

Session 13-04 a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order on April 18, 2013 at 5:39 pm by Chair Bumpo Bremicker at the Homer City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS LILLIBRIDGE, BELL, LOWNEY, BREMICKER, BRANN

TELEPHONIC: COMMISSIONER ARCHIBALD

STAFF: ANGIE OTTESON, PARKS MAINTENANCE/COORDINATOR
RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Commissioner Lillibridge arrived at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Bremicker requested a motion to approve the agenda.

BRANN/BELL - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

The agenda was approved by consensus of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES *(Minutes are approved during regular meetings only)*

A. Meeting Minutes for the regular meeting on March 21, 2013

Chair Bremicker requested approval of the minutes.

BRANN/BELL - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

The minutes were approved by consensus of the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Larry Slone, city resident, commented on the Resolution 13-040, which addressed termination on the development of the trail along the bay there; Mr. Slone reported that he had the opportunity to walk the proposed Mud Bay Trail and opined that any development would be a "crime against nature." He commented on development of the trail to the minimum necessary to make the trail safe for foot traffic. He believed any additional development would ruin the quiet, peaceful, serene ambiance that walking that trail provides. To have runners or bicyclists going by would ruin everything. He requested the commission to resubmit it within those perimeters.

Lynn Burt, member of the Kachemak Drive Path Committee, and city resident, recited the previous actions of the committee regarding development of the Mud Bay Trail. She stated that if she had been present at those meetings she may have voted along with the members but had to agree with Mr. Slone that it was a beautiful little trail and upgrading it to a level three would spoil it completely; change it and not serve the purpose of providing safety for bicyclists along Kachemak Drive and that have to keep working on that and get the warning signage installed. Ms. Burt also supported the dedication of a ballfield for Paula Setterquist.

Beth Cumming, city resident, member of the Kachemak Drive path committee, commented on the focus of the committee should be on the proposed path known as Mud Bay Trail until the costs are determined; that the next meeting of the committee was going to be held walking the trail; each members view or impression of the trail; she continued on providing some background information on the proposed path that was to be surveyed; the comments of the Mayor at the worksession regarding

the survey did not follow the Resolution that approved the funding; she did not want things to come up that would be stumbling blocks; she did know if this should be dropped or have further discussion at a council meeting. Chair Bremicker interrupted Ms. Cumming that she was at her 3 minute time limit and she needed to wrap it up. Ms. Cumming stated she would continue her comments at the end of the meeting. She encouraged the committee to concentrate on the first quarter mile of the proposed pathway because it was doable.

Clarification was made by the Chair when the public should comment.

Ken Landfield, commented in support of dedicating and naming a ballfield for Paula Setterquist. He read a letter from Sherry and Bill Beckler (sp) in support of the naming and dedication. They cited many years of effort volunteering and supporting the sport over several years. He requested clarification that all fields are named at Karen Hornaday Park.

Chair Bremicker requested clarification that Jack Gist Park is where they play softball. It was reported that softball is played at both parks.

Nyla Lightcap, resident, grew up playing ball and close friends with Paula's daughter Channing. She remembered Paula Setterquist in everything that involved softball. She noted that this would be a great gesture in her memory.

Darlene Walkden, in 2001, she stated that Paula was a main force behind starting the sport in High School. This was a long and hard struggle and Paula was instrumental in getting this sport recognized and accepted activity at the High School level. The program is representative of Paula's hard work and perseverance. She encouraged the commission to take this to heart. Paula was an inspiration to the girls on the team.

Sydney Paulino, current Junior at Homer High School, she just got off practice and apologized for her appearance. She recounted a visit to a game made by Paula when she was very ill. She stated that the dedication would really mean a lot to the girls.

Carole Hamik, former commissioner, during the time they did not have a venue for doing something like this, a memorial Paula Setterquist Ballfield. This would mean so much to the family, they are lost without her. She noted that a memorial service later this spring will be held and it would be great to have the dedication at the same time. She recounted that Paula has helped so many kids in this community and it would be really great to have this done.

