

June 10th, 2025

Parks Commission in Attendance: JoAnn, Sarah, Alex, Brad and Chris

Staff in Attendance: Jonn, Bob, and Karl

Call to order: 6:00pm

May minutes passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

Bill Turner and Jim Schaffner were in attendance to speak about the Ace of Hearts Dog Park. The park gets lots of use at all times of the day and some users would like to see various improvements made as well as use of half of the ballfield from Sept-May. Bill would like to form a committee of dog park users to work with the Park Board to come up with a plan for park improvements and create an outline for ideas going forward. They feel it is a great asset to the community but has the potential to be better. Both staff and board members encouraged the group to first meet with staff to find out what the possibilities and limitations are. Bill and Jim stated that they would be back in a couple of months with ideas.

Correspondence and Communication:

Jonn reported that he is working with Samish and Public Works on a new park at the end of U Ave that is a condition of the outfall project. Historically the area was known as Rose Point. It will be a small park but have access to the water for the public.

JoAnn shared that the Forest Board held their annual walk with the Friends Board and public. They walked the Heart Lake parking lot, reviewing the proposed plan and upgrades. Then walked the trail around the lake.

Park Comprehensive Plan:

Staff has been working on the Parks Comprehensive Plan, part of the City wide Comp plan. There are no major changes to the first few chapters in the plan with the policies and goals being similar to the last 20 years. Staff have been working on the "Level of Service" which will guide the Capital Facilities Plan and the Impact Fees collected. Jonn presented both a chart and narrative, including the NRPA average for communities our size.

The State Legislature has passed a new law and requires an update of the Level of Service and Impact Fees. Staff will work with Berk Consultants to update this report.

Chapter 6 lists the inventory of parks and compares that to the NRPA averages as well as what the community as a whole provides.

Chapter 10 covers what the needs are and guides the plan going forward.

The Board reviewed the chart and narratives and gave some feedback. There was discussion on various possibilities and needs. Jonn asked that they continue to submit their ideas and comments on this project.

Department Reports:

Jon reported that the project to fix and restripe the tennis courts at the middle school is currently on hold at the request of the school district. Parks staff are working on the outfall park, the skate park restroom project is moving forward with a CXT unit, the Maritime plaza will go out to bid in September and the West end park is being reworked by the engineer and when complete another public meeting will be held to review the design.

Staff is doing their best to keep up as the crew is down 28% right now.

Karl shared that the Center is very busy right now. Berk has finalized their report and it was presented to Council on May 19th. The next step is for staff to meet with the Foundation in July to plan out the goals. The air conditioning unit is being installed and will be functional within the next 2-3 weeks allowing the Center to be listed as a cooling center.

The Gala was held last weekend and was a great success, raising about \$130,000 for the Foundation. This will be used for larger capital projects at the Center, one of which may be for Karl and Amanda to move out of their office and use that as program space.

Over the Memorial day week and weekend, Karl had the opportunity to visit Washington DC and attend the National Council on Aging conference. This allowed him to network with other Senior Center staff and explore their ideas and challenges.

Upcoming events are the bake sale on the 13th and an end of school event for multigenerations.

Other Business:

None

Adjourned at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Darby Jordan