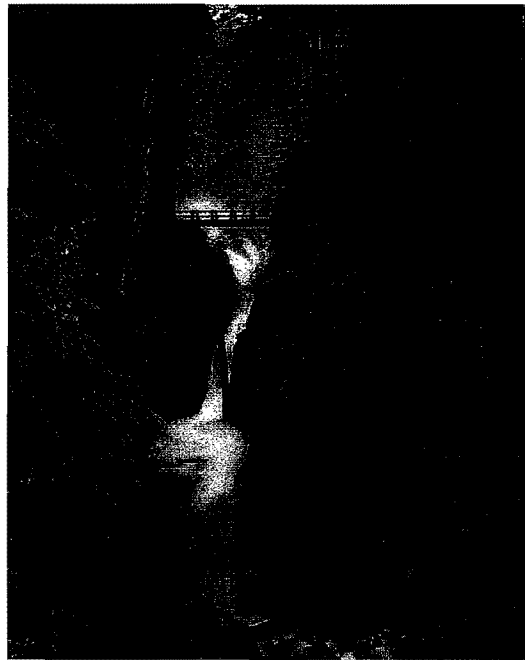


*Parks & Recreation
Advisory Commission*

*Thursday
September 19, 2013
REGULAR MEETING
5:30 p.m.*



City Hall Cowles Council Chambers
491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

Prepared and Produced by the City Clerk's Office -9/12/2013 - rk



**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (*Minutes are approved during Regular Meetings Only*)
 - A. Minutes from the Regular Meeting on June 20, 2013 Page 5
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** (*Three minute time limit*)
- 5. VISITORS** (*Visitors normally have 10 minutes for their presentation.*)
 - A. Beth Cumming, Homer Area Trails – Progress Report on the Kachemak Drive Path
 - B. Kathryn Crowley, ReCreate Rec – Who, What and Where
- 6. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOROUGH REPORTS**
 - A. Public Works Report – Carey Meyer
 - B. Staff Report – Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician/GIS Laydown
 - C. Parks Maintenance – Angie Otteson
 - D. Community Recreation – Mike Illg
 - E. Karen Hornaday Park Committee – Robert Archibald
 1. Synopsis of the September 5, 2013 regular meeting Page 13
- 7. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 8. PENDING BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion on Usage of the Remaining Commission Funds for Uniform Signage
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion on Resolution 13-040, Directing City Administration to Terminate All Survey, Design, and Cost Estimating Work on the Kachemak Drive Pathway Page 17
 - B. Scheduling the Fall Park Walk Through
 - C. Scheduling the Fall Karen Hornaday Park Clean up
 - D. Discussion on City Council Decision to Use the HERC Site as the New Public Safety Complex Site Page 43
- 10. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**
 - A. Commissioner Attendance at Council Meeting Schedule Page 45
 - B. 2013 Strategic Plan Page 47
 - C. Commission Annual Calendar Page 49
 - D. Memorandum to City Manager dated August 23, 2013 Re: P & R Commission 2014 Budget Requests Page 51
 - E. Memorandum to Mayor Wythe and City Council dated August 30, 2013 re: Amending the Commission Bylaws to Establish a Timelimit to Meetings Page 57
 - F. 2013 Council Budget Development Schedule Page 61
- 11. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**
- 12. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER** (If one has been assigned)
- 13. COMMENTS OF STAFF MEMBERS**
- 14. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION**
- 15. COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**
- 16. ADJOURNMENT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WAS OCTOBER 17, 2013. THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED DUE TO A DETERMINATION THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE A QUORUM ATTAINED. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2013 at 5:30pm in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer Alaska**

Session 13-06 a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order on August 15, 2013 at 5:34 pm by Vice Chair Dave Brann at the Homer City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS STEFFY, LOWNEY, BRANN

TELEPHONIC: COMMISSIONER ARCHIBALD, LILLIBRIDGE

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER BREMICKER (UNEXCUSED)

STAFF: JULIE ENGBRETSSEN, PLANNING TECHNICIAN
ANGIE OTTESON, PARKS MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
MIKE ILLG, COMMUNITY RECREATION SPECIALIST
RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chair Brann requested a motion to approve the agenda.

LOWNEY/STEFFY - 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 June 20, 2013

Vice Chair Brann requested approval of the minutes from June 20, 2013. He noted for the record that there was no meeting for July.

STEFFY/LOWNEY - SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

The minutes were approved by consensus of the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA *(Three minute time limit)*

Vice Chair invited any public comments on items on the agenda and noted the three minute time limit.

Jack Wiles, resident, commented on the recently approved resolution regarding planning and spending funding on projects for the HART fund and recommended various trails and thought it was a great opportunity to be at the table and to talk about trail connections, construction, long range planning, completion of trail projects. This is to be done on an annual basis and is a great opportunity to be at the table. He distributed a copy of the resolution.

There were no further comments.

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items for reconsideration.

VISITORS

There were no visitors scheduled.

STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ AND BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Staff Report - Julie Engebretsen

Ms. Engebretsen reported that she wanted to have the commission work on prioritizing trail priorities, next projects over the winter; need to discuss expending the remaining funds in the 2013 budget since these funds do not roll over they need to consider expending funds for the adopt a park/trail program, reimburse for some expenses of the groups that have adopted parks; she also noted the potential vacancies on the commission; welcomed the newest commissioner; she inquired if any commissioners will be present for the October 17, 2013 commission meeting. It was determined that the October meeting would be canceled since there would not be a quorum. Both Robert and Dave would be absent.

Ms. Engebretsen confirmed that the funding sources for the HART Fund are used specifically for construction of new trails. This is not for parks. It may be able to use some funding to rehabilitate a trail though depending on the amount. It could even be used to develop trails located in easements or through privately owned parcels. She also confirmed that the funding designated for previous projects was still available. Ms. Engebretsen responded that they have three years to get the projects completed from the year of the request before the funds revert back to the main HART funds. She provided an example for the commissioners.

Ms. Engebretsen will be submitting later this fall to the state the approved plan regarding Diamond Creek. The city can apply for grants also.

B. Park Maintenance - Angie Otteson

Ms. Otteson provided a report on the recent worksession with the Public Arts Committee on uniform signage and it was determined that there was enough funding to possibly getting signage for eight parks. The group made a tentative decision on the design and contents to be determined based on the cost from the select company. The following parks were selected to get new or replacement signage:

1. Bayview Park - currently small wood sign
2. Ben Walters Park
3. Bishops Beach - definitely requires a sign
4. End of the Road Park - will need to check if some funding in the construction budget
5. Jeffrey Park - signage is missing
6. Karen Hornaday - Separate design in the future
7. Louie's Lagoon
8. WKFL

Discussion ensued on the directional signage for parks and creative signage; using signage created from recycled plastic materials; City logo on all signage; universal symbols on signage;

Commissioner Lowney commented on the necessity to clear the trails due to the recent events on Poopdeck Trail and recommended putting some of the remaining budget if necessary to hire someone to get that done. Ms. Otteson responded that will be in her budget request is additional personnel with all the added facilities it is getting more difficult to maintain what is needed such as clearing trees from trails.

