



COUNTY PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Stuart Hill, Chairman
Douglas Irvine, Vice Chairman
Jim Miller, Secretary
Open, Member
Open, Member

Thursday, December 09, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
Natrona County Courthouse, 200 North Center, Casper, Wyoming
2nd Floor, Old District Courtroom #1

Functions as an Advisory Board to the County Commissioners, makes recommendations on Projects, Programs, and Policies.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Natrona County Parks Board brought to order at 5:30p.m. by Chairman Stuart Hill.

II. ROLL CALL: Those in attendance are Parks Board Members Stuart Hill and Jim Miller. Douglas Irvine via conference call. Assistant Parks Director Michael Brown. Commissioner and Liaison Brook Kaufman.

III. APPROVAL: Parks Board Minutes from March 2021 approved.

ELECTIONS: Stuart Hill motioned for Douglas Irvine as Vice Chairman. Jim Miller seconded the motion. Motion approved.

IV. REPORTS: Assistant Parks Director: Stuart Hill approved the Assistant Parks Directors Report as written with no objections.

A. MOUNTAIN PARKS UPDATE:

1. Mountain well/water system:

Mike Brown reported that the water system is on at the temporary structure. The water is close to being potable but not quite there yet. Testing will continue.

2. Trail Center:

At the Commissioners work session on November 18th; Mike Brown stated that he was assigned to prepare a draft for a request for proposal (RFP) for the new lodge site based on the consultants' concept. The RFP hasn't been sent out yet because they are waiting on some legal clarification and verbiage. Mike Brown spoke with the Chairman of the Commission. He reported it will be advertised for the first time a week from this coming Sunday. They missed the deadline for the paper yesterday but they will get that back on track and get it going for the 45 day process. It has to run in the paper for two consecutive Sunday's. They will post it on the Natrona County website for architectural services. An email will also be sent out to local architects to make sure they didn't miss it on the bid forms or the advertisement.

Mike Brown reported that it is a very strict time line to get a structure up by Thanksgiving of 2022 but they are making big steps forward.

3. **Temporary Building:**

Mike Brown reported that he is going to issue keys to some of the user groups for the temporary structure. They will have to check the key out from Mike Brown so he knows who has a key. He is going to request some sort of schedule from the user groups showing when they are there so he knows who is there and when. Mike Brown says this is so they can have it cleaned and stocked with needed supplies. He asked the Board to please get the word out so the user groups can contact him to get a key. They will discuss how to operate it until they can get someone contracted or put an employee up there on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Until then Mike Brown will check on it regularly to make sure it is locked up. Between himself, Jim Miller, and the Nordic Club they can get it open during those days of the week. Mike Brown stated that is his best plan right now. He also reported that he looked at the electrical panel; the outlets that are above the counter tops are two 20-amp circuits. 20-amp circuits will conservatively run about five to seven crockpots. They can look at 10-14 crock-pots for a potluck for the ski teams. He said crockpots aren't usually on high. It's precooked so they are just keeping it warm, he believes that they can manage that with the two circuits.

4. **Grooming:**

They have started grooming. With the snow that is coming they hope to be able to get a base down but right now it is still rock skiing. Mike Brown stated that Jim Miller probably has a better idea of the conditions up there right now because he hasn't been up there yet.

Jim Miller stated that he was up there today. Marvin was grooming the parking lot hill. Skunk Hollow to the maze has snow that has been taken from the 40 and hauled over there. Marvin has to do some grooming in that area in order to get to the maintenance building. Areas that are wooded are holding snow but any clearings have a bunch of rocks and dirt. Jim Miller stated that the wind is eating it up.

5. **Rotary Park & Bridle Trail:**

Mike Brown reported that Parks has closed Rotary Park for the season except to walkers that can enter from the parking lot. That will be open until Road and Bridge can no longer plow that area. Mike Brown stated that Doug has some things to report on that.

