

WRANGELL PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MAY 3RD, 2023  
5:30 P.M. ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Absent:

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes attached from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE:

PERSON'S TO BE HEARD:

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: See attached.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and planning for spring outdoor work events.
  - a. Community Collaborations, scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - b. Dog Waste Outreach
  - c. Helping Our Parks: June
  - d. Adopt A Garden

NEW BUSINESS

A.

CLOSING

- A. Next Agenda Items:
  - a. Aquatics Facility Operating Policies & Procedures
  - b. FY24 Budget
- B. Adjourn meeting.



# Wrangell Parks & Recreation

## Director's Report

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

### **EMPLOYEE UPDATES & TRAINING**

Recreation & Aquatics Coordinator

Parks Maintenance Positions

Lifeguards & Recreation Assistants

Lifeguard Training & Instructor Training: Devyn & Lucy – PSG training complete

### **CURRENT RECREATION & AQUATICS ACTIVITIES**

Wrangell Swim Club

Alaska Recreation & Parks Association Conference

Summer Sports Camps

Walk Southeast

Pickleball

Yoga Class

Arthritis Class – land based

Jiu Jitsu

Swim Lessons & Swim Camps

Mushroom Foraging

GORUCK Hiking Club

### **PROJECTS & EVENTS**

P&R Capital Projects Update

Surplus & Community Center Clean-Up

Community Collaborations Downtown Clean-Up



# Wrangell Parks & Recreation

## Director's Report

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

### P&R Capital Projects:

#### Non-Motorized Transportation System (Mt. Dewey Trail Extension)

Funding for this project comes from the Federal Highway Administration, FLAP program, in the amount of \$904,768. The balance of the project funding will be provided through a combination of cash match and in-kind project administration and management labor.

95% design review comments were returned to the engineers in early March. A modification to the US Army Corps permit is being sought due to DOT requiring the parking lot to be pushed away from within the edge of the ROW. Once the permitting concerns are fully addressed, we will be ready to issue construction bidding documents.

#### Swimming Pool Exterior Siding Improvements

Funding for this project has been allocated in the amount of \$175,000 from the Local Government Lost Revenue Relief Grant.

The Borough is proceeding with replacement of the pool building exterior siding for the entire building, as opposed to an initial partial replacement scope of work for the project. The architect has been given direction to proceed accordingly toward the 100% design. Once complete, the project will be released for construction bidding.

A budget amendment will be before the Assembly on April 11th, requesting additional funding anticipated for the full project.

#### Pool Leak Repair

Repair materials have been received and delivered to the pool. White Enterprises started the work on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### Pool HAVC and DDC Upgrades

Funding for this project is from the Community Development Block Grant – COVID (CDBG-CV) in the amount of \$806,000. There is no match requirement for this grant.

The temperature control upgrades portion of this project just reached design completion and is under review. Parts have been ordered and a schedule is being developed.

The mechanical components portion of this project is nearing field implementation. Materials are being received in Wrangell, and the work began on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### City Park Fireplace Replacement

The project is under design. After completing an as built of the structure with a review by structural and architectural disciplines, it is recommended that the project be approached with split construction



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tasks. Task 1 would be to demolish the fire pit and chimney, complete with shoring of the structure, as the engineers indicate they need a full understanding of the construction of the tie-in of the steel framing members and the chimney collar. Task 2 would be to reconstruct the fire pit and chimney similar to the existing, except replacing the stone-clad chimney with a Corten-type steel construction.

The engineer anticipates having a specification for the demolish to us soon for competitive bidding for Task 1.

### **Skeet Range Improvements, Phase II**

A successful application was made to the ADF&G Hunter Access Grant Program for grant funding for the next phase of the Skeet Range facility improvements. We were anticipating receipt of a formal award by March 2023; however, Fish & Game has not received the award letter from Fish and Wildlife Service for the project yet. As required by the anticipated grant agreement, a 10% match contribution is planned to be requested for this project in the FY24 capital budget.

**Surplus & Community Center Clean-Up:** Community center clean-up project, which includes sorting, organizing, and categorizing surplus items, is underway. Jamie Roberts is tackling this project. A Surplus site upload will begin once all supplies and equipment have been properly sorted. This project is long overdue, with items from the old museum on hand. The museum staff is helping to sort the items that belong to the museum. Our end goal: to ensure proper inventory, organized storage, and more space for future activities. It is likely that this project will be completed by fall 2024, with an outline for a future surplus system.

**Recreation & Aquatics:** Current programming includes Pickleball, Yoga, Jiu Jitsu, , land-based Arthritis Class, Weight Room, Cardio & Wallyball/Racquetball.

*Youth Dance Class Summary:* Tory Houser and Brooke Leslie wrapped up the Youth Dance Class with a dance expo finale, hosted at the Evergreen Elementary School. The class was a fantastic success, with close to 60 tiny dancers joining in. Next season, we plan to offer adjustable dance bars, mirrors for technique cues, and a sound system. This class is a town favorite. We would like to see it continue and flourish.