Ms. Krause explained that no formal approval was needed to expend the funds. Ms. Engebretsen explained that the Commission submitted a request for \$1000 for signage for Jack Gist and Council responded by increasing the annual budget of the commission by \$1000 forever. The commission can use the funding as they see fit.

Commissioner Archibald inquired about the condition of the grass at the Karen Hornaday Park and if additional funding was needed to augment that. Ms. Otteson stated the grass was coming in great and things are really starting to take off and grow. He also fully supported the budget request for additional personnel.

C. Community Recreation - Mike Illg

Mr. Illg reported that there has been an increase in indoor activities; increase in participation in pickle ball and basketball and volleyball. The recent water main break has stopped any activities at the HERC. The group working on the new trails map will be starting back up coming this fall. There is a group that is meeting to implement a Recreational Service Area and will be visiting the commission soon. The relationship with the School District is still restrictive however he reported communication seems improved. Mr. Illg reported that he would be applying on behalf of the runners club to have Homer named a runner friendly community. This will bring further national attention to Homer.

Vice Chair Brann commented on the possibility of having a field trip to Sterling to visit the new Community Center and meet with officials there to get some information on how they achieved the funding and construction. He additionally asked if anyone knew if there was anyone participating in Geocaching.

There was no information on geocaching available.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings scheduled.

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Attendance at Council Meetings

Vice Chair Brann introduced the item for discussion. He provided a brief explanation on the process for new Commissioner Steffy.

Discussion ensued on the commissioner's availability and Commissioner Steffy offered to fill in for the October and December Council meetings, explaining that he should be up to speed and comfortable enough to represent the Commission before council.

August	Commissioner Brann
September	Commissioner Archibald
October	Commissioner Steffy
November	Commissioner Lowney
December	Commissioner Steffy

Vice Chair Brann indicated that all commissioners were welcome to attend the Council meeting in December when the budget is decided.

B. Changes to Bylaws - Meeting Time Deadlines

Vice Chair Brann introduced the item for discussion and provided a brief explanation on the previous discussion and reasoning for setting a time limitation.

STEFFY/LOWNEY- MOVED TO AMEND THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION BYLAWS, REGULAR MEETINGS, ADDING ITEM 5. MEETINGS WILL ADJOURN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M. AN EXTENSION IS ALLOWED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COMMISSION; WITH THE PROCEDURE AS FOLLOWS: THE CHAIR WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO EXTEND THE MEETING TO A SPECIFIED TIME. AFTER THE MOTION HAS BEEN SECONDED, THE COMMISSION WILL VOTE YES TO EXTEND THE MEETING UNTIL THE SPECIFIED TIME. A NO VOTE WILL REQUIRE THAT THE CHAIR CONCLUDE THE BUSINESS AT OR BEFORE 8:00 P.M. AND IMMEDIATELY PROCEEDS TO COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE, THE COMMISSION AND ADJOURNMENT.

There was a brief discussion on the proposed process.

VOTE. YES. ARCHIBALD, LOWNEY, STEFFY, BRANN

Motion carried.

C. Rescheduling Park Day

Vice Chair Brann introduced the item for discussion.

Discussion was held on having the event and the commissioners being available to organize and run the event. After much discussion it was determined that the commissioners did not have the available time to organize and hold the event this year. It was determined that they would use the funding to have a large thank you advertisement in the local papers thanking all the groups who adopted a park or trail and the volunteers who have worked this past year by name if possible. Staff will work with the Clerk's office to get the advertised thank you completed.

LOWNEY/ARCHIBALD - MOVED TO CANCEL THE ANNUAL PARK DAY

There was no discussion.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

~~LOWNEY/STEFFY - PUT AN ADVERTISEMENT IN BOTH PAPERS ACKNOWLEDGING THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ADOPTED PARKS AND/OR TRAILS AND THE MANY VOLUNTEERS AND ALSO INCLUDE RECRUITMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO ADOPT A PARK OR TRAIL.~~

There was a brief discussion on the number of entities, HoPP, Rotary, Public Works Personnel, and that Ms. Otteson will be able to work with Ms. Krause on getting this advertisement done. Then there was a brief discussion on the cost being around \$225 or more for one paper. This ad will be run in one paper one week then in the other paper the next week.

VOTE. YES. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Mr. Illg recommended posting a copy of the ad in the next community recreation catalog and putting it online. The commissioners agreed by consensus that was a great idea.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Status Update on City Wide Projects

1. Road Projects - Intersection of Kachemak Drive and Spit Road/Sterling Hwy.
2. Trails
3. Construction

Vice Chair Brann red the title into the record.

Ms. Engebretsen stated that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation (AKDOT) held a Public open House on state road projects and one of them is moving the crown of the road on Ocean Drive/Sterling Highway and adding two six foot wide shoulders not quite wide enough to call a bike lane but will allow for cyclists on each side of the road.

They (AKDOT) will also be doing the following allowing for funding availability:

1. Putting in a crosswalk at Kachemak Drive and the Spit Road intersection
2. Putting in a crosswalk at where the road curves and the corner of Lake Street
3. Rebuilding Pioneer Avenue 2016

4. Rebuilding Lake Street in 2015-16
5. Sterling Highway and Main Street - reviewing costs on Stoplight versus Round-about
6. Main Street and Pioneer Avenue will be a 4 way stop with crosswalks
7. East End Road (from Redden Marine) to Waterman Rd will be paved with a separated pathway starting next year
8. Paving McNeil Canyon to the Russian Village in the next few years
9. Installation of a blinking red light and 4-way stop with crosswalks at the intersection of Sterling Highway and Milo Fritz/North Fork in Anchor Point.

There will be no trail development on any of these proposed projects with the exception of East End Road.

There was a brief discussion on lowering the speed limit and the crosswalk for the entrance to Mariner Park; establishing crosswalks will mean that the speed limits will be reduced; proposal to install a road and loading/launch dock for Beluga Lake.

Construction for the shelter has been awarded, bids came in much higher. Volunteer labor will be needed on various aspects of the project. There is no project timeline at this time. Rotary will be donating \$4000 for the bench/fire pit area.

A brief discussion on the Old Town project using \$98,000 of HART funding to create Charles Way and install safety features and signage, paving of Bishops Beach parking lot and providing a paved shoulder along Bunnell Avenue; a lot of pedestrian improvements. Staff has showed up for meetings and the city has expended very little staff time.

Commissioners were very supportive of the improvements presented by the Old Towne Group, but were very surprised that it did not get a formal review and final recommendation from the commission. They did not have any problem with the decisions made but expressed concern on what value did the commission have regarding groups being able to come in; make a presentation directly to council and take a piece of the pie. It was expressed that the Commissioners felt they were circumvented.

