

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2022**

DATE OF MEETING: March 9, 2022
MEMBERS PRESENT: Laci Harrison, Dan Witkowski, Ali Burton, Kathleen Kelleher, Fiona Corner, Nikki Pollock
OTHERS PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Case, Council Liaison Monica Miller and two members from the public
LOCATION: Meeting was held at the Council Conference Room and Remotely

CALL TO ORDER – Commission Chair Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

MEETING MINUTES - The meeting minutes from the February 9, 2022 meeting were approved. *All in favor.*

CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – Scott Kennedy provided an update on the work being done by a group of private citizens wanting to build a new skate park in Ellensburg.

NEW BUSINESS – Commission Appointment Process – Staff reviewed with the Commission a new process for appointing vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.

PROJECT UPDATES

Unity Park – City entered into an agreement with Walker Macy on February 22, 2022 to develop a park master plan for Unity Park. At this time the city is moving forward with the demolition of the old drive thru structure.

Pearl Street Promenade – There has been a lot of community conversation about the potential closure of Pearl Street between 4th & 5th Avenue. Plan is to look at the promenade as a part of the Unity Park planning process but only in terms of how the park and street interface. The Council wants the focus of the Unity Park planning to be on the park and not the promenade idea.

Reed Park – the city has hired a firm to complete the survey work at Reed Park. Upon completion of that work the City will begin park planning.

APRIL MEETING

Staff will be attending the Washington Recreation and Park Association annual conference on April 13th, so the Commission elected to push the meeting date back to April 20th.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

Staff was asked when the parks would open for the season; park restrooms will open March 21st and the front gate at Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park will open April 4th.

STAFF REPORT

1. The running club program has 81 kids signed up. Clinics meet at the EHS and North Alder Street Park. 2. Approximately 130 kids have signed up for the youth co-ed volleyball program. 3. KEEN, in partnership with the City, received \$276,000 in grant funding through the SEEK (Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids Fund) to offer summer day camp programs. 4. Staff

placed temporary signage in parks about the public picking up after their pets. Staff also reached out to a couple of apartment managers requesting that they send out reminders to their tenants about picking up after picking up pet waste. Both managers stated that they already do this on a regular basis. 5. The Downtown Spring Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday April 23rd. 6. Bike ride celebrating Bike Month is scheduled for May 21st, starting in Ellensburg and ending just past the newly refurbished Renslow Trestle. 7. Touch a Truck is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22nd. 8. The City will be following the most updated masking mandates which will not require masking in City facilities. 9. The Whitfield Triangle property surplus will be back in front of Council on April 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.