*Community Center Hours Summary:* This trial run proved to be a success – offering a warm, dry space for people of all ages, bolstering social connection, and demonstrating a solid need for this space to be put to good use throughout the winter months. Our team will work hard to create a volunteer team in the hopes that we build the community center into a true center for all things recreation.

*Wrestling Camp:* Coming in July! P&R will help to coordinate a Wrestling Camp in Mid-July, collaborating with coach Jack Carney. Jack has connected with wrestling coach, Mike Bundy. The four-day camp will be offered at the community center gym, while also utilizing the multi-purpose room and kitchen. The K-12 age range will offer up a fantastic opportunity for Wrangell's youth. More information will be made available as we continue with the planning process. The camp will be funded by the Health & Equity Grant.



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*Collaborative Efforts:* Throughout the summer months, the P&R team will work hard to coordinate Youth Sports Camps, Walk Southeast, a GORUCK Hiking Club, Swim Camps & Lessons, a Wilderness Skills Course, a Mushroom Foraging Group, Sandpit Volleyball, Outdoor Pickleball, Music in the Parks, Disc Golf Tournament, Tiny Garden Project and various community activities.

*Annual Health Fair Summary:* Devyn and Lucy spent time engaging with community members and hosting a plank contest. The plank contest participants were entered into a drawing for a 1-month P&R pass and a Hydro-Flask water bottle, donated by 56North. During next year's HF, we plan to offer up full schedules, encourage Wrangellites to become members and engage future volunteers.

*The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk Southeast Challenge* has started! with registration available through May 7<sup>th</sup>. This challenge is hosted by Juneau Parks & Recreation. Participants will track how far they walk, run or hike, May 1st through September 1st on the MILEAGE TRACKER provided. Alaska Airlines donates to this challenge, providing two round trip tickets for a door prize drawing, available to all registered participants. Please join us!

*Wrangell Real Estate hosted an EGG HUNT*, located on the Nature Trail, on April 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. The eggs were filled with prizes. Kathleen Harding hid the eggs and posted to social media to inform the community. The P&R team shared the activity information and helped to clean up some of the left-over goodies. Local engagement was high, and folks seemed to enjoy it.

### **EMPLOYEE UPDATES & TRAINING**

Petersburg Parks & Recreation hosted a Lifeguard Instructor Training Course on April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. Lucy Robinson and Devyn Johnson traveled to Petersburg to obtain the LGI certification, and Lucy certified Devyn for the Lifeguard Course. This was a great way for both Lucy and Devyn to work with the P&R team in Petersburg, obtain certification and ensure that we can train our team - once the pool is ready for swimmers.

**Parks:** We have hired Erik Scheib for the Parks Maintenance lead position. Erik is currently living in Washington State. He has extensive experience in landscaping, light maintenance and job site leadership. He is contracted as a baseball coach through May 1<sup>st</sup> but plans to be in Wrangell shortly after, with his wife and three children.

Mad Hesler has joined the P&R team for office assistant support, and parks clean-up. She will be a fantastic resource throughout the summer months. We will continue to recruit for a secondary parks maintenance position.

Lane has opened all park bathrooms. He dealt with a few maintenance issues, but all is in order. We will coordinate with the Public Works Department to open the downtown bathrooms and the bathrooms located at Petroglyph Beach within the next week.

There are two applicants for the Parks Maintenance Position II. Interviews will be conducted throughout the next week. The P&R advisory board will be updated.



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We have three new lifeguard candidates that we look forward to training. Theoretical, class-room based training can begin, with the in-water rescue skills tackled when the pool is full. The P&R advisory board will be updated.

**Community Clean-Up:** CBW directors continue to plan for the upcoming collaborative clean-up event, which will involve all City Departments. The Parks & Recreation crew will play a crucial role in the clean-up, and hope to rally as much volunteer help as possible. The City crew will begin clean-up measures on Thursday (5/11) afternoon, with the community & City efforts combining on May 12<sup>th</sup>! J&W's will offer up food vouchers for those that volunteer for this event. The central location will be hosted at the downtown pavilion. P&R will offer basic tools and supplies. Devyn is working with a donor to purchase snacks and refreshments. We look forward to the collaborative effort!

**Adopt a Garden Bed:** P&R creates guidelines, flyers & marketing, outlining the adoption process. Adoptive parents provide care and maintenance throughout the spring, summer and early fall. This is a concept that needs more creative thought process. Ideas are welcome.











WARRHOLES SWIMMING  
WIMS  
OCEAN MOUNTAIN SWIMMING

5'-0"

9'-6"

12'-0"

12'-6"

13'-0"

12'-6"

12'-6"

12'-0"

AQUAFINA

