



PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION

Monday, March 11, 2024 at 4:00 PM

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Jerry Belcher
Commissioner Howard Blumenthal
Vice Chair Scott Jacobson
Commissioner Jacob Woodruff

STAFF PRESENT

Brandon Sundeen, City Council
Melisa Gaelrun-Maggi, Parks Administrative Assistant
Buck Tupper, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor

VISITORS

Nick Hellmich

CALL TO ORDER 4:00pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve February Minutes

**Motion made by Commissioner Woodruff, Seconded by Commissioner Blumenthal.
Voting Yea: Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Blumenthal, Vice Chair Jacobson,
Commissioner Woodruff**

VISITOR COMMENTS: Limited to 3 (three) minutes

Nicholas Hellmich has applied for the Commission and is also an avid disc golfer. He came to mention that hole number nine on the disc golf course at McCormick Park has a tree branch collapsed that is arching over and poses a potential hazard. There is also a tree branch leaning at hole number five. He would be also willing to help maintain the course. Buck believes the tree at hole number nine has been taken care of, and he will investigate the one at number five.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Barlow entered the meeting.

2 - Nob Hill Report – Blumenthal

Blumenthal gave a presentation of the plants and work in Nob Hill nature park over the past year.

OLD BUSINESS

3 - Park litigation - Blumenthal

It is a non-issue by this date due.

Jacobson met with park employees and employees from the St. Helens Senior center about a trail through Heinie Heuman Park or an overlook from the Senior Center. He does not see a good way forward with any plans currently.

Buck Tupper confirmed that there are plans to replace the open ditch with a pipeline in the future.

Jacobson has spent some more time walking and discussing options for the Milton Creek Reserve.

Belcher met with Buck Tupper and spoke about the option of painting the markings for the Urban Trail instead of a cement stamp.

Belcher and Jacobson feel that the "Overlook" area should continue to be brought up even though it might take years to turn it into something.

Belcher feels that there will be unforeseen consequences because of the relationship between the Sand Island LLC and the City. He is concerned about the building of cabins and the buy-out at the end of the contract.

STAFF REPORT

Buck Tupper reports that baseball and softball season are here yet the fields are still wet. Repairs are being made to the field sheds.

The zipline is still down at the playground in McCormick Park. It has failed twice in one year though it should have lasted about ten years. An expert came out and is disappointed at the equipment installation about two years ago including some illegal safety issues that have now been fixed.

Tupper has instituted an equipment safety checklist and two employees have received further equipment training. More wood chips will be brought in next week to put under the playground.

Tupper says he is waiting on the design from Commissioner Lathrope for the Urban Trail marking.

There was a meeting with the Mayor and John Walsh about moving 13 Night on the River to McCormick Park during downtown construction. There are concerns about parking and power that are being addressed.

The next Citizens Day meetings are already underway, and they are looking to get more volunteers instead of relying on city employees to work the event.

Tupper passed around a list of current tasks and repairs that they are working on in the parks for the Commissioners to look over.

COUNCILOR'S REPORT

Councilor Sundeen mentioned that one of the major reasons for moving 13 Nights is not only construction in the park but in the areas around the park.

Sundeen reiterated that the Council is looking for more volunteers for Citizens Day.

He encourages the interview committee to really make sure that the new applicants understand the duties of the Commission since the last three did not stay long.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Jacobson asked if there was an update on the potential sale of the Boise property. Councilor Sundeen says they have more time to respond.

Blumenthal brought up the work party at Nob Hill Park on April 6th.

ADJOURNMENT 4:57pm