Victoria Steik, Paula was her best friend and neighbor and all of them wanted to find the most appropriate way to honor her memory. She noted that Paula did not want a big brouhaha but something like this would be accepted since she was so supportive of softball and so involved.

Roberta Copeland-McKinney, friend of Paula for many years, Paula was a just a great human being for the girls and all the kids around her; she loved the sport. She really supported this dedication and believed it was a great encouragement and should be recognized. Paula also helped with the Library too.

Chair Bremicker thanked everyone for coming in and providing testimony.

There were no further public comments.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items for reconsideration.

VISITORS

A. Mr. Brad Hughes, Compass Arts, Proposed Art Installation at Karen Hornaday Park, Whale & Squid

Mr. Hughes provided a proposal packet on a new playground play-form entitled Squid versus Whale. He proposed the idea to the HoPP group last year but the time frame was not right for the project. He cited his previous work and described the process he uses to create the various artwork/structures. Mr. Hughes stated that he will be submitting a proposal for the Spit Trail RFP and included drafts or benches that he will be submitting for that project. Mr. Hughes would like to propose this project to be placed at the park or where the commission feels it may be appropriate; funding would be another discussion; but he was seeking a recommendation of support from the commission.

Mr. Hughes entertained questions from the commission regarding timeline to construct, responding that he would require approximately 8 weeks; Mr. Hughes provided further details on the art sculpture and the design process of the play form. He responded to a few questions regarding the continued contact with HoPP, and if volunteers could be used to construct the piece. Mr. Hughes expressed support for naming a ballfield after Paula Setterquist.

B. Sue Wohlgemuth, Dedication of a Ballfield to Paula Setterquist

Sue Wohlgemuth, cited many additional achievements and volunteers efforts, and if the cost of a plaque would be prohibitive they are sure that funds could be raised to pay for it.

C. Larry Slone, Recognition of Donation Made by Mae Harrington

Mr. Slone was bringing forth a request to make this recommendation by Laura Lofgren; he recited the origination and a bit of history on Mae Harrington and the land. He noted that her family was very active in developing the community, Pioneer Cemetery and the roads; she was the postmistress in the 1930's; the land where the HERC building was also donated by her family.

Mae Harrington appreciated the natural beauty of the area and wanted to preserve that for the future; she provided the land for the fair containing the same stipulation for continued recreational use. The physical characteristics of life back then to now have certainly changed. The one thing that has not changed in the 75 or more years is human nature. Mr. Slone stated that Mae Harrington has shared with you a sense of commitment to the community, a sense of obligation and willingness to provide of her own time, her own efforts and even her own assets to make this place a better place to live. Mae Harrington was dedicated to the human spirit; she catered to the mind and the spirit of the individuals of Homer. Mr. Slone reported that Mae Harrington wanted future generations to live, thrive and prosper here.

Mr. Slone commented, "Anyone who has roasted a hotdog over a flickering fire on a soft summer night; anyone who has played softball on a brisk and windy autumn day; any child who has slid screaming with pleasure down one of the slides in the playground can trace part of their experience to a gift from Mae Harrington who gave from the heart.

He was seeking a modest plaque that may read, "In honor of Mae Harrington, Homer Homesteader who in 1953 generously contributed this property for the recreational benefit of future users."

Commissioner Lowney inquired if there was a preference on placement of a plaque. Mr. Slone stated that it should be a more viewable areas and with a preference to the playground. Mr. Slone then responded to questions regarding the gathering of information he had presented to the commission. He then stated that the park was supposed to be named after Mae Harrington but for reasons unknown this was never done. He commented that this would be an opportunity to correct that oversight.

Chair Bremicker agreed with Commissioner Archibald that it was a great idea and quite coincidental that it was brought forward at the same time as the Ballfield request.

STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ AND BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Community Recreation - Mike Illg

Mr. Illg was unable to attend the meeting and provided no written report for the commission.

B. Staff Report - Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician/GIS

Ms. Engebretsen was unable to attend the meeting due to a Planning Conference in Chicago. She provided no report for the commission for this meeting.

C. Parks Maintenance - Angie Otteson

Ms. Otteson provided an update on the status of the following:

- Conversation with Miranda Weiss HoPP does not have any funding and not sure where there would be room for it.
- Even if Brad Hughes wanted to donate the sculpture it would have to go through the Public Arts Committee.
- the commission should not be expending funds for food for the Church on the Rock Clean-up on May 4th as this clean-up is through the Adopt a Park program. That is not what the funds are for especially if a group has decided to adopt a park.
 - a. Commissioner Lowney expressed that Miranda with HoPP will be bringing a crew to clean up the playground and she requested the funding to feed that group.

Ms. Otteson responded that if they start feeding the volunteers and especially groups that adopt the parks they would have to do that for all groups and the commission doesn't have those funds.

She responded that the Bartlett Park restrooms will be opened in May. The Shelter on the Pier One lot will be coming down shortly. This building really does not have much salvage value with possible exception of the metal roof. She noted that she is working with the Harbormaster to get the campground re-organized; there is a need for more gravel. She reminded them that it is still the Port's property and as much as they would like open space recreation they still have to work with the harbor making revenue with the property. She noted that the fees collected for all camping goes to the general fund. She did state that it is still her intent on getting the gazebo relocated to the other side of the park.

D. Kachemak Drive Path Committee Report - Dave Brann

Chair Bremicker introduced the item for the record.

Commissioner Brann reported on the Council worksession on the Kachemak Drive Path. He reported that in receipt of the information regarding the expense the Committee decided to focus its efforts on what is referred to as the Mud Bay Trail and would like to upgrade that to a level three trail but before they could do anything they should get permission from Walt Wrede or City Council; they worked through those processes; at the worksession it seems that this project has had a variety of miscommunication for whatever reason; and at this point, by this proposed resolution they received as a laydown it would seem there is no support for that project; it may be up to a neighborhood group such as HoPP to take the project on, there seems to be support for a Kachemak Drive Path; it will be up to City Council if there is going to be project.

Chair Bremicker stated that he wanted to make it clear this is a resolution proposed by the Mayor and not necessarily what the City Council is going to do will approve. Chair Bremicker stated that Mayor Wythe definitely expressed concern on how the survey was done which the committee did as well. He questioned what was exactly supposed to be done. Chair Bremicker commented on the laydown of Resolution 13-040 that will be introduced at the Council meeting on Monday, April 22, 2013. He wished there was a committee meeting before that just to be able to hash this out more. He stated that it has to come to us anyway at some point to deal with; he believes that a committee is the best way to hash something out then bring it to the commission. He knows this is just the report and they have it on the agenda to talk about later.

Commissioner Brann reported that the survey received and the estimates for doing that trail came to about \$360,000 or something like that that was some if the concern expressed by council and it is questionable that the trail could go there and Councilmember Lewis did request him to come up with a cost estimate if he could do it using volunteers to do most of the work on the Mud Bay Trail. A lot of the things in the engineers report he could see doing totally different such as bridges instead of culverts.

Chair Bremicker stated again it was on the agenda but it is good to have a report on what happened the other night.

Commissioner Archibald commented that it will be one of those decisions but he could agree with a footpath but did not see bicyclists down there. Chair Bremicker appreciated hearing from Robert but stated that could be saved until later on the agenda not at this time.

F. Karen Hornaday Park Committee - Robert Archibald

Chair Bremicker introduced the item for the record and asked Commissioners Lowney and Archibald for their report.

Commissioner Archibald deferred the committee report to Commissioner Lowney.

