

#### X. Public Comment

#### XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

#### XII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 13, location TBD.