Douglas Irvine reported that he has walked the Bridle Trail a couple times and as previously reported by Mike Haigler, 71 Construction and placed treated timbers up there to grade out some of the steep sections to make stair like sections. That was done on the lower portions but they need to see about doing that to the last bit of the new trail. It is very steep at the top by Mr. Chrisman's corner. The work that was done on the lower part looks good. They restored the trail from the washout section as well, so he would like to give kudos to 71 Construction. They made a big difference on the portions that they worked on.

6. **Way Finding Signage Program:**

Mike Brown reported that RDG is the consultant and they are near the finalization of the bid documents. It was stated that both Commissioner Brook Kaufman and Mike Brown had a meeting today with them and talked about having one

more public input session. Mike Brown reported that he would like the Parks Board to have a special meeting to review the wayfinding signs. RDG will join on via zoom. They will present the updated documents. They have the finals right now for sign location and information on the signs. They can then get public input on minor adjustments. For example, the Hogadon sign saying Hogadon Ski are rather than just Hogadon. Then go over the location of the signs to see if anyone has any heartburn over where the sign is or isn't. Mike Brown said that he was hoping to have the Parks Board conduct that special meeting next week on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday at 5:30. The courtroom is available; they just need to let RDG know what day works best for the Parks Board. Once the Parks Board does that, they can then get those finalized documents out to the Commissioners. After that, they can then get it out to bid and construct the wayfinding signs. He said the kiosks are kind of in a final approach but they don't know what information they are going to put on those at this time. They are still waiting on the grant but RDG is still going to prepare those bid documents so they are ready when the grant is awarded. At that point, they will start the process to get public input but the Parks Department can handle what information needs to be added to those kiosks.

Jim Miller asked if there was a design on that kiosk yet.

Mike Brown replied that there is. That the wayfinding package you may have received has the design. If they didn't receive it, he will send the kiosk design and concept to the Parks Board so they can look at it.

Douglas Irvine replied that he had received a packet from Michael that was sent in one of the emails.

Stuart Hill stated that it looks like him and Jim Miller need one. He asked Doug if he was available on the 16th and stated that he is going to have to check his availability for the 15th.

Douglas Irvine stated that he would vote for Thursday or Friday.

Jim Miller commented that he is free.

Stuart Hill suggested Thursday the 16th.

Commissioner Brook Kaufman stated that she would have to check her calendar.

Mike Brown responded that he wanted to hold it in the evening so more of the public would be able to attend. A lot of people are still working in the midafternoon.

Brook Kaufman Inaudible

Stuart Hill Confirmed the meeting for the 16th at 5:30 in the courtroom.

Mike Brown Confirmed that he will let RDG know and will confirm use of the courtroom.

Stuart Hill asked Mike Brown about the sign.

Mike Brown replied that it is a sign that is more for grooming. He stated that Jim presented this to Mike Haigler. In general it's about not walking on the trail with boots, no dogs, appropriate tire pressure on there and snowshoeing. Mike Brown said that this sign is used in Jackson Hole Nordic. Three or four will be laminated and put up and see what kind of feedback they will get from the public. They will call the Parks Department and say I hate your sign, I love your sign. It's an attempt because there are a lot of walkers on Strubey and the maze that without snowshoes cause potholes in the grooming. That makes it difficult to maintain and to ski on. They are trying to get that information out to everyone so they understand trail etiquette. They looked at a few options; Countie drafted up a sign similar to this one, same information just looked different. Mike Haigler, Joe, and Road and Bridge, decided they liked this sign. They are going to put it up there and see.

Sergeant Legler stepped up to the podium and asked if there was a date that the trails are closed to foot traffic and opened to skiers and snowshoes. He stated that they need a date for that. He asked if it starts when there is one snowstorm every year.

Mike Brown replied that there isn't a specific date. The intent is that it closes once grooming can start.

Sergeant Legler replied that if they can come up with a date every year, say November 1st, regardless of the weather, they are closed to foot traffic.