Staff stated that any group can submit a request for funding since it was Council who gave the final approval and will try to keep the commission abreast of any similar projects or proposals so they can offer their recommendation also.

Concern was expressed regarding how and when funds are dispersed, following the processes for all entities and preserving the "brand".

There was no further discussion.

B. Budget 2014

Ms. Engebretsen explained the typical budget processes to the commissioners. She recommended completing the Phase II of the West Homer Trail - Forest Glen to the Middle School. Other than trail funding is recommendation to hire additional parks maintenance personnel.

Vice Chair Brann inquired about requesting funding for Diamond Creek. Ms. Engebretsen explained that project is large enough and the HART funds are available anytime so she recommended setting that as a topic on another agenda. Vice Chair Brann supported asking for additional personnel.

Discussion ensued on the trail around Karen Hornaday Park, status update the trail projects they previously recommended. Commissioner Steffy commented on different routes and connections then the Phase II of the West Homer Trail in relation to comments on safe routes to school and getting the kids off the road.

Staff recommended asking for funding for Forest Glen or waiting to entertain discussion at another meeting. Additionally, Ms. Engebretsen recommended scheduling a discussion on connection trails to schools at another meeting with maps.

Commissioner Archibald asked about requesting funding for improvements to fields and drainage at Jack Gist Park. A brief discussion on drainage issues at Jack Gist Park ensued.

The next item recommended was requesting funding for a Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment in the amount of \$50,000. A brief discussion on the value this assessment to recreation and parks followed.

The commissioners were in consensus on adding this item to their budget requests for 2014.

Vice Chair Brann then brought forth the reminder about the new picnic pavilion for the Per One Parcel to replace the one that was removed this summer. It was noted that the City Manager did comment on having it in his budget earlier this summer but has not heard anything further.

Commissioner Steffy inquired on the funding and personnel issues on the recreation side of things. Mr. Illg related the long standing issues with a permanent place or venue to hold their recreational programs and the problems he encounters with last minute cancellations by the Borough on the ability to use school space. He further stated that there are many times he could use help as the recreation programs are gaining in popularity but he would rather have the Needs Assessment conducted first.

Commissioner Lowney brought up relocation of the farmers market to Town Center and opined that the city would be interested in that issue. She further cited the safety and liability issues regarding parking and access on Ocean Drive.

Ms. Engebretsen noted that the current farmers are not interested in being located on city property. She would favor the idea however the Farmer's Market is not interested since there is no parking, visibility, and access along with how the city would pay for those improvements.

A brief discussion ensued on the Farmer's Market expanding in the existing location and there are not many locations. The biggest attraction is the location. A point was made that there is not the required parking in that location.

There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Lowney wanted to inquire about the funding for signage from the remaining commission funds.

Ms. Engebretsen stated she could provide a summary of the funds available and expended at the next meeting.

C. Discussion on Zoning Changes for the Homer Spit to Accommodate Recreation and Park

Vice Chair Brann read the title into the record.

Ms. Krause explained that Commissioner Lillibridge had requested this item on the agenda. She wanted to entertain changing the zoning to Parks and Recreation. Vice Chair Brann noted that at one time parks and recreational areas were in Marine Industrial zoned areas. Ms. Engebretsen stated that currently all areas allow parks and recreation.

There was no further discussion.

D. Recruitment Efforts for New Commissioners

Vice Chair Brann read the title into the record. He then stated that if Rotary decides to do something at Ben Walters Park he will ask them to include an item on recruitment. Ms. Engebretsen stated that Commissioner Lillibridge term expires and she has indicated that she will not be renewing. Ms. Krause also confirmed that the Commissioner Bremicker and Brann's terms were also expiring in October.

Commissioner Brann stated he did plan on continuing his time on Commission and would send in his request next month. He will continue unless he gets kicked out.

Ms. Krause confirmed that this commission was allowed up to three non-residents on the commission.

Commissioner Lillibridge called in at 7:14 p.m. Vice Chair Brann asked if there was any problem allowing Commissioner Lillibridge to offer her comments on any topics that were on the agenda tonight.

The Commission agreed by consensus to allow Commissioner Lillibridge to speak.

Commissioner Lillibridge commented on the importance of the Parks and Recreation mandate, that even though they had to cancel Park Day, they should not lose sight of their capital agenda and should provide input to Council.

Ms. Engebretsen responded that the commission did make some recommendations and requests and can provide that information to her. She confirmed that it is a worksession on Saturday and is open to the Public so they commissioners are welcome to attend but they would not be allowed to speak until probably the very end of the meeting and that it was scheduled to be an all-day affair.

There were no further comments.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Commissioner Attendance at Council Meetings 2013
- B. Strategic Plan 2013
- C. Commission Annual Calendar
- D. Letter to Airport Manager Re: Authorization to Remove Trees on City Land Adjacent to Airport from City manager Wrede dated July 8, 2013

There was no discussion on the informational materials.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Jack Wiles, resident, stated that he would like to review the Karen Hornaday Park Master Plan and present a draft outline of priorities to address Phase Two of the Master Plan. He will be gone for a road trip around the Lower 48 that he expects will take approximately one year and will be unable to assist in the next steps of implementing the Master Plan so he would like to work up a draft prioritized recommendation for the committee to present for approval by the full commission. He believed there were many items in the works and also multiple items that needed to be address such as relocating the road and a perimeter trail. He also noted that he would not be available to make contacts with the stakeholders but he would hope that what he leaves with them will bring them to the discussion.

He additionally offered his comments on the needs assessment plan and related costs being as high as \$60,000.

The commission agreed by consensus that this was something that the Karen Hornaday Park Committee should undertake and thanked Mr. Wiles for his offer.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Ms. Engebretsen responded to questions regarding the park pavilion project and established timelines for that project. She thanked the commissioners.

Ms. Krause confirmed that the Karen Hornaday Park Committee would meet on September 5, 2013. She explained that they can pick a date or two but let her know so it can be advertised and depending on the number of people the city car may be able to be used also in regards to the field trip to Sterling Community Recreation Center.

Mr. Ilg thanked everyone for their time and will concentrate on recruiting a new commissioner and a High School student.

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

There was no councilmember present.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

The chair was absent from this meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Lowney commented good meeting Dave, Thanks. Great to have you here Matt; great job everyone, very busy summer and she was actually looking forward to fall and winter right now.

Commissioner Steffy was glad to be here and taking part. Looking forward to working with everyone but feel free to ask him anything or offer any information since they have all been here much longer than him. He is an information junkie so feel free to pass on any pertinent information they feel he should know.

Commissioner Lillibridge stated she was really sorry for missing the major portion of the meeting; she will be out of town August 21 to September 6th; really wants to see Karen Hornaday Park completed and looks forward to the new pavilion going up.

Commissioner Archibald commented that he gets tired of holding up the phone but appreciated the commission for putting up with his participation telephonically. It was a good meeting. He looks forward to meeting Matt.