Commissioner Lowney stated that most of the meeting focused around the park Clean-up Day planned for May 4th by the Church on the Rock who has adopted the park. Concern was expressed that there was no leader for the group of volunteers scheduled to clean the park and the Church has sent out a request to one of their members. The main need is leadership on the clean-up day since there may be close to 100 volunteers to assist in directing the volunteers.

The committee discussed the following:

- roofing the restrooms with volunteer labor if the city will provide the needed materials.
- The amount of leftover supplies of paint is available to paint the restrooms
- develop a punch list/wish list for the park
- Clear trail along Fairview Avenue on May 4th
- HoPP will be participating in clean-up day requested assistance in providing food
- Installation of new playground equipment is still pending, require footprint of pavilion to determine the area available for the proposed new equipment.
- Discussed Little League issues such as the clean-up and removal of various items such as concrete and fencing
- There are issues regarding communication within the various groups. There are many open ended issues that require closure.
- the youth court group will be working out of Bishops Beach since the timing is not right with all the snow still up in the park.
- The proposed rock/concrete bench around the proposed fire pit may be funded through donations or grants more later on that progress.

There was a brief discussion on the need for leaders on May 4th to direct the volunteers in order to get as much as possible accomplished as possible. Commissioner Lowney was not going to be available and Phil Needham will be focused on getting things ready for Little League. Commissioner Brann would be available in the morning hours but had a prior commitment 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Commissioner Archibald wanted to report on his meeting with the Little League regarding the wire fencing and if the snack shack is fixed then the storage shed which is actually on a trailer frame with no tires could go away. They agreed that the fencing proposes a safety hazard and should be removed; the gates could be removed and repurposed somewhere else in the park. He stated that regarding the storage shed was actually an old refrigerated trailer which could be relocated closer to the two ballfields. There was a question regarding who will provide the needed equipment to remove these items.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no items for public hearing.

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Kachemak Drive Non-Motorized Trail/Mud Bay Trail

1. Survey and Cost Estimates - Alternate Kachemak Drive Non-Motorized Trail
2. Recommendation from Committee to Improve Mud Bay Trail

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record. He opened discussion by commenting on the engineers cost estimate included in the packet. He commented on the proposed trail as depicted in the included aerial photograph.

Commissioner Lillibridge arrived at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Bremicker commented that they were aware of what happened Monday. He stated that it was a bit confusing. He noted that he has not seen numbers on this but Carey Meyer reported it would cost \$100,000 to do the little "Y" section of the trail. Commissioner Lillibridge requested some clarification on the location of the Y portion. Chair Bremicker then proceeded to detail the proposed path and that it would be part of the survey. Mr. Meyer surveyed the Mud Bay Trail; that apparently has been roughed out by unsupervised volunteer effort; Chair Bremicker stated he hasn't been out there in a while. Now we have a resolution 13-040 proposed to be dealt with Monday night, the Mayor expressed concern that the survey did not address what it was supposed to do; the Committee passed a "resolution" that supported the upgrading the Mud Bay Trail for recreational bicyclists and pedestrians. I think we recognized all along that it is not the best site for commuter bicyclists and we are looking for a safer route that was a straight shot up that hill.

Chair Bremicker then stated that they approved the "resolution". He noted that there has been some misunderstanding.

Commissioner Lillibridge requested clarification on removing any trail along the road. Chair Bremicker responded on the point the committee decided to approve the Mud Bay Trail then at some later time working on a solution at a later time. The committee hasn't given up that idea. The committee agreed to have the trail at the toe of the bluff.

Commissioner Brann related that the council related their understanding that the trail was to be surveyed up the hill along that road, but the committee wanted the survey done at the "Y" to have the trail avoid the hill that is where the confusion starts; the survey was done along Mud Bay Trail. The concern was that they did not approve surveying an alternate, they approved going up the hill.

Commissioner Lowney asked where the commission was at or what the committee wanted the commission to do. She stated that the resolution seems to dissolve everything.

