

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2021 at 3:30 PM**  
**Council Chambers**

**Members in Attendance:**

Susan Jenkins (Chair)  
Cliff Kuhlman (Vice Chair)  
Jan Battersby - Absent  
John Blackett  
Rick Chapman - Absent  
Chad Thorson  
Michael Sellers

**City/Staff/Council Liaisons:**

Joel King (City Councilor)  
Wendy Giordano (Parks Superintendent)  
Ken Garrison (Parks Supervisor) - Absent

**Guests:**

Grant Whipp  
Amanda Sarver  
Dan Miller  
Councilor DeLaGrange

**1. Roll Call:**

- o Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm and roll was taken.

**2. Introductions:**

**3. Public Comment:**

**Amanda Sarver:** She is a coach for HVHS. She stressed the importance of opening the pool as soon as possible. The benefits being that it helps with emotional and mental health issues. Suicide rates are up in teens and young adults. They have the loss of school, prom, graduation, sports, and getting together. School athletes absolutely need the pool. Kids need all of the social support they can get. She gave reasons to keep the pool open and hopes the pool budget doesn't get cut.

**Dan Miller:** As a parent the uptick in teen suicides is terrifying. The pool is something that could bring them together. Kids will lose out on scholarships. He is just asking the City to consider keeping the pool.

- a. Chair Jenkins stated that the pool is in bad need of repair.
- b. Councilor DeLaGrange stated that the pool was one of the items on the chopping block but was not cut. They will try to get it up and running until the City can do more.

**Grant Whipp:** Asked to be put on the Agenda for the Skate Park. He formed "Friends of the Skate Park". It has 40 plus members of all ages. They focus on Advocacy and fund raising. Their immediate goal is the repair of the Skate Park. Their long-term goal is significant expansion. They are asking that the City fund the immediate repairs and their hope is to fund raise to pay 100% of the expansion costs.

**4. Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION/VOTE**

**Member Thorson moved and Vice Chair Kuhlman seconded the motion to approve the minutes from January 14, 2021 as presented. The vote resulted as follows:**

**“AYES”:** Chair Jenkins and Vice Chair Kuhlman. **Members Thorson, Sellers and Blackett. “NAYS”:** None. **Abstain:** None.

**Absent:** Members Battersby and Chapman. **The motion passed.**

**5. Action Items:**

**a. Parks Maintenance Priority List:**

1. Liaison Giordano summarized the Parks maintenance priority list. She explained the list of items that need significant repair. She went over the items that are listed as priority 1, priority 2 and high priority items that have recently been added.
2. Councilor King discussed deferred maintenance. He stated that the City needs to make sure we manage it correctly. His opinion is that deferred maintenance doesn't work very well. He says it is important to have partners. Partners for maintenance partnerships are critical.
3. Member Sellers inquired if the Committee could get dates of when items were added to the maintenance and what is not on the list. This way they can have an idea of how long things take to get taken care of. Wendy stated that she tries to add things as she is aware of them.
4. Member Thorson asked what the maintenance cost would be for all of the assets.

**b. Loveless Park – Rogue Mountain Bike Project:**

1. Member Thorson stated that Loveless Park provides access to bikers of all skill levels and ages. He added that "Dirt Mechanics, Inc." would like to partner with the City to improve Loveless Park (B Street Jumps). He went over the costs for a covered structure. He listed grants that are available. He said the work would take to weeks to complete. We can probably get dirt and supplies donated. They would train volunteers to handle maintenance.
2. Member Sellers stated that as a father of kids who have used this park, he feels that maintenance is crucial.

**MOTION/VOTE**

**Member Sellers moved and Vice Chair Kuhlman seconded the motion to accept the site plan from Dirt Mechanics as presented and the Committee supports the idea of \$10,000 as it supports the partnership between the City and Dirt Mechanics. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Chair Jenkins, Vice Chair Kuhlman, Members Thorson, Blackett, and Sellers. "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent: Chapman and Battersby. Recused: None. The motion passed.**

**c. Park Honor/Dedication Process:**

1. Vice Chair Kuhlman explained that if a park has already been named after somebody it should stay the same. It was to honor them and shouldn't be changed.
2. Chair Jenkins stated that we have people we would like to honor by naming a park, field, dug out, path, etc.... She also mentioned that the City needs a process for this. What would it look like?
3. Liaison Giordano discussed the Resolution. She would like to see people honored while they are still alive.
4. Member Thorson commented that he liked the idea of something subtle, not necessarily renaming an entire park. Maybe instead do a plaque or a memorial or something along those lines.
5. Member Sellers shared that he feels it is ok to name a park after someone, but we need a process.

6. Member Blackett said there are so many people who have dedicated time, money, etc.

**6. Matters from Committee Members and Staff**

- a. Council Liaison King mentioned the need for an updated Master Plan. There is an interest from Council to update.
  1. Liaison Giordano stated that it takes a lot to re do the Master Plan. Maybe we can do an amendment.
  2. Council Liaison King said that Council is looking for a more useful document going forward.

**7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting**

- a. Skate Park Presentation – Mr. Whipp
- b. Parks & Recreation Master Plan update
- c. Park Honor/Dedication process

8. **Adjournment:** Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

**Next scheduled meeting: March 11, 2021**

Minute notes provided by City Staff and minutes prepared by Jayme Hyatt CD (Community Development) Office Assistant.