Stuart Hill replied that he thinks there may be something in the rules.

Mike Brown stated that he will look at the rules, see what a good date is and then collaborate with the Parks Board, and Brook. He will check the rules first.

Sergeant Legler stated that from the enforcement side they could tell people not to be in there. He asked if we get two inches of snow is it closed or can they still walk on it.

Jim Miller replied that right now they have a hand written sign on the parking lot that says trails are closed to trails and walkers. Once the grooming has started, it's hard to say earlier then that because like this winter people are still hiking like crazy.

Douglas Irvine stated that maybe eventually they need some official signage that is seasonal, that they can put up once they start grooming. He said he noticed on the Parks Board Blog that it said closed to hiking, closed to dog walking, so whenever we do that, put up signs. It is going to be seasonal because if they pick a date it could be a dry year and not have any snow until January, so he thinks if they had large official signage that could be put up and taken down it would go a long ways in communicating that.

Sergeant Legler replied that as long as it's in the Parks Rules that they can do it, as long as it's posted, they can enforce it. Whatever signs are put up you have to make sure the Parks Rules reflect that or we can't enforce it.

Mike Brown reiterated that he would look at the Parks Rules.

7. **Beartrap Shelters RFP:**

Mike Brown reported that earlier this fall the Parks Department requested to replace the three shelters. They had four engineering firms that presented proposals that were then individually reviewed and scored. The top two highest scoring proposals were selected for interviews. The Parks Department conducted interviews on December 7th and those were scored as well. The one that scored the highest was contacted and price contract negotiations have started and they will be meeting with that company tomorrow morning. They will discuss the contract and the proposed price. They are hoping to have contracts awarded on 12/2021 at the Commissioner meeting. He stated that he is aware they are getting close to that date but as soon as they are done with negotiations, they are getting it to legal for review. If not then, then the following meeting.

Douglas Irvine asked Michael Brown at what point they would be able to review designs of the shelters because they haven't seen anything.

Mike Brown replied that Parks hasn't seen any specific designs either. This is just to obtain engineering services to survey the site, design the site, and chose which kit they are going to use. This is engineering because they have to meet ADA compliance with slope, grading, and access roads. The request that they put out had one ADA parking site and he believes six additional parking locations at the shelter. He stated that he could send them a drawing of where they are proposing these. Where they have the Geotag.

Douglas Irvine stated that he just wants to make it clear to the public viewing audience as they discussed at the work session that this is a multi-phase process and they are just getting the phase that is going to generate the engineer drawings, then they can review those for design.

Mike Brown agreed and stated that all the engineer firms are going to be understanding that they are going to have a public presentation at some point of what they are proposing or the options they're purposing to the public.

8. **Kay-Lin Trails Master Planning:**

Mike Brown reported that they have a Summers Trails Masterplan being drafted at this point in time. The company is Kay-Lin. He believes that the Board may have seen a previous draft of it. They have had some user group involvement such as Central Wyoming Trail Alliance, Fat Fish, and Coach Kenner, who covers some of the Nordic as well as running groups. Mike Brown reported that he had received an updated draft and sent it to the Parks Board on December 6th. He will be sending it out to the user groups. They have requested user group input, Mike asked the Board what they think based on where they are now.

Stuart Hill responded "Absolutely."

Mike Brown said that that project will continue on. Hopefully they will have a Masterplan by this Spring so they can improve some of the hiking and biking trails. He said Scott, with Kay-Lin, with his knowledge of trails, goes beyond, he knows trails. He understands them. He has walked most of what they have. He is impressed with some of the things they have done and there are many places to improve. It can ease the traffic off the Easeville Trail and give other opportunities without butchering up the hillside anymore. He said it's a good project.

Jim Miller recommended that Mike Brown might want to contact Harry Brubaker with the Nordic Ski Club. They have him on a user group.

9. **Crimson Dawn:**

This section was missed; it was addressed after item 10.

