

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2022**

**DATE OF MEETING:** April 20, 2022  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Laci Harrison, Dan Witkowski, Ali Brown, Ali Burton, Fiona Corner, Nikki Pollock  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Parks & Recreation Director Case, Josephine Camarillo, Library Director & Staff Member to the Ellensburg Arts Commission, Jackie Adams, Commission Applicant  
**LOCATION:** Meeting was held at the Council Chambers and Remotely

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

**MEETING MINUTES -** The meeting minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting were approved with one change reflecting Ali Brown attending the meeting. ***All in favor.***

**INTRODUCTION –** Jackie Adams introduced herself to the Commission stating that she had applied to the serve on the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS – Skate Park Mural Application –** Josephine Camarillo, City staff member for the Arts Commission, provided background information on a mural proposal that went before the Arts Commission in 2018 from Jason Clifton painting a mural at the Ellensburg skate park. Funding in the amount of \$2,500 was approved for the project and Mr. Clifton subsequently painted the mural without going getting approval from the Parks & Recreation Commission or the Ellensburg City Council. In order for the City to release funding for the mural, Mr. Clifton will need to get approval for the mural from the Parks & Recreation Commission and the City Council.

The mural did not approve the mural based on concerns regarding the artist circumventing the public process, mural subject matter, and the concern that the long-term plan for the skatepark is at a different location than the current site. The Commission requested that Mr. Clifton attend the next Commission meeting to address these concerns. ***All in favor.***

**OLD BUSINESS  
PROJECT UPDATES**

**Unity Park & Reed Park Master Plan Stakeholder Appointment –** Stakeholder groups are being put together for the master planning of Unity Park and Reed Park, both efforts will include one member from the Parks & Recreation Commission serving as a stakeholder. Commission Chair Knudson was selected to serve on the Unity Park stakeholders' group and Commissioner Kelleher was selected to serve on the Reed Park stakeholders group.

**Whitfield Triangle & Pearl Street Promenade Update**

Whitfield Triangle – The City Council held a public hearing to surplus the property but decided to send the issue back to staff to explore developing the property through a private/public partnership, options for a local improvement district, and options for surplus with height restrictions.

Pearl Street Promenade – The City Council elected to take the idea of a permanent or seasonal closure of Pearl Street off the table for future consideration and to continue to use the systems in place for temporary street closures.

#### **ITEMS FOR MAY 11, 2022 MEETING**

Continuation of skate park mural project.

#### **COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS**

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

#### **STAFF REPORT**

1. Jack Frost, long time Commission member, passed away April 7<sup>th</sup>. Jack served on the Commission for 11 years. 2. Council held a retreat on April 15<sup>th</sup>, much of which was dedicated to a discussion about parks & recreation and how the city can meet future indoor and outdoor recreational needs of the community. 3. The Downtown Spring Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>. 4. Staff is seeing a significant increase in graffiti in city park facilities. 5. For the first time in three years the City was able to host the flashlight egg hunt at Rotary Park, there was a lot of community at the event. 6. Staff attended the Washington Recreation and Park Association Conference in Bellevue. Lots of new professionals in attendance.

**Meeting adjourned** at 6:45pm.