

## October 17, 2019 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

**Commission members present:** Tex Blankenburg, Cy Field, Johannes Krieger, Margaret Payne, and Bill Scherer.

**Excused absences:** Barbara Fulton, Heather Oaksen.

**Staff present:** Dona Wuthnow, Kathryn Hansen.

**Guests:** None.

Chair Bill Scherer called the meeting to order at 8:43am in the Parks & Fair meeting room.

**Approval of agenda:** The agenda was approved with no changes.

**Approval of minutes:** The Commission discussed minutes of the September regular meeting. Changes were suggested for the Continued 2020-2021 Budget & Financial discussion.

**MOTION:** Tex Blankenburg made a motion to authorize the Chair to approve the September minutes as amended, once submitted by Administration staff. Margaret Payne seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0-0.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Chair's Message.** None.

**Council Liaison's Message.** None.

**Open Forum.** Bill inquired about impacts of proposed changes to the department's administrative scope of work in the 2020 budget. Dona provided a brief history of the department's structure, staffing and breadth of work, explaining the long road to building a well-funded professional organization. Discussion followed about the levy, repairs & maintenance, and managing the priority of our projects when they are managed by other departments.

### **Financial Report.**

- 2019 Budget status. Year to date, Odlin revenues are up over 2018 figures by 17.5% (more than the 7% fee increase in 2019). Shaw's increase of 7% is on par with 2018. While San Juan Park's camping is solid, commercial use is only 61% of 2018 and 48.6% of budget.
- Preview Department budget presentation. Dona shared her draft presentation with the Commission and took member input. Ideas to increase revenues and decrease costs were shared.

### **Director's Report.**

- Capital project updates. Dona reported that the Eastsound Village Green playground should begin soon. A contractor has been selected and permitting is in process. Dan Burke, from Rock Island, is excited about the project and is reaching out to prospective donors to help raise the additional funding necessary to build the full design.
- ESVG Stage windscreen. Mark Mayer will build this enhancement and is sourcing the lumber.



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**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

- ESVG Play Area update. Covered above in Capital project updates.
- Annual Report to the council. Bill will send his preliminary draft to members.
- Tourism Study – residents & business preliminary results. Dona conveyed that residents and businesses have responded in very similar ways as each other and as tourists did in the earlier study. She will share more information at the November meeting

**Announcements:** November meeting will include annual joint meeting with the Fair Board.

**Adjourned:** 11:11am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Hansen  
Recording Secretary

*These minutes were approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission at their regular November 14, 2019 meeting in Friday Harbor.*