10. **Wyoming Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant:**

Mike Brown reported that he had Ashley Badesh, who works for Sustainable Strategies, help in preparing this grant. Brook and Mike provided a lot of information to her. The grant was due November 30th and has now been submitted for four kiosks at four trailheads. Two at Beartrap, one at the Biathlon, and one at the Archery Range. Those sites were picked because the County owns that property. They did not have time to do one at the Trail Center under this grant because they have to provide a lot of information about their long-term lease that they have to have for over 26 years. A lot of legal information about the property would have had to be gathered and they just didn't have the time. Brown reported that they are not giving up on those other kiosks. Maybe they will be incorporated into the Trail Center construction or something else. Skunk Hollow was another one that was not included because the city owns it. They should know if they get the grant in February.

Jim Miller asked what the lease is they have with the city.

Mike Brown stated that he doesn't know all the details of that he just knows that it is owned by the city.

Jim Miller stated that it might be a 100-year lease.

Mike Brown replied that the Grant required a minimum of 26 years left in the lease.

Stuart Hill stated that hopefully they could incorporate that into the new lodge. Stuart asked Douglas Irving if he would like to talk about Crimson Dawn.

Douglas Irvine replied that he would, and that as an addendum to the agenda, he included his notes from the meeting with the Crimson Dawn Association. He said they had a lot of great information to convey about Crimson Dawn including statistics and numbers about the utilization and attendance over the last couple of years. He said it really highlights how important Crimson Dawn is to the community, especially the Midsummer's Festival. They would like to re-introduce a working relationship with the County to further long-term plans. He stated that they didn't have anything that struck him as unreasonable. Their main short and medium term goals are to work with the County and to re-start the MOU process to get a lasting document that will outline what the County, the Crimson Dawn Association, and the family decision is, for the park and the ownership of responsibility so that County Boards and Commissions can change membership and make staff changes. A long-term document that will serve as a cohesive outline of what they want to do with Crimson Dawn and who does what. Douglas stated that he thinks this is a really good idea and he recommends that the County work with the Crimson Dawn Association to re-start that MOU process. He stated that they brought up some maintenance and other concerns that should eventually be talked about in the medium and long term. The MOU and maintenance on the fencing were their principal short term goals. Douglas stated that he thinks they should start up

a sub-committee with the Crimson Dawn Association to keep that moving forward and see what they can do to really retain, improve, and make sure that Crimson Dawn is a gold star portion of the County Parks. Everyone in the County really loves it and one of the key takeaways was that it was voted numerous times as one of the most popular County parks. He believes that underscores the importance of it to the community and doesn't think there is a lot of work that has to be done to move forward with maintaining it and making sure it's a lasting contribution to our parks system.

Mike Brown apologized to Doug stating that he grabbed an older draft and not his amended agenda which he included Crimson Dawn. That is why he overlooked that. He again apologized and explained that he did not try to exclude that.

Jim Miller asked Doug if he had time to check with Eric on the past MOU they had with the County.

Douglas Irvine replied no worries to Mike Browns apology and replied to Jim stating that he had emailed Eric but had not received a response back so he will have to give him a call. He said that he is sure he is buried under innumerable things as always so he will try to see where they are and what it would take to get that conversation restarted.

Jim Miller stated that he noticed that it says they are looking into writing some grants and wanted to know if they are in the process.

Douglas Irvine Replied yes; that was one of the things that he believes they could greatly assist each other with. The County could be writing some grants like those they are doing with the kiosks and signage and the Crimson Dawn Association is already active in writing grants. He believes that having both the County and the Association resources in close communication will allow for more rapid and accurate submission to these. When the Association is creating some grant applications there is information they don't have access to that only the County has details about such as legal ownership, maintenance budgets, or other things of that nature that is County purview. Even if they are spearheading a particular grant writing effort, they need to rely on some County resources to fill in information they need to be successful in their efforts. He stated that he would gladly serve as the liaison and contact Michael whenever there is information that the Association needs and likewise if the County needs some more details or historical information for grant writing that the Association has, he would be happy to provide that. He went on to say that he was quite surprised that he wasn't aware of the attendance numbers or some of the other information they provided that would be very beneficial to any County source of fundraising or grant writing efforts as well.

