

A. CALL TO ORDER

A special joint meeting of the Palmer City Council and Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board was held on February 13, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following were present:

Edna DeVries, Mayor	Richard Best, Deputy Mayor
Steve Carrington	Sabrena Combs
David Fuller	Brad Hanson
Peter LaFrance	

Comprising a quorum of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board, the following were present:

Stephanie Allen, Chair	Shannon Connelly, Vice Chair
Meggie Aube-Trammell	Jo Ehmann
David Dodd	Sally Pollen

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board Member Wesley Rath was absent and excused.

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager	Michael Gatti, City Attorney
Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk	

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor DeVries requested approval of the Agenda. Hearing no objection from the Council and Board concerning the agenda, the agenda was approved.

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Douglas Cruthers expressed concern that city parks are becoming deficient and no longer user friendly to the entire community. He encouraged the Council to budget and invest in improving the parks. Mr. Cruthers also asked when the borough was going to transfer the park to the city.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Committee of the Whole (note: action may be taken by the council following the committee of the whole)
 - a. Parks Assessment Discussion
 - b. Other Matters Related to Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources

Main Motion: For City Council to Enter into a Committee of the Whole

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Carrington
Action:	Motion carried
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, Hanson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

Main Motion: For the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board to Enter into a Committee of the Whole

Moved by:	Meggie Aube-Tramell
Seconded by:	Dodd
Action:	Motion carried
In favor:	Allen, Aube-Tramell, Connelly, Ehmann, Dodd, Pollen
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Rath

The City Council and Park, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board (Board) entered into a Committee of the Whole at 6:13 p.m.

a. Parks Assessment Discussion

Items of discussion included the following:

- Board Chair summarized the goals in the Strategy;
- Council requested the Board prioritize the goals for funding purposes and provide one or two to focus on;
- Including in an assessment the varied needs of all ages in the community, trail connectivity throughout the city, improvements on current dilapidated parks, enhancement to finish the arboretum project, and improvements to Amusement Park; and
- Creation of a conceptualized purpose for the quad.

b. Other Matters Related to Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources

Chair Allen announced there had been many projects the Board worked on and some completed, which include, but were not limited to, the arboretum, bike racks, and a donation policy. Focus for the next year will be an adopt a park/trail program and to strengthen relationships with the community and community groups to be partners with the city to bring parks and trails in good condition.

The Council and Board exited the Committee of the Whole and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:48 p.m.

G. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

None

H. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

I. COUNCIL AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Best assured the board members that their efforts were not in vain and park projects are being worked on when funding is available; and some projects have been accomplished. He expressed his appreciation for all their hard work and stated they are going in the right direction.

Board Member Pollen said she appreciated the participation with development and improvement of city parks from service organizations, such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Mat-Su Health Foundation, Elks, and Moose. She stated she is learning a lot as a new member and appreciates being able to serve as a board member.

Vice Chair Connelly said she appreciated the Council's time and willingness to meet in a joint meeting. She said she appreciated the feedback and direction.

Chair Allen expressed her appreciation that the Council and Board were able to come together to discuss the important issues and looked forward to future discussions.

Mayor DeVries thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their dedicated service to the city.

J. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Approved by the City Council on this 22nd day of May, 2018.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Approved by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Board this 3rd day of May, 2018.

Chris Nall, Public Works Director

Stephanie Allen, Board Chair