1.0 GENERAL

1.1 The purposes of this policy are to:

a. establish Park Board policy regarding the sale or consumption of alcohol in Parks and Recreation areas;

b. adopt operating policies to facilitate and guide the conduct of park business; and

c. establish authority and procedures for allowing the sale or consumption of alcohol in designated Parks and Recreation areas for specific events or users and specific time periods.

1.2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

2.0 DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

This policy and procedures applies to the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department.

3.0 REFERENCES

City Charter, Article V, Parks and Park Board, Section 48 Park Board - Powers: Rules of the Park Board Section 14, General Operating Policies and Procedures,
Spokane Municipal Code Section 10.10.040(D.) - Park Code

"No person may possess or consume in any park any liquor, except as specifically authorized by law."

City of Spokane, City Attorney James C. Sloane, opinion May 1, 1988

"It is our opinion that the City Charter has not reduced the powers of the City Council to regulate activities, including the sale of alcohol in public parks. The Charter's limitation is solely upon the Park Board, in that the Park Board has no authority to grant liquor concessions. The Board, may, however, grant leases which would then allow the lessee to apply for a license to sell spirits without violating the Charter. While the City Council may authorize the sale and distribution of alcohol in a City park without running afoul of the City Charter, the final authority rests with the Washington State Liquor Control Board."

4.0 DEFINITIONS

4.1 "Alcohol" is any liquor or other intoxicating liquid including, but not limited to, wine, beer, and spirits.

4.2 "Board" means the Spokane Parks and Recreation Board.

4.3 "Director" means the Director of the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department.

4.4 "Everyone" constitutes each and all members visiting Parks and Recreation Department lands, i.e. employees, park visitors, Police, etc.

4.5 "Lease" is a contract granting occupation or use of property for a specified period in exchange for a specified rent.

4.6 "Park Land" means all property owned by the Spokane Park and Recreation Department.

5.0 POLICY

5.1 It shall be Park Board policy to control the consumption of alcohol in Parks and Recreation areas except as provided in Section 4.2 and 4.3. In no event may alcohol be sold or served in any City Park without a valid license from the Washington State Liquor Control Board.

5.2 The Park Board and/or the Director of Parks and Recreation may grant leases of Park land or property which allow the lessee to apply for a license from the Washington State Liquor Control Board to sell or serve alcohol in the following Parks and Recreation areas:
a. Golf Courses  
b. Riverfront Park  
c. Corbin Art Center  
d. Finch Arboretum  
e. Southside Senior Activity and Community Center  
f. Park Bench Café in Manito Park  
g. Dwight Merkel Sports Complex  

5.3 The Park Board and/or the Director of Parks and Recreation may grant leases of Park land or property to non-profit organizations which allow the lessee to apply for a license from the Washington State Liquor Control Board to sell or serve alcohol in other Parks and Recreation areas under the following conditions:  

a. The sale or service of alcohol is a part of a public community event, and  

b. The Neighborhood Council of the impacted park must be consulted regarding the sale or service of alcohol, and  

c. Only one lease per year per specific Park land or property will be granted by the Director. Additional leases may be presented to and considered by the Park Board.  

5.4 Leases granted pursuant to this policy for periods greater than seventy-two (72) hours shall be limited to the golf courses, Riverfront Park, Park Bench Café and Dwight Merkel Sports Softball Complex.  

5.5 Only wine and beer may be consumed at/on the Corbin Art Center and grounds – no hard liquor is allowed.  

6.0 PROCEDURE  

6.1 The Parks and Recreation Department shall have the responsibility to communicate to Parks and Recreation area visitors that the sale or consumption of alcohol is prohibited, with the exception of leases approved under the Policy set forth in Paragraph 4.0.
6.2 Lease requests for periods longer than seventy-two (72) hours require Park Board approval.

6.3 Enforcement.

6.3.1 Enforcement of City of Spokane Municipal Code Section 10.10.040 Public Parks Section D lies with the City of Spokane Police Department. Violations should be referred to the City of Spokane Police Department for response.

6.3.2 Violation of the terms of any Liquor Control Board Permit is grounds for termination of the lease involved.

7.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director of Parks and Recreation shall administer this policy.

8.0 APPENDICES

None

APPROVED BY:

City Attorney

Director Parks and Recreation

Date

4-6-11

4-11-11