Jim Miller wanted to clarify to Doug that the two toilets that are at the biathlon and the maze was done through the Natrona County Recreational Board grant. He thinks Crimson Dawn would fall under the historical preservation type of grant. He stated that he worked on the grant a little bit with Roosevelt when it was petitioning for a historic site and it looked like there was a lot of money there. They might want to look into it.

Douglas Irvine agreed and said anything that you can send me I would be happy to work with them. He thinks there is a small project that they secured funding for that would make a large impact in a short term or medium term timeframe.

Mike Brown responded that the Parks Department will review these minutes a lot closer and see where they can improve and work better with Crimson Dawn Association. He is all for working closer with the different groups to improve the parks.

Douglas Irvine suggested getting a meeting together with everyone so they can all get on the same page, throw some ideas against the wall and try and work out short term, medium and long-term outline.

Mike Brown agreed that that will be a good place to start.

Stuart Hill stated that he is glad to see communication starting with this group. He has not seen a list like this from them on what all is needed and what they are asking for so this is wonderful. He thanked Doug.

B. PATHFINDER/ALCOVA UPDATE:

1. Road Maintenance Project:

There will be ongoing road maintenance in the cabin area. They are still seeing effects of the storms so there will be some culverts installed for storm water discharge. Black Beach and Cottonwood Beach roads need work, there are culverts that are filled up and need to be cleaned out.

2. Full Hookup Bath House:

They are waiting on final billing on a change order but is planned to open to the public in 2022. Everything is in place and working. It was winterized when the water was shut off at the start of winter but he believes many people are going to like it and enjoy it.

Stuart Hill agreed and said he can't wait for it.

3. RFP Pathfinder Master Plan Project:

Mike Brown reported that there was a resource management plan in 2012 with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) that gave some concepts to improve the campgrounds. Now that so much work has been done at Alcova lately they have requests for proposals written at Pathfinder. Engineering for Diabase Campground, Sage, and Weiss Campgrounds. They are all between the dam and the Marina. They received five written proposals there. They reviewed and scored them, picked the top two, conducted interviews, reviewed and scored again. They just did price negotiation and contract. They are now awaiting their final draft and contract to present to the legal department. It is the same schedule they are hoping to have, to get those engineers, in front of the commission and award a contract on the 21st or the following two weeks in January. They are going to engineer and design all three campgrounds at once including boat ramp improvements. The construction will be done in phases. They will have Diabase done in the fall of 2022, spring of 2023. The next campground will be contracted to do the following year as long as lake funds are available to do it. It will all be designed together so it all flows together with patterns of traffic. The campsite layouts will be separate.

Stuart Hill said they will need to get the public involved.

Mike Brown agreed and said once they get a conceptual from the engineers they will get that in front of the public. He is excited about the project because he has done a lot of dirt work in his life so looking at plans; he is interested in that. In the concepts they were able to add a couple campsites for tent camping. The resource management plan has a plan to

park in one end and hike down to your site as well as some group camping sites. You can have four or five camp trailers camped together. He believes the public is going to like it.

Douglas Irvine asked if there was going to be a dump station there.

Mike Brown responded that to his knowledge the dump station works well. He believes the biggest improvement is going to be the access in and out because those corners are 90 degree corners so he thinks they are going to see that improvement as they go through these campgrounds.

Stuart Hill asked if they have any drawings.

Mike Brown replied no. He has seen concepts but no drawings.