Commissioner Brann thanked everyone and staff for their hard work and efforts. He also wanted to arrange the visit to the Sterling Community Center and speaking with the group to get some ideas and directions on how Homer can get a facility constructed too. He is looking forward to things being completed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Vice Chair Brann adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting is a Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Cowles Council Chambers 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I

Approved: _____

**Karen Hornaday Park Committee Meeting
September 5, 2013
Meeting Synopsis**

Chair Robert Archibald called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Those present: Deb Lowney, Ralph Broshes, Miranda Weiss, Deb Cox, and Phil Needham.

The agenda was approved by consensus of the committee.

The minutes from April 4, 2013 regular meeting were approved by consensus of the committee.

There were no items for reconsideration.

VISITORS

A. Carey Meyer, Director, City of Homer Public Works

Carey gave a project status update on the new picnic pavilion at Karen Hornaday Park. (KHP) His focus is on spending remaining funds from Phase I Legislative Grant. The pavilion bid was awarded and work should get underway by September 16, 2013. The entire project was awarded with \$4000.00 in grant funds left over.

HoPP has additional funds, along with a \$5000 donation from Alaska Marine Freight in the name of Ray Clapp and \$4000 from Rotary that will be used for the construction of the fire pit and bench.

Carey discussed the location of the new pavilion and the desire to leave the old pavilion where it is until new Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) grant funds are available to provide funding for the move.

A discussion around the location of new pavilion ensued. The location selected pointed out that old pavilion has to be moved in order for proper placement of the new pavilion. A decision was made to meet with Carey at KHP to measure out exact location for new pavilion.

A foundation for old pavilion in a new location was estimated at \$20,000.00.

Deb Lowney commented that moving the old pavilion to a location between the two ball fields is not consistent with the KHP Master Plan and questioned if this is the best use of KHP funds.

LOWNEY/- MADE A MOTION TO DISMANTLE AND STORE THE OLD PAVILION PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PAVILION.

This passed with 5 yes and 1 No Vote. Phil Needham.

Carey commented on the \$50,000.00 from Phase 1 for road and parking. He feels that he is ready to address some of the concerns brought up by that engineering, and will bring the information to next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Discussion was held on hydro seeding day use area. Carey stressed the need for seeding around the new shelter. Phil asked about the elevation of the new shelter. Carey plans for it to be 16" above existing grade and he hopes to lay down topsoil and hydro-seed around area. Chair Archibald expressed concern regarding some drainage at foot of hill and water feature in playground. Ms. Lowney emphasized the LWCF Grant targets that area.

Miranda Cox brought up the climbing feature from HoPP and expressed concern for space (land) between that and the pavilion. It was agreed that during the site visit on Friday they will mark off these spaces. Miranda informed us that landscaping is currently happening in park in reference to grant in conjunction with Coastal Studies. The Hill below playground needs some major TLC.

Deb Lowney mentioned that maybe some of that work could be accomplished with volunteers.

Chair Archibald asked if Phil Needham could bring final plans for shelter tomorrow so that we can mark off the footprint for the pavilion and the rope structure. He also asked about the improvements to be made to the campground with the LWCF Grant. It was agreed to look at some of those concerns tomorrow.

Carey left the meeting.

Reports

Chair Archibald gave an update on meetings with Jack Wise and Angie Otteson.

Ralph Broshes addressed concerns regarding LWCF Grant. None of the grant funds go toward Woodard Creek. Who makes the decision on where and how this money gets spent? Deb Lowney addressed her concern for Woodard Creek and the fact that it is continually being pushed off the project list while projects not on the master plan get added.

Chair Archibald asked Carey to address this issue since he was still sitting in the audience.

Carey brought up the example of Mud Bay Trail. Establishing a primitive trail is first step. Get people walking the area to establish use would be second.

Deb Lowney recommended that we bring up a concern to Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the displacement of Woodard Creek project and the addition of a new project (trail around park) in LWCF Grant. Phil Needham expressed concerns about facilities we have that are not being maintained.

The reliance on volunteers is getting very concerning in reference to our parks and trails and now we have four new restrooms to clean. City needs to provide adequate funding to maintain what they have.

It was noted that Public Works is over extended and needs some support.

New Business

The Proposed Phase II Karen Hornaday Park Master Plan was discussed briefly. This is a large document that the committee can work on during the winter. Thanks were expressed toward Jack Wiles for his help and expertise in the development of this document.

There were no comments from the Audience.

There were no comments from committee members.

The Meeting was adjourned with no decision on next meeting date.

Submitted by Robert Archibald & Deb Lowney



City of Homer

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Memorandum

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

FROM: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION 13-040

Chair Bremicker has requested this item on the agenda for discussion and a recommendation from this Commission to City Council to Vote No on Resolution 13-040.

BACKGROUND

This resolution was presented to the commission at their regular meeting on April 18, 2013. The commission entertained a lengthy discussion and submitted a recommendation to Council that they were disbanding the committee formed but allow the commission to address items as noted in the Non-motorized Trails and Transportation Plan.

The Memorandum 13-059 is included for your review.

The highlighted minutes from the April 18, 2013 regular commission meeting has been included for your review.

This resolution came before the City Council at the April 22, 2013 regular meeting. Action was postponed on the resolution until the September 23, 2013 regular meeting to allow the newly formed committee to prepare a plan of action and funding sources to build the proposed Kachemak Drive Pathway over the summer months and come back before Council.

The minutes of the April 22, 2013 City meeting have been included for your review.

RECOMMENDATION

NO ACTION REQUIRED. INFORMATIONAL IN NATURE.

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Mayor

RESOLUTION 13-040

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL
DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO TERMINATE
ALL SURVEY, DESIGN, AND COST ESTIMATING WORK
ON THE KACHEMAK DRIVE PATHWAY.

WHEREAS, Resolution 12-079(A) authorized the allocation of up to \$20,000 from the HART Fund for the purposes of survey work and an engineering estimate to determine the cost of constructing the initial one-half mile of the proposed Kachemak Drive Non-Motorized Pathway; and

WHEREAS, the Council's intent when adopting Resolution 12-079(A) was to determine if the trail alignment favored at the time by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission and its sub-committee, the Kachemak Drive Path Committee, was feasible and what it might cost to construct; and

WHEREAS, The City Engineer and contract surveyor studied the preferred trail alignment and concluded that construction would be prohibitively expensive due to the topography and terrain and that bridges, retaining walls, and slope stabilization measures would be required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Homer City Council finds that it is not in the City's interest to pursue the project any further due to funding, permitting, construction, and other concerns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council hereby directs the City administration and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission and its subcommittee, the Kachemak Drive Path Committee to discontinue all work on this project and to expend no further funds on it.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL this 22nd day of April, 2013.

