



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

July 18, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.
COMMUNITY ROOM - LIBRARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Bridget Hill

STAFF PRESENT:

Bill Greenwood, Parks & Recreation Director
Melissa Brandt, Transcriptionist

GUEST:

Megan Lowery, Panhandle Health

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cranston called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 May 16, 2022. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, there being no discussion and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Director Greenwood: Stairs coming down to the library are being repaired. Vendors for dock location are moving forward. Ongoing vandalism at two parks; Landings and Bluegrass. Stand-alone cameras are being installed. Very brazen damage being done during the day. We have had to lock them, don't always have time to get them cleaned up and when we open them back up, they are vandalized again. Commissioner Cranston: any interaction with those areas and police? Greenwood: By the time they get there, the kids are gone. We've also found they are pulling off shingles from the picnic shelters. Our Atlas food truck vendor now open, serving Mexican foods, and ice cream, this weekend was his first in business and with no advertising, he had a good sales weekend. We continue to be short on staffing so we are modifying operations.

The I-90 landscaped areas we are mowing the flats. Trails are being rough mowed. We're using hooded sprayers, more efficient, uses less product, and gives better control. Very talented staff find ways to do the work by creation and innovation. Made a beach skimmer/sifter that will take the debris and leave the sand behind. Staff attitude is remarkable given the workload they have. They enjoy the creativity. We are down 18-19 people. Monte McCully is chasing a grant to install cameras at the skatepark. A camera will be on the shelter itself and on some conduit halfway down. Should be installed by the end of our season. Commissioner Cranston: What types of issues have you had? Overdoses and some of the same vandalism we have seen at the other parks. So far, no new vandalism in the past three weeks at the skatepark. Recreation is halfway through softball and baseball program with 300 kids participating and we're at the tail-end of adult softball. Adam Rouse has increased weddings and events at the Jewett House this year. Indoor swim lesson registration will be Monday-July 25 at 8 am at our office in city hall. Registration for fall soccer is Aug 1-12; and flag football registration will be Aug 1-24; games will start after Labor Day.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Hughes, 1100 E Lakeshore Drive; would like to see what she needs to do to become part of the Jewett house board? Greenwood: Not sure we will continue with that board may end and oversight would be with this commission. Hughes: Isn't Potlatch required to have 2 members of their organization? Greenwood: They have not had anyone on the board for many years. The agreement says oversight is required; this commission can provide oversight. The Jewett House hasn't been active, and once COVID occurred, it put an end to the meetings. Warren Bakes, who now serves on our commission, was part of the Jewett House committee. Money generated from the weddings and other events helps subsidize costs of the house maintenance. Our department has overseen the day-to-day home maintenance and landscaping. Hughes: You have a resident manager? Greenwood: That person opens up the house each day and they unlock the home for senior activities as part of the requirement by potlatch. Hughes: Do you charge for senior activities? Greenwood: We do not collect fees for senior activities. Information on how to participate will be shared.

8. COMMUNITY ACCESS NARCAN BOX – *Information Item*

Director Greenwood: Megan Lowery with Panhandle Health approached a few months ago about having a Narcan dispenser. There have been discussions with police and fire as to whether we should consider these in the parks, they are supportive. This will be a pilot project and may be placed at other locations.

Lowery: A community access box will be available for the public, to be used in an emergency or taken and used later if needed. Narcan helps mitigate the risk of a fatal overdose. Naloxone or Narcan (brand name) is a lifesaving medication that reverses an opioid overdose. Opioids are used to decrease pain and control pain and are very addictive, and affects all people, ages, and demographics. Kootenai County was declared a high traffic area for drug routes in 2020. 2019 to 2020 overdose deaths rose by 37%. Rates per 10,000 has increased from 16.2% between 2020 and 2021. In April 2022 there was a drastic increase in deaths from Narcan from the two previous years. Idaho has a Good Samaritan law that protects citizens acting in good faith for

any person experiencing a drug emergency. Narcan is administered through the nose and will not cause harm to someone administered the drug when an overdose is not the cause of the health emergency. Calling 911 is the last resort for most overdose reactions due to the stigma and negative interactions with police and emergency personnel. Increasing access does not encourage more drug use. Temperatures do not impact Narcan, shelf life is 2 years. The pilot location will be on the outside wall of the restroom at the skatepark. This location was chosen based on the overdoses that have happened at this area. The goal to provide lifesaving medication to those who may not have access anywhere else, provide awareness to what is going on in the community, and make resources available. The box will be refilled, and is weather and water proof, and provide protection in cold and hot weather. Instructions on the box to guidance on use. Understand there may be vandalism. Will replace if destroyed and keep in communication to make the pilot project as successful as it can be. Also working with the Parks department with camera installation at the skatepark to help deter vandalism. We want people to have access to the medication. One box holds two doses. We will initially start with a small number of doses in the public access box

Commissioner McDowell; How frequently will the boxes be checked? Lowery: Kootenai Recovery Center and North Idaho Aids Coalition volunteers will check it weekly. There will be a number on the box to call to have it refilled. Greenwood: Staff will check as part of their rounds.

Commissioner Wood: Lifesaving stuff. Commend you for doing this. There is no medical impact or adverse effect from this product.

Commissioner Bakes: How long has it been used for these situations? Is it new? Is there information on the effectiveness and the number of people saved using it? Cost? Lowery: Not new, been around for a while, it is prescribed to people who take opioids. Do not have that data. Fire and EMS have been carrying it for over a decade. National studies that show there is a decrease in fatal overdoses due to ease of use. Available through pharmacies cost varies based on insurance. These are purchased directly from the manufacturer; twelve doses are \$900. Some overdoses may require 16 milligrams for a severe overdose.

Commissioner Lien: You mentioned possibly three locations? Greenwood: Just the skatepark at this time as a pilot project. If it doesn't work out, we will reevaluate. If successful, may move them to other locations. There have been some overdoses at the skatepark and that is the reason for this location. Fire and police have saved lives using the product.

9. MIDWAY PRESENTATION – Information Item

Director Greenwood: In the fall of 2019, we had a presentation regarding this project at Riverstone Park along Tilford lane. The theme for the area was to highlight the importance of railroads along the river. We have a developer who purchased a parcel in this area. He was asked if he would participate and help with the greenbelt he agreed and offered to do more with this location. The entire entrance at the opening of this area will have 40 parking locations and include a round house adjacent to some residences, by moving the round house to another location we satisfied homeowner concerns. He offered to help clean up the trail through this area, install rapid flashing beacons and complete the landscaping. He is offering to do this for no money or expense to the city. Very generous this project is going to be about \$700,000. We didn't have to get any matching grants. The infrastructure will be done this year and the trail realigned. Many folks played a part in pulling this together by granting easements and right of ways; it took the better part of a year to navigate through all the property accesses and development. We'll be breaking ground soon.

Commissioner Cranston: Once complete will Parks department take over maintenance?
Greenwood: Yes, this ties into some grass that is part of Riverstone and extends that park.
Parking at this location will be beneficial to the park and there are also parking spaces
Lacrosse.

10. MEETINGS / ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cranston asked for any additional comments.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- Tuesday, August 2, 2022; 11:30 a.m., Workshop; Conf Rm 6 City Hall
- Monday, August 15, 2022: 5:30 p.m., Meeting; Library Community Room

Commissioner Bakes made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner McDowell seconding the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.