4. **Trailer Park:**

Mike Brown reported that he has completed three walk-through's with the BOR. The BOR wants to conduct annual walk-throughs. They are mainly concerned with safety issues. Mike Brown reports that he took pictures of each lot for inventory purposes. He reports that some stairs do not have handrails. They may have been grandfathered in but he believes that the BOR is going to say they need to be fixed because it is public property. There are propane bottles that are not secured. He stated that this will be a lengthy process but they will be sending letters out to the permittee stating the corrections that need to be made. There are maintenance things and safety things. There are 150 lots, letters will be prepared for each lot. He stated that they want to keep what they have and do not want to give the BOR to chance to take what they have because it was neglected. He has not seen anything that would be considered an immediate safety issue.

5. **Reservation System:** This section was missed and addressed after #6.

6. **Permits for Construction:** Mike Brown has reviewed 80 construction applications for cabins, trailers, the ski club, and the boat club. 14 of those are still under review.

Stuart Hill asked if those are with the BOR.

Mike Brown responded that some are with the BOR. He has four or five that he has that are dredging requests, dock placements, deck replacements, retaining walls. He states that it has been a process but things are going fairly well between Parks and BOR. Mike Brown stated that he hopes there haven't been any complaints about construction applications completed.

Stuart Hill responded that he hasn't heard anything. He said he wasn't sure how many people got caught building something that they were not permitted to.

Mike Brown replied that Parks issued seven warning letters for unauthorized construction out of 100 cabins and 150 trailers. Now that there are lot permits in place, they have penalty clauses to enforce some of that. While getting those

permits in place, Parks opted to give a warning letter because the penalty is new. That is now in their file. He believes they have one out of the seven that is contesting it but he isn't sure of the status on that.

Stuart Hill replied that he did speak to someone and word did get around. This person spread it around and that is what they wanted.

7. **Reservation System:**

Mike Brown reported that they met with another company. They are reviewing the pricing. They feel like there may be a better system. This company is used around the State. It's more user friendly and interactive. They have to square up the pricing, it offers different pricing models. One the County would get for free but there is a reservation fee that would be tagged onto the customer and the same fee would be tagged on if they cancelled. If you're staying for ten nights it's not that big of a deal but if you're staying one night it's a couple extra bucks so they have to look at that and see what pricing model would work best. The Parks Department feels as though they could get in place if they keep CivicRec up until they are ready to flip the switch. He thinks they can do that before the season starts.

Stuart Hill asked if they could transfer everything over.

Mike Brown replied yes, that is the plan. He doesn't know if they are 100 percent settled on it. CivicRec has left them hanging on some things. They had some issues because of their updates and they have been neglectful. His opinion is they don't care. It's not working.

Stuart Hill comment that that is ok, there are others. He stated that they need to talk more about what rules they want to put on the reservation system sense it has gone a full year and they will take comments from the public. If anyone has any ideas. They are going 90 days out for a reservation right now; is that too long? They will take comments. He stated that he personally believes that 90 days is too far out but that's just him.

Douglas Irvine Reported that he had reviewed some national articles on the pandemic and camping reservations. It was interesting that Wyoming State Parks were flagged in the national article as a model to look at to deal with some of the no-show issues that were raised previously. He stated that when they do look at potential changes to their models they should look at the State Parks reservation rules. They have really good things to deal with no-shows, bathrooms from being abused, and prevent the 90 day window from being abused. They have some models so they don't have to reinvent the wheel. It seems to be working out pretty good for the State. It would provide consistency for other residents that also use the State system. They would not have to learn new fine print for the reservations system.

Stuart Hill replied that that sounds great. Maybe they can role all that out at the same time they do new reservations. They will do some public comments and advertising. Stuart Hill asked Commissioner Brook Kaufman if she had heard anything back on the through the tourists.

Commissioner Brook Kaufman reported that the only thing she has heard was from the resident perspective. It was not having all the campgrounds tied up in the reservation system so having some camping that is first come first serve from people that live here. That was probably the biggest complaint that she got. Hopefully that will be revisited as

well as the idea to solicit public feedback. Commissioner Kaufman stated that she knows they had to get this into the Parks rules and move on it to get it implemented, but now is a really good time to revisit that.