CITY OF HOMER

MARY E. WYTHER, MAYOR

42 ATTEST:

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46 JO JOHNSON, CMC, CITY CLERK

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50 Fiscal Note: N/A

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Office of the City Clerk

Jo Johnson, CMC, City Clerk

Melissa Jacobsen, CMC, Deputy City Clerk II
Renee Krause, CMC, Deputy City Clerk I



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MEMORANDUM 13-059

TO: MAYOR WYTHE AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
THRU: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: APRIL 22, 2013
RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION 13-040

Background

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission were provided a copy of proposed Resolution 13-040 at the regular meeting on April 18, 2013. Below is a recommendation that they requested to be forwarded to Council for consideration.

The minutes of the meeting regarding the discussion leading to the recommendation have been included.

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.

RECOMMENDATION

Informational Only.

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 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:

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There was no further discussion.

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

VOTE. NO. LILLIBRIDGE

Motion carried.

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

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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.

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.

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: _____

Department Heads may be called upon from time to time to participate via teleconference.

AGENDA APPROVAL

(Addition of items to or removing items from the agenda will be by unanimous consent of the Council. HCC 1.24.040.)

The following changes were made to the agenda: **CONSENT AGENDA - Resolution 13-040**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Directing the City Administration to Terminate All Survey, Design, and Cost Estimating Work on the Kachemak Drive Pathway. Mayor. Memorandum 13-059 from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, re: Resolution 13-040. Written public comments. **VISITORS** - Linda Anderson, Lobbyist Report, Legislative Worksession **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/BOROUGH REPORT/COMMISSION REPORTS** Mayor Wythe's Report from Juneau Trip – April 2 – 5, 2013.

Lobbyist Linda Anderson was not able to travel to Homer today. Her report was postponed to the May 13, 2013 meeting.

Resolution 13-040 was moved from the Consent Agenda to Resolutions. Ordinances 13-11 and 13-12 were moved from the Consent Agenda to Ordinances.

Mayor Wythe called for a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

HOWARD/LEWIS – SO MOVED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: YES. NON OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Bumppo Bremicker, city resident, told Council the Kachemak Drive Path Association was formed today to design, construct, and maintain a non-motorized trail on Kachemak Drive. The trail was adopted in the Homer Non Motorized Transportation and Trails Plan, Homer Area Transportation Plan, Climate Action Plan, Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails, and the Capital Improvement Plan. One percent of sales tax revenue is dedicated to a trail fund. There is \$300,000 in the fund, about \$100,000 per year. The Kachemak Drive Path Committee has

labored for 2.5 years to address safety concerns on Kachemak Drive for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Lynn Burt, Kachemak Drive Path Committee Member, added city staff recommended the trail design begin at the west end. The steep hill at the base of the Spit where Kachemak Drive climbs is the most dangerous section. The hill is a steep grade with impaired vision, causing near misses between bicyclists and motorists. Resolution 12-079(S) authorized \$20,000 for a survey and engineer estimate for the first ½ mile section. Public Works Director Carey Meyer supervised the survey. Two routes were considered: up the steep hill or along the Mud Bay Trail. The steep hill option was too expensive so Mr. Meyer directed the surveyor to stay along the beach for the Mud Bay Trail. Although disappointed, the KDPC supported the decision. They hoped with volunteer labor a safe route could be constructed. The engineering estimate for Mud Bay Trail was \$374,000 as it failed to factor volunteer labor. Now Mayor Wythe has sponsored Resolution 13-040 to terminate all work on the trail.

Lindianne Sarno, city resident and ex-member of Kachemak Drive Path Committee, commented a citizen's group has been formed. They are the Kachemak Drive Path Association and will assume responsibility for designing, building, and maintaining the Kachemak Drive trail. They propose a third of the HART trail fund be allocated for the trail and a third of the HART fund earnings each year thereafter until the trail is complete. They propose to use volunteer labor and will leverage funds as seed money to attract grants and donations. They will set up a working vacation on Kachemak Bay that includes camping, volunteer labor, and BBQs. They ask the City for a partnership in coordinating with government agencies.

Kevin Walker, Kachemak City resident, agrees with the previous speakers. He has developed plans with the State of Alaska. Review of the plan made him lose confidence. The steep slope on the path includes a 20 ft. drop at 1.9:1. The City recently approved road back slopes to be built at 1.5:1. He is confident we can build a 6-8 ft. wide trail up the slope; it is about 200 ft. and will need a boardwalk or retaining wall. He has volunteered for the new committee.

Tricia Lillibridge, city resident, commented the Kachemak Drive trail is a contentious issue. She suggested letting everyone stop and take a breath. Hardly anyone would be against a trail. There are volunteers that are willing to work.

Larry Slone, city resident, commented on Resolutions 13-039 and 13-040. He is a strong supporter of the water and sewer rate model. He recognized the members on the Water and Sewer Rate Task Force. If the new committee for the Kachemak Drive path is willing to find other means and funding for the expensive trail, that is great. The Mud Bay trail is a diamond in the rough that could be developed for a minimal amount of money. It complements the Spit Trail.

B. Bid Report

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Public Arts Committee
- B. Transportation Advisory Committee
- C. Permanent Fund Committee
- D. Lease Committee
- E. Port and Harbor Improvement Committee
- F. Employee Committee Report
- G. Water and Sewer Rate Task Force

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Resolution 13-040**, A Resolution of the Homer City Council Directing the City Administration to Terminate All Survey, Design, and Cost Estimating Work on the Kachemak Drive Pathway. Mayor. Recommend adoption.

Memorandum 13-059 from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission as backup.

Mayor Wythe called for a motion for the adoption of Resolution 13-040 by reading of title only.

LEWIS/HOWARD – SO MOVED.

Councilmember Lewis likes trails and agrees there is a trail needed there. He doesn't necessarily agree with the trail on Mud Bay. He would like to follow Beth Cumming's recommendations to postpone the resolution until the second meeting in September. It will give the Kachemak Drive Path Association time to come up with something before we close it down.

Councilmember Burgess referred to the trail as a sticky issue. The public may not have the insight into the complexity of the trail and the lack of communication. Council has to look at how we spend taxpayer money. We want to keep options open and support trails. Postponement will give time for people to come back and Council will reevaluate.

LEWIS/BURGESS - MOVED TO POSTPONE TO SEPTEMBER 23.

VOTE: (postponement) YES. DOLMA, ZAK, BURGESS, LEWIS

VOTE: NO. HOWARD

Motion carried.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

Eric Lee, city resident, thanked Councilmember Burgess for amending Ordinance 13-11 to provide heliports on the Spit. The conditional use permit protects folks on the Spit. A heliport with helicopter operations could bring added funds to the port.

Larry Slone, city resident, commented on Resolution 13-040. Failure to pass the resolution leaves the situation in limbo. The committee involved in designing the trail still has the opportunity to access city resources and request additional funds for trail design and development.

Bumppo Bremicker, city resident, commented on Juneau's diminishing funding. A volunteer group working, using money dedicated to trails, could build the trail much faster and could raise money. They have Kevin Walker for design and Dave Brann as the trail master.