Chair Bremicker again stated he wished there was time for the committee to meet. He further stated that the Mayor from the beginning did not see the need for this.

Commissioner Lillibridge reworded the intent of the resolution 13-040. She opined that over two years of efforts have been expended and nothing seems to be acceptable; she inquired if a traffic count was ever done. To her it appears that a survey was done all the money was spent and now it's too expensive to be done.

Chair Bremicker commented on the counting of cars but not people and bikes. He related his experience living along Kachemak Drive in relation to counting. The committee did have a public hearing and they did get a lot of responses but it is hard to define how many would use it.

Commissioner Brann related his knowledge of a count was scheduled last summer and was not done so maybe this summer. He commented on the last Therefore stating that all work is completed if this is approved.

Commissioner Lillibridge opined that it was no different that the Coastal Trail in Anchorage and all the battles that were occurred by developing that trail. She stated that ending a whole project just because it is too expensive, she said is that what they want to do?

Chair Bremicker stated he was speaking for himself, regarding the approach going up the hill costing \$100,000 well he figured that was money well spent. He commented on the Mud Bay Trail just being an official city trail and be proud of their work. However, this does not represent the best way to get around that hillside, we have had other people look at that hillside who have experience with road building and trail building and said it could be done. Nothing against Carey, cause he's a great guy and knowledgeable, but he said it wasn't worth looking at. Chair Bremicker stated he doesn't know about trail building or road building. So if they can build a road and it costs \$100,000, well, they can build it... and City Council, the Mayor and Barbara Howard, well those two are particularly concerned about money, but there is a specific fund for building trails. They also asked if there are any plans for this trail. Chair Bremicker stated that this has been a long time on their goals. He noted that this is the only trail in the city's planning manuals; he reported that he heard Mayor Wythe state that there are other trails to fund but there are no others in the plans that he knows of.

Commissioner Lowney stated that would be a good point to make, she stated it could be addressed at the meeting; she stated that this reminds her of the issues with the HERC building or Parks and Rec Department and that unless they get a huge outcry from the people that want the bike trail on Monday. This will pass. Maybe we could ask to have this postponed until October or November or longer and then they could use traffic reports to support the trail.

Commissioner Brann brought up that if Council passes the resolution disbanding the committee then can the commission get the Mud Bay Trail upgraded to a level one with volunteers; if they do not approve volunteers working on that trail nothing will get done this summer and without permission he will not be doing anything on it.

Commissioner Lillibridge was upset that Council did not want a commission that works for them; that they do not appreciate the time and efforts expended by the commission.

LILLIBRIDGE/BRANN - MOVED TO SUBMIT A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION DOES NOT SUPPORT RESOLUTION 13-040.

Commissioner Bell pointed out that Council can provide direction to the commission but it should be clear that without this component then there is no Kachemak Drive Path. If that is the intention then okay, but it should be made clear; this portion or the whole project. He noted that concern was expressed that they did not want to upgrade the Mud Bay Trail, that it would ruin that area. Commissioner Archibald commented that the direction should be directed back to the road. If they want to disband the committee but what does that mean about the rest of the project. He cited that it has been expressed that a path is desired, but who knows what the future brings for this road and he believed that this road would not stay as narrow in the future. He acknowledged that it was very distressing to have the door slammed in the face of the committee. Chair Bremicker agreed that it was distressing and remarked that his son stated no road should be built without sidewalks or a pathway beside it; council should be told this too; he next related a personal experience riding at a high rate of speed along Kachemak Drive. He next cited all the increasing traffic and large vehicles and vessels traveling along that road which makes traveling along and the bikes and pedestrians, and not doing nothing unacceptable.

Further discussion on rewording the recommendation in a positive manner being more helpful to the Commission and the Council ensued including review of the recommendation from the committee. She would like stay in a positive light.