Stuart Hill replied that they have now had a year so they have a little bit of experience so that's good. He asked if she knew if the residents were talking more about the mountain or the lake because there are open ones at the lake. The mountain has everything on the reservation system.

Sergeant Legler stepped to the podium and stated that he worked out at the lake all summer. He stated the common one was that at Okie Beach, the spot that residents use all the time, right, that locals couldn't use it this year. As deputies they were hoping they would make a couple spots out there first come first served. Same thing as Black Beach. It is a common place, both of those places are beaches for people fishing they are pretty high. When they are full up and the local people can't use them they are hearing about it. He stated that he knows the other campgrounds are open, West Side and Fremont, those campgrounds haven't been done yet, most our residents want to get their campers in without having a whole lot of troubles.

Stuart Hill replied that this is a U.S. Park basically so it's the BOR land, they can't make it better for the residents against non-residents. It has to be fair for everybody. They have to be careful with the BOR.

Mike Brown stated that one of the concerns with having a few spots in one of the campgrounds is cash management. A lot of the reservation system comes from the County not having to handle cash. That is why they are trying to get away from it. They have a 90-day reservation system, he doesn't know that with the system you can take one or two spots and only have a two day window to reserve it. If someone wants to go out for the weekend for a couple days and are just now thinking about it, they can see if that spot is open. It keeps Parks from handling the cash. Cash handling is a big thing. He stated that he hates to say it but boxes have been broken into and things like that. With the envelope, system people were always saying they were just about to take it up there when somebody checked. He still does see the point in giving the opportunity for someone to be able to pull up on the weekend and maybe a short window might be the solution. All some ideas to look at.

Stuart Hill agreed and said they should just throw them out there. He asked if they knew what it looked like last season from what they collected from cash compared to this season.

Mike Brown replied no he does not, but he believes those numbers will be compiled very soon. He said that 2020 was kind of an oddball year so if they have the numbers over a few years they would see where they ended up with the reservation system. If they came up short because they don't allow four campers in a spot at Okie so they are only taking one payment.

Stuart Hill stated that the season of 2020 and 2021 of all the parks use was incredible. They were packed all the time. He would like to see what those numbers are.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nicole Kramer at 4010 W. 39th St. Casper, WY 82604 stated that she wanted to let the Board know that they have started a new biathlon and endurance club in Casper and they are called Wyobeat. It is Wyoming Biathlon Endurance and altitude training. She wanted to introduce themselves. A lot of them are former members of the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club. They started a new club with the athletes who used to be there. They will be doing some Nordic camps over break for middle school kids. They will be conducted around the high school practices for any middle school kids that want to join because the middle school schedule is getting started late. They wanted to offer training for those kids. They are excited about their new start and will take questions if they have any.

Mike Brown asked where they plan on having their Nordic camps.

Nicole Kramer answered that they would be at the Nordic Trail Center. She asked if they wanted them to notify Mike Brown when they do those.

Mike Brown replied, yes. They should probably talk about what type of requirements risk management has since it's not the School District. They should probably talk to make sure they have all their bases covered. He said to please feel free to call him anytime and they can set up a time next week and meet.

Nicole Kramer commented that their head couch is Ken (inaudible) that she is just the Vice Chair of the Board and just the organizer and mouthpiece. They are a USDA Club and have insurance for USDA.

Stuart Hill commented that they want a schedule of what is going on so they don't have any conflicts. A lot of people want to use that area. They had a calendar back in the day so they need to make sure they do that.

Mike Brown replied that they do currently have a calendar that was provided to emergency services but it has headlamp, Mangas, and the High School races. The out of town races are included so he redlined those. It has high school, middle school headlamp, Mangus, and Taste of Trails. Parks is notified and they then notify Emergency Management so that they know there is a large crowd up there. It gives them a heads up of what is going on up there and helps out the deputies.