Carey Meyer, city resident and Public Works Director, commented he has a pretty good track record in 14 years of listening and engaging stakeholders and coming up with a consensus as to how to proceed. He failed miserably with the Kachemak Drive Pathway. He does think we have a design that has value, but needs some tweaking. He hopes in September we can reengage and find a solution to the problem that we can afford and will be supported by everyone.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Klinkner was not present.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk Johnson thanked Mayor and Council for the proclamation.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Wrede commented Carey did not fail miserably. He went out of his way to listen to everyone that had an interest in the trail. He was trying to find a middle ground where everyone could get on board.

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Wythe commented the trail is a very contentious thing. She does not oppose it. We need a strategic plan as we have 30 active projects. Carey and the new project manager spend an inordinate amount of work time and their personal life time to keep all projects moving forward. They spend their free time supporting commissions and committees. Commissions and committees provide a valuable service to the Council. We could not do all of the work we request of them. Every year Council puts together a schedule that commissions will meet on a monthly basis. It provides a contained environment for the volume of projects from the commissions and committees. When we end up with commissions and committees that are meeting more than once a month we are using people's personal life time and taxpayer dollars to pay overtime for staff for those services. She keeps hearing people are being treated poorly when they are providing these services. These are employees of the City of Homer, not public servants. They have no obligation to the demands beyond the standards. Mayor Wythe's concern is the employees are spending a lot of time and getting zero appreciation. She served on the Water and Sewer Rate Task Force for nine months listening to people be totally and completely and inappropriately abusive to staff that was trying to help them. That is not okay. These people need to go home at the end of the day, without being abused and battered by the people they are trying to help. Committees are designed to come in and complete a project and move on. We have committees that have turned into perpetual living entities. Mayor Wythe will be coming to Council to ask them to review the committees to see if they have fulfilled their obligation. We need to give staff back some of their life. She urged commissions/committees to appreciate things staff does for them and save some taxpayer dollars. Every year we hear we need to tighten the belt; if you don't want to spend money we can't have 27 commissions and committees taking all the staff time. What are we willing to give up to keep the City running on the shoestring of income we have now? How can we live without increasing sales or property tax? In the eight years she has served on the Council we have had a vote to increase sales tax to pay for the library. We have honored the vote of the same citizens to not collect sales tax on food, a \$100,000 annual reduction. We have reduced the City's budget by over \$3M in eight years. The second year the State could not guarantee revenue sharing we quit using revenue sharing to balance the budget. When the State wouldn't give an additional \$25M in revenue sharing this year there was a human outcry. We may be the only community that has made that decision. Tonight we are discussing the HERC building, committees and commissions, and a strategic plan for projects. We are asking you to help us live within our means.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Lewis commented he agrees with the Mayor on everything she has said. We don't need the trail committee meeting until we make our decision. The majority of people want a trail connecting East End Road with the Spit. The bikers have said not all bikers will be using the Kachemak Drive trail. It is a narrow trail and he wishes them luck because it is not a lot of fun. We need to come up with the best plan. We have enough going on with the pipeline. He requests the trail take a back seat, but not totally do away with it.

Councilmember Burgess commented Mayor Wythe said it very well. The task with municipal government living within its means is an immense one. To the extent the community can be understanding of the real issues before us and be supportive, we all stand to gain. He asked the path committee to support us and help us when we try to support what you do. Setting up the dialogue in an antagonistic way does not end up with a productive result. His intention is to honor the work that was done and salvage as much value from it as possible. Mayor Wythe's goal is looking out for the value of taxpayers' money that has been spent. He voiced caution since most of the cost for the trail is materials. Volunteer labor may not make a huge dent in realizing a positive outcome. At the Committee of the Whole we had a 14 yr. old young lady from the Flex Program exploring the possibility of making the voting age 16 in Homer. Approval is needed on the State level. If you are old enough to drive a car, you are old enough to vote and keep us from sending you to a foreign country. The long term goal on the HERC building is how we see the role of the Community Recreation program. How do we fund operating costs of a community recreation program? Either form a service area or dedicate a tax. It has to pencil out and has to pay for itself. He thanked Sprout and Best Beginnings; a dollar invested in early childhood education pays dividends long into the future. This is a busy summer. He is having trouble hiring general laborers. There is a lot of potential and he is feeling the vibe. Take pride in the community.

Councilmember Dolma thanked everyone that came out tonight. Sometimes it is a long time to sit. He enjoyed the tag team presentation. He thanked the Mayor for her comments. A lot of what was said borders around that. We can have a TajMahal or a tent depending on what people want to pay for. As city council members we are prepared to do what the city wants to do.

Councilmembers Howard and Zak had no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Wythe adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Monday, May 13, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., Committee of the Whole 5:00 p.m., and Worksession 4:00 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be



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Memorandum

TO: Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
FROM: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
DATE: September 12, 2013
SUBJECT: HERC Building and Site

There has been a virtual whirlwind of activity when it comes to the HERC building in the last week or so! Chair Bremicker requested this be on the agenda. Staff also has a few items to add.

Council has chosen a new public safety building as a high priority for the Capital Improvement Plan. This means the City will be lobbying the state for money for this project. In order to actually get any funding, the City needs to be actively working on moving this project forward. The CIP is what is now driving this HERC site conversation. Please be aware that as far as an actual design or construction project, we are a LONG way from that, even if HERC is the preferred site. But, choosing the HERC site for this project has spurred discussion.

There are two opportunities for the Commission to be part of this conversation.

1. The HERC site is BIG. A community rec center may be able to coexist with a public safety building. For example, one concept is tearing down the old high school (smaller building) and that would become the new rec center site, east to Pioneer Ave. Maybe something the size of the Sterling Community Center could work. The point right now is to ask Council to design the public safety building with the concept that the site would be shared with a potential rec center. That decision would affect how an architect would plan for traffic, parking, pedestrian flow, etc. (and if it did not become the future rec building, that land area could be used for something else. The point is efficient land use planning at this early phase).

Recommendation: Request the City Council design the HERC site to include land area for a future community recreation facility.

2. Now would be a great time to reach consensus on these old buildings. If there is consensus that these buildings will not serve as the desired, long term community rec facility, now would be a good time to say so. It will take the City years to acquire the funding and get these buildings removed; maybe the gym could be used in the interim. Where would Homer's efforts and tax dollars be best spent: rehabbing the HERC building, or building a new community rec facility? (There is no guarantee a new rec center would be built, but if we at least had space for it that would really help...see recommendation 1...)

Recommendation: Discuss the HERC buildings. Tear down? Renovate? Hold a public hearing at P&R and ask the public what they think? Other options? If the Commission wants to be part of this process now is a good time to start the conversation.

2013 HOMER CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION ATTENDANCE

It is the goal of the Commission to have a member speak regularly to the City Council at council meetings. There is a special place on the council's agenda specifically for this. After Council approves the consent agenda and any scheduled visitors it is then time for staff reports, commission reports and borough reports. That is when you would stand and be recognized by the Mayor to approach and give a brief report on what the Commission is currently addressing, projects, events, etc. **A commissioner is scheduled to speak and has a choice at which council meeting they will attend. It is only required to attend one meeting during the month that you are assigned.** However, if your schedule permits please feel free to attend both meetings. Remember you cannot be heard if you do not speak.