Ms. Krause at this time tried to direct the commission to the history of creating the committee, what the committee recommended and what the commission supported and the misunderstanding that ensued and what has been approved and supported by Council regarding the creation of a path and addressing the safety issues; and that the proposed resolution cites why they want work to be discontinued and that approaching the Council harshly would have the opposite results they are seeking.

Chair Bremicker stated that it was never along the road he knows that, it never was, it went along the beach and cut up the road. He can understand the confusion. The resolution just states the first half mile and what Carey Meyer proposed fits that direction. This is not what he thought it would be or what the Mayor thought it would be but it fits the direction in that resolution.

He stated that he did not believe that the committee was upset with Council, they haven't voted on it yet and it will be discussed at the meeting on Monday.

Ms. Krause noted that since it was under the consent agenda unless it was pulled by a Council member then there would be no discussion. Chair Bremicker responded that they still would be able to comment before the meeting under Public Comments. He did not believe that it was wrong to say they disagree and that it was their job as commissioners to say what they want that the Commission and committee would like the opportunity to come up with a pedestrian and bicycle path that would meet the description outlined in the city plans.

Commissioner Brann opined there is no criteria but it describes a path that there is a need to improve pedestrian and bicyclists safety issues as outlined in the Non-motorized trails and transportation plan and maybe that if they reword the recommendation in a more positive manner expressing the need for a path and asking to be allowed to a work towards that goal, but he did not want to fight the City Council. Chair Bremicker agreed but also believed that if there are concerns they have a responsibility to report that and if they say no, okay. Commissioner Bell stated there are plenty of projects to work on and if Council can provide preferred projects x, y, and z then great.

Commissioner Lowney commented on voting down the motion on the floor and regarding a more positive motion that allows the Commission to still address the need. Commissioner Lillibridge did not feel that Council has allowed the commission time to digest the content and recommended that they submit a recommendation to postpone a vote and allow the Commission to work with Council on a proposed trail along Kachemak Drive. She agreed that it was not the best direction to attack council but she did not like the idea that Council is throwing away all the work that has been done. She felt it was important that Council realize how much work and time has been expended. This would allow them the time to determine the best possible way to get this trail constructed.

The motion was withdrawn by the maker and second.

Commissioner Archibald wanted the statement to include that the research that has been developed has enlightened those parties involved on the difficulty that constructing a path along Kachemak Drive presents. He proposed that they needed to include the issues regarding the private property owners too. Chair Bremicker noted it was good to hear from him too.

Commissioner Lillibridge suggested a lengthy recommendation. Ms. Krause noted that it was very wordy and needed some refinement. Chair Bremicker requested a 5 minute recess to allow the Clerk to wordsmith the recommendation from Commissioner Lillibridge. Chair Bremicker reconvened the meeting. Ms. Krause was unable to come up with a succinct recommendation for the commission.

Following several more minutes of discussion the following motion was made:

BRANN/LOWNEY - MOVED TO AGREE TO DISBAND THE KACHEMAK DRIVE PATH COMMITTEE WITH A REQUEST THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ALLOW THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION TO ADDRESS ITEMS AS NOTED IN THE NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS AND TRANSPORTION PLAN

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. LOWNEY, BELL, BRANN, ARCHIBALD, BREMICKER
VOTE. NO. LILLIBRIDGE

Motion carried.

B. Warning Signage for Bicyclists on Kachemak Drive

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record and asked if anyone had information on this item.

Ms. Krause provided an update on the progress of Ms. Harness-Foster in the Planning Department, who was tasked with submitting a permit to install the signs. Ms. Harness-Foster also received an estimate of costs from a vendor in Anchorage. Ms. Krause reported that as far as everything looked it was progressing along fine and looked to getting approved. She would keep the commissioners updated.

Commissioner Bell questioned if the proposed resolution would prevent them from having a discussion such as the signage; it pointed out that this was part of that project and the original resolution approved by council. So are they going to be allowed to discuss aspects of a project or nothing at all since that is how they work as a commission through discussions? Chair Bremicker noted that was a good question.