Nicole Kramer stated that right now they are planning 11 to 1 for the two weeks of the schools Christmas break for those four days. The 20th-23rd and the 27th-30th. She stated that she will have Ken get in touch with Michael Brown. There club has 10 athletes and are hoping to grow more. They are hoping to practice at the triathlon venue most the time but are still working through their differences with CNBC.

Mike Brown stated that there are public range hours over there.

Nicole Kramer asked if they have been posted because she has not seen them.

Michael Brown stated that that will be a conversation they will be having with CNBC.

Nicole Kramer stated that they were considering offering handling of their open ranges for them because they do have a lot of safety officers in their group. They are trying to work through those issues right now.

Stuart Hill thanked Nichole Kramer.

Sergeant Legler stated that he had one question. He asked if they were adding multiple camping at Black Beach because there are four or five campgrounds that you can easily fit like three or four campers in.

Mike Brown replied that these discussions are still taking place. He stated that he personally thought that if there are a few spots that can hold a few campers they could look at putting that in the reservation system but allowing multiple trailers in there would increase the rate. One person would be responsible for the whole site. With that, the rate would be for three trailers whether you reserve it for one and have a bigger spot for yourself or for your friends.

Sergeant Legler stated that he uses the State one all the time when he is camping in the Big Horns and that it is exactly like that. He puts it on there for three campers and he puts three vehicles, and two trailers and they charge you for a trailer or extra vehicles. Deputy Laiger said you get one extra vehicle per camper and they charge you ten bucks for extra vehicles like if you bring a boat trailer or something they charge you ten bucks worth, right, okay per night so which is not a big deal and he doesn't care so he pays for his three friends and they reimburse him.

Stuart Hill asked if the Forest Service is the same as the State Park.

Sergeant Legler replied he thinks so. Super easy.

Mike Brown replied that it would be easy to do with the new program.

Douglas Irvine said that the State, the National Forest Service, and BLM have group sites like that.

Stuart Hill stated they are writing notes and they will charge for extra vehicles or trailers. He stated that those are somethings to think about, he hates to throw those out

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Douglas Irvine commented to Michael Brown that he was discussing a calendar of events for the Trail Center area, if they could get that on the web pages he thinks that would be informative to the public. If they had some way of having a Parks event calendar or something for all their various properties that would be a good way to communicate to the public and get the word out on some of this as well.

Mike Brown replied that they can look into that. He may need some help from I.T.

Douglas Irvine said you gotta love I.T.

Stuart Hill commented that he was going to mention an on-line calendar also. If you are going to take a family up you can look online and there is a State High School meet there so you can change when you are going to go up. To have that available for the public would be really helpful.

Jim Miller commented that it has been great to see the grooming report from Joe, or Mike Brown or whoever gets it online, that they get to read it but he thinks it would be helpful if the Biathlon folks would also send that to Michael Brown so the community knows if they are grooming or what has been groomed. At the present, nobody knows when they are grooming. That would give the whole Nordic Trail System input to the community.

Mike Brown Stated that he will talk to Rob about that and see what they can come up with to get that posted.

Stuart Hill stated that the Blog is great and thanked Michael Brown for keeping it up this year. It has been very handy to know what kind of snow they have up there, or lack thereof.

Commissioner Brook Kaufman commented that she appreciates the Parks Board Meeting because it feels like it has been awhile. She commented that Mike does a great job and she thinks that he has a commission right now that is very committed to getting several parks projects across the finish line and some of that is going to be still going through the public process. She said she is going to acknowledge that it always takes longer than they think and that doesn't always make the public happy. However, they are seeing momentum and she thinks they are going to see a lot of projects in 2022 that they have been waiting on for a very long time.

Stuart Hill commented that they would have signs this year. He commented that it has been 15 years. That he knows of.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 6:36 pm