The following Meeting Dates for City Council for 2013 is as follows:

Commissioner Archibald will attend as needed depending on his work schedule.

January 14, 28 2013	<u>Commissioner Bell</u>
February 11, 25 2013	<u>Commissioner Lillibridge</u>
March 11, 25 2013	<u>Commissioner Lowney</u>
April 8, 22 2013	<u>Commissioner Brann</u>
May 13, 28 (Tues)	<u>Commissioner Brann</u>
June 10, 24 2013	<u>Commissioner Lillibridge</u>
July 22 2013	<u>Commissioner Lowney</u>
August 12, 26 2013	<u>Commissioner Brann</u>
September 9, 23 2013	<u>Commissioner Archibald</u>
October 14, 28 2013	<u>Commissioner Steffy</u>
November 18, 2013	<u>Commissioner Lowney</u>
December 9, 2013	<u>Commissioner Steffy</u>

Please review and if you will be unable to make the meeting you are tentatively scheduled for please discuss.

PLEASE NOTE: When additional commissioners are appointed the proposed schedule above will reflect those added commissioners.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2013

MISSION STATEMENT

The Commission is established to advocate in an advisory capacity to the City Manager and the City Council on the problems and development of parks, recreation facilities and public beaches within the City.

STRATEGIC GOALS OF THE COMMISSION – What is the focus for the commission?

General Goals of the Commission

- Advocate for obtaining open and green space
- Receive notification of future land disposals with attention to park and recreation needs
- Keep existing green space and public open space
- Preserve areas of natural beauty and access
- Receive notification of vacations of public access
- Receive report on City cemetery maintenance costs, future land use, budget orientation funds, how many plots and where the revenues are applied from plot sales
- Improve Public Outreach for Parks, Recreation and trails opportunities, possibly with a brochure

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION – Must have achievable results, an action statement.

3-5 Year Projects

- Advocate for a Parks and Recreation Department
 - Focus on Department Only (separate from community rec center discussion)
- Talking Points for Commissioners to Speak to Council with Assurance and Confidence
- Plan and Develop Footpaths in the Town Center Area
- Construct a Bike/Pedestrian Path Along Kachemak Drive
- Create a long term plan for a multiuse community facility
- Explore the idea of a Recreational Service Area
- Mariner Park Site Improvements – Level parking Area, delineation of Day Use Area and Camping Area, Define and Improve Campsites and relocate Kiosk, increase number of spaces and revenues

1-2 Year Projects

- Develop a Kayak Launch for the Water Trail @ the Pier 1 lot
- Develop and Create a Dog Park
- Diamond Creek Recreational Improvement Plan – Support the plan’s adoption by the City Council.
 - o Next Steps, Trails improvements, Trail head parking lot
- Plan and build Woodard Creek Trail
- Continue work on Karen Hornaday park drainage, the parking lot, and master plan implementation. Immediate goal of completing already funded projects and applying for new funds.
- Increase the city budget for parks and recreation
- Improve pedestrian access to Mariner Park from the Homer Spit Road and the bike path
- Extend the Bike path on Ocean Drive loop to connect to Homer Spit Road (around the bend)
- Create an overall uniform sign design for city parks and recreation areas.
- Review Town Center Plan to Identify Short Term Projects
- Explore what should be done with the HERC building

ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION –Who will do what, when and how?

- Have a committee go to City Council with recommendations, action plan and time frame.
- Every time there is a memo from the Commission to City Council a Commissioner should go to the meeting and speak about it.
- A commissioner should attend every council meeting to speak with council and keep them informed about what they are working on.
- One member of the Commission attend meetings of other user groups – skiing, co-host, etc. Create better working relationship and communication with user groups.
- Educate other city commissions, committees and boards
- Staff to send notice of commission projects

SHARED ACTIONS STAFF/COMMISSION

- Focus and monitor the HNMTP implementation
- Research and create best use plans for all parks, with WKFL being the next park.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL CALENDAR
FOR THE 2013 MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>MEETING DATE</u>	<u>SCHEDULED EVENTS OR AGENDA ITEMS</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY 21, 2013	LAND ALLOCATION PLAN REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL
<input type="checkbox"/> MARCH 21, 2013	APPOINT/VOLUNTEERS TO ATTEND CITY COUNCIL JOINT WORKSESSION ON LAND ALLOCATION PLAN 2012 3/27/12 CEMETERY STATUS REPORT
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL 18, 2013	SELECT SPRING PARK &/ OR BEACH WALK THROUGH
<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 16, 2013	PLANNING PARK DAY OR SIMILAR EVENT SPRING PARK AND/OR BEACHES WALK THROUGH
<input type="checkbox"/> JUNE 20, 2013	COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARK DAY OR SIMILAR EVENT INITIAL BUDGET REVIEW – WHAT DOES THE COMMISSION WANT FOR 2014?
<input type="checkbox"/> JULY 18, 2013	REVIEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PARK DAY BUDGET TALKS
<input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST 15, 2013	BUDGET REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY MANAGER & CITY COUNCIL
<input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER 19, 2013	FALL PARK WALK THROUGH AND BEACH WALK; ELECTIONS; SELECT KHP CLEAN UP DAY
<input type="checkbox"/> OCTOBER 18, 2013	KAREN HORNADAY PARK CLEAN-UP REVIEW AND APPROVE THE 2014 MEETING SCHEDULE
<input type="checkbox"/> NOVEMBER 21, 2013	STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW & PLANNING REVIEW OF KAREN HORNADAY MASTER PLAN & PROGRESS
DECEMBER 2013	NO MEETING SCHEDULED HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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Memorandum

TO: Walt Wrede, City Manager
THROUGH: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
FROM: Julie Engebretsen, Planning Technician
DATE: August 23, 2013
SUBJECT: P&R Commission 2014 budget requests

At the August 15th, 2013 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting, the Commission made the following 2014 budget recommendations:

1. \$25,000 in HART Trails funds for Phase 2 West Homer Elementary School trail. (see attached)
2. More funding for seasonal parks staff to maintain new restrooms.
3. \$50,000 for a Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment (see attached)
4. Funding for Jack Gist Park. (no specific amount)
5. New picnic shelter for Fishing Hole/Pier 1 campground.

