



**City of Unalaska | Department of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2024**

Members present: Thomas Roufos, Greg Peters, Ben Knowles, Jill Spetz, Noel Rea, Ryan Humphries

The Parks, Culture and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on April 15, 2024, in the conference room at PCR

Recognized visitors to the meeting, Jolene Longo, and Jeff Milkes

The Advisory Board reviewed the minutes of March 18, and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

New Business

The Advisory Board met over Teams with Jeff Milkes of Berry Dunn to go over the results of their visit to Unalaska. See attached Power Point.

Jolene Longo, made a presentation on the Kelty field improvements. The second grass seeding will be completed this spring, with league play starting by August. The soccer equipment has arrived and is at Kelty Field. Also, with the purchase of the soccer equipment we also received a Black Stone Grill that will also be used for events at the park.

Roger reviewed the Departments plans for the pool improvements. A liner has been suggested by maintenance. We know the school boilers will not arrive in time for installation before school starts. So, the pool repairs will need to be done before then. PCR is looking for quotes before a final decision is made.

Old Business

The Social District came up again and it was agreed that Roger and Thomas would work on a letter or a memo to the Mayor and Council. We need to have a clear direction and a way to move forward. Meeting with the police and fire and city management need to happen. The PCR Board made a motion by Ben, and seconded by Noel, to move forward with the social district and look at changing the current City Code if necessary. Motion passed 6-0.

Committee Members Comments

Noel, asked for more towels in the pool, or at lease a better system of getting them to people as they enter the facility.

Jill wanted gym mats cleaned better in the gym at PCR.

Next meeting is May 20, 2024

Adjournment at 6:40 p.m.



Unalaska Parks, Culture and Recreation Master Plan

PCR Advisory Board Update



*Contributing landscape architecture
and conceptual costing*



*Contributing statistically valid survey
design and implementation*

April 15, 2024

What is a Master Plan and Why Do You Need One?

- A guiding document to help identify the level of service for parks and recreation in Unalaska
- A process that helps to identify gaps in service and a way to prioritize needed services
- A document that outline priorities for capital (larger) projects and needs
- A master plan is a best practice for all parks and recreation agencies



Vision for the Unalaska Parks and Recreation Master Plan

- A plan that recognizes the role parks and recreation provides in quality of life and as an economic driver in the City of Unalaska
- A plan that helps to support great parks, programs and facilities that can help recruit and attract a well qualified work force to Unalaska





Engagement Summary – a Multimodal Approach

Engagement Participation

- Focus Group and Stakeholder Interviews (70 community members)
- Library and PCR Advisory Boards
- Educators
- Public Safety
- Seniors
- Teen Council
- City Leadership
- Community Members
- PCR Staff



Engagement Participation

- Intercept Events
 - Spring Festival 134 people
 - Open House – 75 people
 - Visits were made to the Unalaska City High School, the Senior Center and swim meet to talk with community members



Strengths of the Parks, Culture and Recreation Program

- Special events
- Library building & usage
- Longevity of events
- PCR – well used and well designed
- Aquatics center & swim lessons



Greatest Challenges for the Department

- Resource and staff availability
- Logistics of providing services in a remote location
- Future health of the fishing industry
- Capacity of community member leisure time
- Weather patterns impacting outdoor participation



Areas of Improvement for the Parks, Culture and Recreation Program

- Preference for another indoor facility (turf soccer, roller hockey, soccer, gymnastics, indoor playground, etc.)
- Better sports fields
- Better spectator seating for swim meets
- Renovation of the aquatic center. It is fantastic – but aging
- Need for more skilled instructors: can't get “off island” staff, traveling artists, leads to inconsistent service



Priorities for the Parks, Culture and Recreation Program

- Improved playgrounds
- Updated Aquatic Center
- A new indoor facility
- Community greenhouse
- Covered activity spaces
- Hockey opportunities
- Address dog concerns in the parks
- Additional program focus for Teens 14-18
- Lending opportunities
- Walking trails and paths



Intercept Events

Spring Festival Event - April 6, 2024

Average Priority among 16 Choices (134 community members)

New Playground at the Eagle Elementary School	10.0
Indoor Sports Facility	9.0
Outdoor Winter Activities	8.6
Tool Lending Library	8.0
Recreation Equipment Rental	7.6
Indoor Batting Cage	7.3
Climbing Walls	7.1
Hockey Rink	6.9
Walking Loops or New Paths in Parks	6.7
Dog Park	6.2
Pump Track	5.9
Community Greenhouse	5.2
New Restrooms in Parks	3.9
E-Sports	3.8
Cultural Events and Activities	3.3
Improved Trailheads	2.4



Intercept Events

Community Open House – April 5, 2024
Average Priority among 16 Choices (59 community members)

Hockey Rink	6.3
Indoor Sports Facility	5.8
Indoor Batting Cage	3.7
Pump Track	3.4
Climbing Walls	3.2
Outdoor Winter Activities	3.1
Recreation Equipment Rental	3.0
E-Sports	2.7
New Restrooms in Parks	2.4
New Playground at the Eagle Elementary School	2.4
Walking Loops or New Paths in Parks	2.2
Tool Lending Library	2.0
Community Greenhouse	1.9
Improved Trailheads	1.9
Dog Park	0.1
Cultural Events and Activities	0.1



Project Timeline



February 2024 to February 2025



Next Steps – Master Plan

- Community profile – Anticipated May
- Parks level of service and gaps analysis – Inventory complete
- Teen specific survey (survey monkey) – Available in April
- Social pinpoint online engagement (Launch in April)
- Statistically valid survey (Launch in May)
- Maintenance and operations analysis (June)
- Organizational and financial analysis (June)
- Visioning workshop and “Findings” (August)
- Draft plan with recommendations, cost estimates, and community review (TBD)
- Final master plan (TBD)



Questions and Discussion

Contact Information

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