



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 4, 2021

WEBEX MEETING

12:00 Noon

Members in Attendance: B. Lee, R. Nitschke, B. Combo, M. Hill, R. Foote, T. Hersh, C. White, J. Francis, J. Freeman, R. Casper, R. Campbell, S. Katseanes, P. Holm, T. Reinke, C. Horsley

Members Not In Attendance: P. Lloyd, D. Radford, W. Johnson, D. Pennock

CALL TO ORDER – B. COMBO

B. Combo called the meeting to order at 12:06.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

T. Hersh moved to approve the October 5, and November 2, 2020 minutes. M. Hill seconded. All in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – P. Holm

P. Holm reported on the following:

- The new Parks and Recreation Commission members Renee Foote and Robert Nitschke were introduced.
- The final version of the Idaho Falls Recreation Comprehensive plan was just e-mailed to P. Holm January 4th. He will send it out. He discussed the Parks and Recreation vision and the mission statement; "To Enrich Community".
- Splash Pad Update. The professional service agreement for design and construction of the splash pad was awarded to Stratton and Bratt and approved by City Council in December. The final color and concept designs were decided. We should have a completion by May 31st, 2021.
- Pinecrest Irrigation project update. The irrigation loan was approved by City Council in December. This interdepartmental loan process was explained and the amount we borrowed from the Water Department was \$500,000; the Power Dept. \$500,000; Parks Department \$1,000,000 and the golf MERF account \$1,000,000. We have a ten year pay back schedule on this loan.
- Right siding the Recreation fund was discussed. We are looking to get an increase on the recreation levy. A presentation will be given to City Council by Parks & Recreation. We

will also be looking to add additional revenue from scholarships and grants, as well as looking at raising the fees for programs and facilities especially for non-residents.

- Land and Water Conservation update: We have been meeting with an internal and external group to find ways to mitigate our non-compliance. The planned water tower location will cause further non-compliance however the Public Works Department is behind supporting us to get into compliance. B. Lee met with School District 91 and says there is a desire for collaboration with the City in regards to a parcel of land located at 49th S. and Holmes.
- Mel Erickson bench discussion. P. Holm discussed the large footprint left by former council Mel Erickson in our city. The City Council is proposing collecting donations to install a memorial bench in one of the parks or golf courses. After much discussion, and a generous donation from T. Hersh and Dixie's Diner, it was decided to table this topic until May to see the amount of donations collected in that time and then decide how to move forward.
- War Bonnet update. We are just about finished collecting the signed contracts from our stock contractor, veterinarian, sound producers, etc. and then we will get them to the Mayor for approval.

Staff and Committee reports

T. Reinke – Golf operations Manager

T. Reinke reported on the following:

- T. Reinke reported on the 2020 revenue from passes, green fees, golf cart rentals, and merchandise and state of the courses during the pandemic.
- He discussed the golf irrigation project, and his thoughts of how to complete the project with minimal disruptions for the customers.

R. Campbell – Parks Superintendent

R. Campbell reported on the following:

He updated the commission on tasks being completed during December including:

- Snow removal which not only includes parks and pathways but also city owned sidewalks and parking lots.
- Tree trimming
- Downtown Christmas lights on greenbelt and at Sportsman's Park
- Restroom repairs (we have 14 open in the winter)
- Repairing the deck on the west bank of the river by the falls
- Outdoor Ice ponds constructed and opened.
- Cross country trails have been groomed.
- Cemetery operations including burials and the planned Rosehill road improvements.

C. Horsley – Recreation Superintendent

C. Horsley reported on the following:

- Winter programs continue to move forward. We keep reviewing and adjusting protocols to make sure programs are safe and successful.
- Basketball leagues will kick off the first week of January. The governor's office released new guide lines regarding high school sports protocol and we are reviewing it to see if it affects our spectator protocols.
- The air filtration systems have been installed in the ice arena but they still need sealed.
- A mold study was done at Aquatic Center and the results show there are no concerns.

S. Katseanes – (on behalf of D. Pennock)

S. Katseanes reported on the following:

- The zoo is working on reorganization. Tim McCammon will now be a facilities manager and Sunny Katseanes will take on the role of public engagement curator, and head of guest services along with her current duties.
- The zoo is working on expanding their season.
- They are writing their first NSF Grant.
- They have a New Point of Sale system that they will be bringing on-line.
- Marvin the popular Red Panda will be back this spring with a lady friend.
- The zoo camel is expecting.

Motion to adjourn made by B. Nitschke, B. Lee seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:29 PM.

Next meeting will be held February 1, 2021.

*Recorded by:
Tracy Sessions, Clerk, Parks & Recreation*