Attachments: 2014 budget request sheets

**CITY OF HOMER
DEPARTMENT BUDGET REQUEST
YEAR 2014**

Requesting Department Parks & Recreation Advisory Commi Date 8/22/2013

Level of Need: Urgent Essential Necessary Desirable

Request for Additional Personnel:

Position Title _____
 Salary Range & Step _____
 Full-time
 Part-time Hours Per Year _____

Request Other Than Personnel:

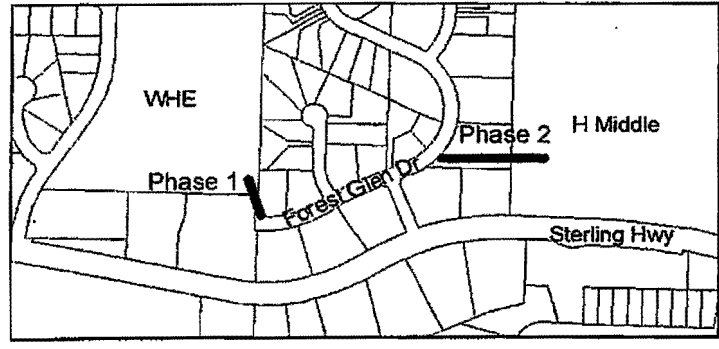
Description Phase 2 West Homer Elementary Trail
 Fund Name: HART Trail Reserves

(FINANCE DEPT WILL COMPLETE)	
5101 Permanent Employees	_____
5102 Fringe Benefits	_____
5103 P/T Employees	_____
5104 Fringe Benefits P/T	_____
5105 Overtime	_____
Total Personnel Cost	_____

Account Name: _____
 Account # 165-375
 Estimated Cost: \$25,000

Justification:

Project will construct a pedestrian trail connecting Forest Glen Drive with Homer Middle School. This will allow shorter and safer pedestrian and bicycle access between the schools, than the Sterling Highway. Phase one has already been constructed between West Homer Elementary School and Forest Glen Dr . Phase 2 includes trail easement acquisition, design and construction, between Forest Glen Drive and the Middle School.



Requestor's Name: Parks & Rec. Commission

Department Head Approval: _____

City Manager Recommendation: _____ Date _____

Approved _____

Denied _____

Comments _____

**CITY OF HOMER
DEPARTMENT BUDGET REQUEST
YEAR 2014**

Requesting Department Parks & Recreation Advisory Commi: Date 8/22/2013

Level of Need: Urgent Essential Necessary Desirable

Request for Additional Personnel:

Position Title _____
 Salary Range & Step _____
 Full-time
 Part-time Hours Per Year _____

Request Other Than Personnel:

Description P&R Needs Assessment

 Fund Name: _____

(FINANCE DEPT WILL COMPLETE)	
5101 Permanent Employees	_____
5102 Fringe Benefits	_____
5103 P/T Employees	_____
5104 Fringe Benefits P/T	_____
5105 Overtime	_____
Total Personnel Cost	_____

Account Name: _____
 Account # _____
 Estimated Cost: \$50,000

Justification:

Funding requested to pay for a Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment. This assessment is critical to identifying what recreational facilities and services the Community thinks are a priority. A P&R master plan would be the next step.

Requestor's Name: Parks & Rec. Commission

Department Head Approval: _____

City Manager Recommendation: _____ Date _____

Approved _____

Denied _____

Comments _____



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

Memorandum

TO: MAYOR WYTHE AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
THROUGH: RENEE KRAUSE, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I
DATE: AUGUST 30, 2013
SUBJECT: AMENDING THE COMMISSION BYLAWS TO ESTABLISH A TIMELIMIT TO MEETINGS

BACKGROUND

At the regular meeting held on June 20, 2013 the commission introduced and discussed establishing a time limit for conducting meetings. The commission again discussed the meeting time limit at the regular meeting on August 15, 2013.

Following is the excerpt from the minutes of the discussion:

B. Changes to Bylaws – Meeting Time Deadlines

Vice Chair Brann introduced the item for discussion and provided a brief explanation on the previous discussion and reasoning for setting a time limitation.

STEFFY/LOWNEY- MOVED TO AMEND THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION BYLAWS, REGULAR MEETINGS, ADDING ITEM 5. MEETINGS WILL ADJOURN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 P.M. AN EXTENSION IS ALLOWED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COMMISSION; WITH THE PROCEDURE AS FOLLOWS: THE CHAIR WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO EXTEND THE MEETING TO A SPECIFIED TIME. AFTER THE MOTION HAS BEEN SECONDED, THE COMMISSION WILL VOTE YES TO EXTEND THE MEETING UNTIL THE SPECIFIED TIME. A NO VOTE WILL REQUIRE THAT THE CHAIR CONCLUDE THE BUSINESS AT OR BEFORE 8:00 P.M. AND IMMEDIATELY PROCEEDS TO COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE, THE COMMISSION AND ADJOURNMENT.

There was a brief discussion on the proposed process.

VOTE. YES. ARCHIBALD, LOWNEY, STEFFY, BRANN

Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION

NO ACTION REQUIRED. INFORMATIONAL IN NATURE.

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 City Clerk
4 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

5
6 **RESOLUTION 13-0XX**

7
8 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER,
9 ALASKA AMENDING THE PARKS AND RECREATION
10 ADVISORY COMMISSION BYLAWS, REGULAR
11 MEETINGS, ESTABLISHING A MEETING TIME LIMIT OF
12 8:00 P.M.

13
14 WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission determined that a time
15 limit on meetings was necessary to encourage public volunteers and retain commissioners; and
16

17 WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission introduced the 8:00 p.m.
18 time limit at the regular meeting on June 20, 2013; and
19

20 WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission voted and approved to
21 amend the bylaws establishing a time limit of 8:00 p.m. at the regular meeting on August 15,
22 2013.

23
24 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Homer City Council hereby amends
25 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Bylaws as shown in Attachment A.
26

27 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Homer, Alaska this 9th day of
28 September, 2013.
29

30 CITY OF HOMER

31
32 _____
33 MARY E WYTHER, MAYOR
34
35

36 _____
37 ATTEST: JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK
38

39 Fiscal Note: NA

CITY OF HOMER
2014 PROPOSED BUDGET DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	EVENT
7/22/2013	6:00 PM	Budget Schedule to Council.
8/5/2013		Submit to departments, budget work sheets including salary and fringe benefit costs.
8/12/2013	5:00 PM	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget priorities for the coming year.
8/12/2013	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting-Public Hearing, Council to seek public input on budget priorities for the coming year.
8/19/2013		Complete budget work sheets, including narratives, and justifications to Finance.
8/26/2013	5:00 PM	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss Revenue Sources for General Fund.
9/2/2013		Compile data and return copy to departments for review.
9/9/2013	Week of	City Manager & Finance Director review budget requests with Department Heads.
9/9/2013		Preliminary budget assumptions to Council.
10/14/2013		City Manager submits Draft Proposed Budget to Council.
10/14/2013	5:00 PM	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget - 1 hour.
10/14/2013	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing.
10/28/2013	5:00 PM	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget - 1 hour
10/28/2013	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting-Budget Ordinance and Fee/Tariff Resolutions Introduced.
11/25/2013	5:00 PM	During Committee of the Whole, Council to discuss budget - 1 hour
11/25/2013	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing.
12/9/2013	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting - Public Hearing & adoption of Proposed Budget.

