



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING**

October 23, 2024

The October 23, 2024, meeting was held in person at the Spenard Community Recreation Center. Due to technical difficulties, no recording of the meeting was saved.

CALL TO ORDER

The October 23, 2024, special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Brian Looney at **6:03 p.m.**

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present:

- Commissioner Edwin Blair
- Commissioner Rob Earl
- Commissioner Andrew Kastning
- Commissioner Brian Looney
- Commissioner Mary Vollendorf
- Commissioner Scott Wamsganz

A quorum was achieved with **six** members present.

Staff present:

- Mike Braniff
- Taylor Keegan
- Shanna Gamble
- Brandon Haslett
- Ellen Devine

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion duly made by **Commissioner Vollendorf** and seconded by **Commissioner Wamsganz**, the Agenda for the October 23, 2024, meeting was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS

PRC 24-06: PRC 24-13 Bartlett Municipal Pool Diving Boards PRC Resolution 2024-13

Presented by Mike Braniff with a report provided by Councilman Hunsaker a subcontractor of Bettisworth North

Mike Braniff provided background information regarding the Bartlett diving boards. In 2022, the Dimond Alumni Association procured a State Legislative grant of \$588K to replace diving boards at six pools in the Municipality of Anchorage. Many of the boards were 30+ years old and ready for replacement. In 2023, the MOA entered into an agreement with the Dimond Alumni Association in which they would manage the board replacement project.

Since the replacement, safety questions have arisen based on distances between diving boards and starting blocks as well as accessibility concerns. To address concerns a firm specializing in the architecture/engineering of swimming pools was contracted to do a safety assessment.

Representatives from Councilman Hunsaker followed up Mr. Braniff's introduction by providing an overview of their findings. Reporting that the while the clearance between starting blocks and diving stands is different and atypical of industry standards, no code requirements exist regarding clearances around starting blocks. They reported that while the installation is unorthodox, the new diving boards do not pose a hazard.

Public testimony was then provided by 24 members of the public including those from both the swimming and diving community.

After discussion, Commissioners decided to leave boards as is.

Upon motion duly made by **Commissioner Vollendorf** and seconded by **Commissioner Kastning**, a resolution to keep the diving boards "as is" was made and approved by a majority of present members.

UPCOMING MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at the Spenard Community Recreation Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by **Commissioner Blair** seconded by **Commissioner Vollendorf**

and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at **8:53 p.m.**

MINUTES APPROVED this ___ day of _____, 2024:

Brian Looney, Chair
Parks & Recreation Commission

Mike Braniff, Director
Parks & Recreation

