

WHITTIER PARKS & REC

REGULAR MEETING

October 13, 2025 5pm

MINUTES

Assign recorder: Jamie Loan

Attendance: Victor Shen, Ben Derting, Jamie Loan, Lonnie, Rachel Swain

Meeting Begins: 6:05pm

New Business

• **Parks**

- Painting planters/barriers: Cam typically paints and plants some of the planters around town. We'd like to help encourage his effort and have a business or family be able to adopt a planter. They could paint it, plant flowers, and maintain it. We could also reach out to some of the artists in Girdwood (like Barb Lydon) that can do tile mosaics for the outside of the planters. We also would like to look into concrete planters.
- Continued Art funding: we would like Chacha to continue painting more mini murals around town. We are thinking a couple more mini murals and maybe each end of the pedestrian tunnel. If she did 4 more mini murals, that would equal \$1,600. We are all in agreement that we would like to add 4 more art pieces this winter.

• **Recreation**

- Kayak/bike racks: both bike and kayak racks have had a lot of use this summer and fall. We are going to ask for 2 more kayak racks to place at the Head of the Bay and Lu Young.
- Winter events/activities: outdoor movie nights, sledding, fires and s'mores, lantern trails, grooming, tree hunt, ice rink, etc. We will set up all of the necessary items so that volunteers can have a "go bag" for short notice.
- Community adult basketball and volleyball games: there seems to be interest in a recreational basketball and volleyball game. We are hoping to have a game sometime in January. Stephanie Burgoon said that she could get someone down to referee. It would be easy to get a waiver and facility use permit for the game. We could also have some of the students run a concession stand.
- Disc Golf: there is a lot of community interest in a 9 basket course. Rob Raincock, a naturalist for Princess Cruises, is really interested in helping spearhead it, so we're hoping he can get his employer to sponsor the course.
- Bright Beaches / Lantern trails: It's getting dark enough that we can do some evening low tide exploring with the lights. Nov 5 and 6 there are

some super low tides around 7pm. We are also thinking about lighting up the connector trail one evening, maybe when the aurora forecast is good.

- **Trails**
 - AHS: Jamie sent in the application and it has been accepted for 2026.
 - Alaska Trail contract crew update: they worked for 3 weeks on the horsetail falls trail, fixing boardwalk and reworking some of the stairs and switchbacks. It looks great!
 - Overland volunteer groups: Victor is willing and able to take 2 separate groups. We will reach out to other community members to see if they could help for a few days or a week. If so, we may be able to accommodate a 3rd group.
 - Trails Plan: working on potential trails—waterfall access, Whittier Glacier overlook, and a path at Lu Young, mountain bike trail behind the Buckner, etc.
 - Winter Trails: grooming
- **Other**
 - Wellness Wednesdays: Jamie has put together another curriculum with worksheets, activities, and guest speakers.
 - Yoga update: fully funded! Jen will be paid \$150 a week to teach a yoga class for the months of november, december, january, and february.
 - End of year wish list:
 - Art scavenger hunt: Aubrey can paint her scavenger shrimp, Jamie is going to reach out to local businesses about more locations.
 - Little libraries: themed little libraries, like a dog stick library, winter sled library, etc.
 - Rachel Swain brought up the idea of getting ice skates for youth and adults. She has gotten some donations and has done some fund raising already. She was wondering if parks and rec could help. Everyone was in consensus on supporting this effort. We will talk with city admin to explore ideas.

Follow up of tasks/to do:

- Victor and Aubrey will resubmit the Lu Young Park design, with photos – In progress
- Story board signs and trail signage, as well as a Seafarer Memorial (Corvus Design): Jamie – In progress
- Walk to Whittier sub committee: Jamie, Ben, Aubrey – In Progress
- Talk to Ports & Harbor/Harbormaster about small single launch kayak infrastructure – in progress
- Talk to Adison (Assistant CM) about an RTP grant for the mountain bike trails – Victor & Jamie – need to do
- Contact Hannah Thompson about invasive plant project, and see if Cam & Scott can help source soil – Completed
- Email Jackie about Shakespeare Beach infrastructure – Jamie
- Make poster and organize trash bash – Aubrey

- Jamie, Aubrey, Jen, meeting with Kris for yoga payment and organization – Jamie. Completed!
- Victor talk with Kris about kayak racks – Victor
- Let Charla and PWS know about trash bash – Victor and Jamie

New Tasks/to do:

-Rachel will get with Cam about the planter initiative

-We need people to follow up with the basketball and volleyball idea to get community members to sign up as a team. Rachel & Jamie

-Victor will contact Rob Raincock about a disc golf course

-Let Charla and PWSSF know about the trash bash info- Victor and Jamie

-Victor will ask about funding for additional kayak racks.

Next meeting date: November 5th

Adjournment: 8:17pm

New section of step and run on Horsetail Falls Trail

Kayak rack in use

Waterfalls in Whittier