Commissioner Brann reported he has obtained funding for the signs and inquired about installation once approved. Ms. Krause confirmed that Public Works Parks Maintenance personnel will be able to install the signs when everything is approved and ready.

Commissioner Archibald inquired if there was a discussion on installation of additional speed limit signage since there was only one at each end and maybe one in the middle that he could recall. It was noted that this had not come up but could be requested.

There was a brief discussion and related experiences of traffic traveling at high speeds along the roadway.

Commissioner Lowney suggested the following motion:

LOWNEY/LILLIBRIDGE - MOVED TO REQUEST CITY ADMINISTRATION FORWARD A REQUEST TO THE HOMER CITY POLICE TO PROVIDE OCCASIONAL MONITORING AND INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY SPEED INDICATORS ALONG KACHEMAK DRIVE TO REMIND DRIVERS OF THE SPEED LIMIT.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

C. Storage and Snack Shack for Little League at Karen Hornaday Park

Commissioner Archibald reported the discussions held during his meeting with staff and Kathy Beach, President, Little League and discussed recommendations on the snack shack and storage building that is used by the Little League.

Commissioner Lowney opined that before anything else it was very important that the City have an agreement as she believed that was part of the problem determining who was responsible for what. There was a brief discussion and the following motion resulted.

LOWNEY/LILLIBRIDGE - MOVED TO SUBMIT A RECOMMENDATION TO STRONGLY ENCOURAGE CITY ADMINISTRATION ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH LITTLE LEAGUE TO COVER THE FIELD USE, BUILDING, UTILITIES, AND MAINTENANCE THEREOF AND TO DETERMINE RESPONSIBILITY OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN THE MOST EXPEDIENT MANNER POSSIBLE BEFORE THE NEXT SEASON STARTED.

There was a brief discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Archibald brought up the entrance gates to the park and noted that a recommendation was needed regarding the removal and repurposing of the gates.

LOWNEY/ARCHIBALD - MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE ENTRANCE GATES BE REMOVED AND RELOCATED TO A MORE SUITABLE LOCATION WITHIN THE PARK.

There was no discussion.

The motion was approved by consensus of the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Request to Dedicate a Ballfield at Jack Gist Park

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record and commented that he was very supportive of the request to dedicate a ballfield to Paula Setterquist.

BRANN/LOWNEY - MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO DEDICATE A BALLFIELD AT JACK GIST PARK AND SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.

There was a brief discussion on the dedication being a great thing to do.

The motion was approved by consensus of the commission.

B. Request to Recognize original Donation of Land by Mae Harrington

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record and commented that he was not aware of all the things that Mae Harrington had done and this request like the one for the ballfield was great idea and felt it would definitely provide an example of what doing good works for the community means.

BRANN/ARCHIBALD - MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO RECOGNIZE THE ORIGINAL DONATION OF LAND BY MAE HARRINGTON TO THE CITY OF HOMER AND HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING.

There was a brief discussion on location of the plaque.

The motion was approved by consensus of the commission.

C. Request for a Maritime Sculpture to be Installed at Karen Hornaday Park

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record and asked what the commission wanted to do on this.

After a lengthy discussion the commission decided to support the recommendation from staff to forward the issue to the Public Arts Committee for recommendation.

ARCHIBALD/BRANN - MOVED TO FORWARD TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE FOR RECOMMENDATION.

Discussion on the appropriateness of the proposed art piece for Karen Hornaday Park, the recommendation and/or preferences from HoPP, and how involved does the commission become with artists and vetting their proposals ensued.

VOTE. YES. LOWNEY, BRANN, ARCHIBALD, BELL, BREMICKER

VOTE. NO. LILLIBRIDGE

Motion carried.

Commissioner Lillibridge explained her no vote by stating that she did not feel that this fell within their responsibility and the commission should just inform Mr. Hughes to take his proposal before the Public Arts Committee.

