



Spokane County

PARKS, RECREATION AND GOLF
Doug Chase, Director

DRAFT MINUTES

SPOKANE COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

Regular Meeting

May 8th, 2024 at 8:00 AM

404 N Havana

Present: Kaitlin Erickson, Tom Mackenzie, Mel Fowler, Eric Sawyer, Curt Chambers, Dave Schaub
Doug Kelly and Eric Johnson.

I. Call Meeting to Order (Chair, Dave Schaub) – 8:07 am

- Additions to the Agenda.
 - a. Doug Kelly adds City of Spokane items to agenda.
 - i. Golf rounds are up for the City of Spokane.
 - ii. Qualchan had a pipe break by the restaurant side of the clubhouse. They will be working on this. What do we have for cold weather procedures?
 - 1. Doug Chase: We keep Latah Creek warm during the winter months. They are open during the winter.
 - 2. To help avoid pipes breaking, the clubhouses are maintained at about 55 degrees during cold weather conditions. We maintain this at Liberty Lake and Meadow Wood Golf courses.
- Review and consider PAC minutes from the January 31st, 2024, meeting.
 - a. Mel Fowler made motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Everyone unanimously approved.

II. Member's Report (Chair, Dave Schaub) – 8:15am

- Park Advisory Committee Members are encouraged to provide a brief report.
 - Eric Sawyer: Glenrose updates. There is beautiful scenery here. People being respectful and using the area.
 - Dave Schaub: Is there an active partnership for building a new trail route within the Glenrose unit with the Spokane Mountaineers or Dishman Hills Conservancy?
 - Curt Chambers noted, no such trail project at this time, however staff is currently working on a forestry grant through the Department of Natural Resources to address a 25 acre site within the Glenrose Unit. More to come on this when finalized.
 - Trail cameras: Working with Netgear to fix the problem with the offline cameras. They have been not working. Almost all the cameras are not working due to complete battery failure resulting from winter freeze temps of record lows of negative 15 degrees. Although hard-wired in with permanent power supply unit must pull power through battery. IT is looking at a more permanent solution for this issue.
 - Doug Kelly: Slavin Conservation Area is very busy. These cameras would help in seeing how busy each trailhead would be. This would also help with security.

- Mel Fowler asked about equestrian regulations. Do we have any in place to encourage cleanup of animal waste? Staff will look into this.
- Doug Chase: There are two positions open in the Parks department. Parks Project Manager – Landscape Architect. This would replace Jamie Kelly’s position. The other open position is Park Planning and Land Acquisition Administrator.
 - Jamie Kelly accepted a position with Turner and Townsend Heery. Julie Neff is planning to stay until end of May 2024 which will be extremely helpful during this transition period.

III. Intro for Julia Culp (Project Manager - Landscape Architect) – 8:20am

Spokane County Parks is pleased to welcome Julia Culp, Landscape Architect to team Parks, Rec and Golf! Julia has 15+ years experience working on notable projects in our region such as the Ice Age Playground located in the City of Spokane’s infamous River Front Park. Julia is off to an amazing start taking on management and oversight of numerous active construction projects. Julie Neff is assisting with Julia’s onboarding. Welcome Julia!

V. Tour of Avista Stadium (Doug Chase & Chris Duff) - 8:33am

Tour commenced at 8:35am and concluded at 9:35am. The tour was fabulous!

VI. Action Items:

- A. No action items for this meeting.

VII. Written Department Update (Misc. 0-15 minutes) – 8:25 am

Time allotted for Questions/Clarification Advisory Committee Members may have associated with the “written departmental update”.

- **Golf Advisory Committee (GAC) “PAC Liaison Member” Term:** Eric Swayer’s term for the GAC will be up after a 2-year term. Please apply if you are still interested. Serve a liaison for the committee. Doug Kelly is now serving on the City of Spokane’s Golf committee.
 - Mr. Chase encouraged PAC members interested in serving a rotation in this role to please send him an email. The GAC will review and select a member to serve this next term. Historically, the committee has tried to provide various interested parties an opportunity to serve (rotation).
- **Liberty Lake Construction Delay:** A disgruntled company that bid on the project but would not have been awarded the work, delayed construction via legal dispute that was ultimately resolved in the County’s Favor.
 - Construction was a delayed for approximately 2 months. We are now working with construction and continuing with this project with the appropriate qualified low-bidder JR Construction. We are working with the “Grants” division to try and keep this work on track. The Grants division is delaying multiple contracts, e.g. 3rd party geo-tec inspections which continues to impede this project and several others.
- **Revenue impacts at Liberty Lake Regional Park resulting from delay:** The Park will now be closed to day use parking for the 2024 Summer Season which will result in reduced revenue collections. To help offset these impacts we are scaling some of the staffing back. The beach area will be closed for a couple of months, possibly reopening in mid-July. The County is putting up signs and making sure there is lots of communication there.
 - Further news coverage.
 - Lots of information on our website.

- Inlander would like to do an article about current projects with the County.

Next Regular Meeting: DATE; **Location:** 404 N Havana, contingent upon COVID-19 sanctions.

***Purpose:** The purpose of the Parks Advisory Committee, (PAC) referred to, as the “Park Board” is to make recommendations to and advise the Parks and Recreation Director on matters concerning the operation and maintenance of the Spokane County Park system.*

Spokane County Parks and Recreation Mission Statement

“The mission of the Parks, Recreation and Golf Department is to enhance the general quality of life for the residents of Spokane County by providing the highest quality and quantity of parks, recreation, open space, and related cultural opportunities given the available resources.”

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: Spokane County is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs, and services for persons with disabilities. The Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf Conference Room is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Ashley Cameron at (509) 477-2122 (TDD), 824 North Adams Street, Spokane, WA, 99260; or acameron@spokanecounty.org. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.