



Spokane County

PARKS, RECREATION AND GOLF
Doug Chase, Director

MEETING MINUTES
SPOKANE COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)
TEAMs Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 8:00 AM

Present:, Tom MacKenzie, Dave Schaub, Eric Johnson, Mel Fowler (Via phone)

Not Present: Doug Kelley, Eric Sawyer – Chair

Staff: Doug Chase – Director, Paul Knowles, Curt Chambers, Aysha Al-Hafian

I. Call Meeting to Order (*Doug Chase*) (8:04)

A. Additions to the Agenda

None.

B. Review and consider PAC minutes from December 8, 2021 meeting

Motion to Approve- Mr. Mackenzie.

2nd by Ms. Fowler.

Unanimously approved.

II. Guest Presentation: Chris Duff, President, Spokane Indians Baseball (20-30-minute presentation followed by 10-15 minute Q & A)

1. Chris will provide an overview of (SIB) operations, including relationship with Spokane County, Major League Baseball, significant projects in the works and looking ahead.

Presentation Postponed - Rescheduled for next PAC Meeting.

II. Member's Report: (Chair, Eric Sawyer):

Park Advisory Committee Members are encouraged to provide a brief report.

Ms. Fowler chatted with Bessie (with Spokane Valley Junior Soccer Association) regarding Plante's Ferry softball programming. They discussed how Ms. Fowler can liaison for Bessie once programming begins.

Mr. Schaub mentioned that conservation future advocates should look into backing a piece of legislation called House Bill 1672. This bill would clarify and exempt the Conservation Futures Property Tax Levy from the 1% levy lid. Mr. Schaub encouraged members to reach out to representatives to support House Bill 1672.

Mr. Schaub also thanked Mr. Chase for incorporating the PAC's recommendations regarding the meeting agenda and format. Mr. Schaub is looking forward to seeing Mr. Duff's presentation.

Mr. Johnson had nothing to report.

IV. Director's Report: (*Doug Chase*):

- A.** Spokane County Organizational Changes for 2022 (5-10 minutes)

Mr. Chase mentioned that towards mid-December, there was a department head meeting. The county's CEO has been with Spokane County for about eight months and he has made some observations regarding the county's organizational structure. He noticed a lack of clarity on reporting, as there are many department heads (roughly 45) reporting directly to the CEO. The goals he has laid out intend to condense and better organize the county's operations.

The Parks Director will continue to report directly to the CEO, as we are very public-facing and visible. However, the Fair & Expo Department Head will now be reporting to the Parks Director.

Mr. Schaub asked if taking on Fair and Expo feels manageable to Mr. Chase. With increased responsibility comes an increased budget and responsibilities. Mr. Chase replied that there have not been discussions related to either. It will play itself out over time as we see what is involved. Mr. Chase enjoyed his first meeting with the Fair & Expo Director this week and believes that they kicked off the new relationship in a good way. There will likely be opportunities for additional responsibility for Mr. Chambers and Mr. Knowles. Mr. Chase looks forward to finding ways to be helpful to the Fair & Expo Director, Ms. Gurtel.

V. Written Department Update: (Misc. 0-15 minutes) Time allotted for Questions/Clarification Advisory Committee Members may have associated with the "written departmental update".

There were no questions about the written report.

The Department is still trying to fill in Mr. Krohn's position. Some changes are being made to the classification with hopes of attracting some good candidates.

Meeting ends at 8:21

Next Regular Meeting: February 9, 2022; **Location:** 404 N Havana Street, 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.