D. Request to Approve a Donation for the New Trails Map and Bar-B-que for the May 4, 2013 Clean-up party at Karen Hornaday Park

Chair Bremicker read the title into the record.

Commissioner Lowney stated that she was asked by Miranda Weiss from HoPP, who will be having a workgroup there also on the same day as the Church on the Rock, for some assistance with food.

Ms. Krause provided a brief summary of the remaining funds for the commission and clarified that the additional \$1000 provided by council was towards the uniform signage. Council only approved \$2000 for the commission.

Commissioner Lowney pulled her request to provide funds for a bar-b-que, however she did feel that the commission should provide some funding towards the new trails map that would benefit the goals of the commission and was one of the items on the list of things to do. Commissioner Lowney further stated that Mike Illg was doing a great job pulling together all manner of people to produce this new map and the commission should at least contribute to the cost of printing.

There was a brief discussion on the brochure and the efforts of Mike Illg in organizing the people and getting this done.

LOWNEY/BELL - REQUEST THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE OF \$100.00 FOR THE NEW TRAILS MAP FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDS.

There was no further discussion.

The motion was approved by consensus of the commission.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Commissioner Attendance at Council Meetings 2013
- B. Commission Annual Calendar 2013
- C. Strategic Plan 2013
- D. Notification of Award Land and Water Conservation Fund Re: Karen Hornaday Park
- E. Memorandum 13-XX Mayor Wythe and City Council re: Recommendations for the 2013 Land Allocation Plan

There was no discussion on the informational materials.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Lindianne Sarno member of the Kachemak Drive Path Committee commented on the possible disbanding of the Kachemak Drive Path Committee, she said that the commissioners should not feel bad about disbanding this committee; she stated that she believes the chemistry is not working at this point; that there has been a huge body of work completed. Ms. Sarno expressed concern for that work to be respected, preserved and held onto and does not want to lose that body of work and doesn't want to lost that work; but she felt it time for it to be passed to the public. The public will need to form a neighborhood association or something similar. Everyone will be dealing with shrinking budgets and this is just one example of that; she feels that they need to continue expressing positive thoughts on the benefits that a path would provide. They need to find a way forward.

Larry Slone had a question on the request for Mae Harrington clarification on further discussion; requested clarification on funds in the HART for trails; he added his opinion on what the resolution 13-040 would allow the commission to continue discussion on the project and suggested that they keep the project on the priority list for funding. He believed that if the project to redo Kachemak Drive were funded it would be the perfect time to request that pathway to be done.

Beth Cumming, she almost would appreciate disbanding the committee; it has been coming for a long time and if Dave wanted to work on that trail then to call her.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Ms. Krause said she would see if she could locate that hug for Commissioner Lowney.

COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER *(If one is assigned)*

There was no councilmember present.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

Chair Bremicker stated he gets a little frustrated and tries not to hold any grudges we may have differences of opinion but that is the way the world works sometimes, but he doesn't hold any grudges against anyone.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Lowney requested clarification on the spring park walk through; she stated that she appreciated the comments from Ms. Sarno and also the efforts of Ms. Krause to try to help them work through different processes. She expressed concern regarding the negative comments from commissioners not feel that their efforts were appreciated. They need to get beyond that and start working on the positive. Tonight was not the first time either. She believes that starts to grate on people and believed that maybe that they a need to schedule a lunch with Council and staff and she believes that they need to deal with the underlying current/tone wears you down. She believes that they are in need of a big hug.

Commissioner Bell thanked everyone and stated it was a good meeting.

Commissioner Brann appreciates everyone's hard work and it is hard work; agreed that it was a good meeting.

Commissioner Archibald it is a volunteer effort, time consuming, thought provoking and we can go home and say well that day is over and get on to the next one.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission Chair Bremicker adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2013 at 5:30 pm at City Hall Cowles Council Chambers 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved: _____