

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Robby Cooper
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~

Dwight Curtis
Staff Liaison

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<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/455/Parks-Recreation-Commission>

Thursday
August 22, 2019

5:21 PM

Hamilton Indoor Rec Center
1724 E F Street

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Damon Burton, Robby Cooper, Mark Heinlein, Ted Kisha, Susan Steele, Nancy Tribble, Sara Zaske

MEMBERS ABSENT: Justin Minden, Susan Petersen

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Kristin Graham, Staff; Kellisa Kulm, Recreation Supervisor; David Schott, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director; Gina Taruscio, Council Liaison; Parks and Recreation Director Dwight Curtis, Staff Liaison

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Parks and Recreation Commission May 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes and Parks and Recreation/Tree Commission July 10, 2019 Joint Meeting Minutes

Presentation of minutes for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

May 25, 2019 minutes:

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY ACCLAMATION VOTE
MOVER:	Tribble
SECONDER:	Kisha
AYES:	Burton, Cooper, Heinlein, Kisha, Steele, Tribble, Zaske
ABSENT:	Minden, Petersen

July 10, 2019 minutes:

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY ACCLAMATION VOTE
MOVER:	Kisha
SECONDER:	Heinlein
AYES:	Burton, Cooper, Heinlein, Kisha, Steele, Tribble, Zaske
ABSENT:	Minden, Petersen

2. Public Comment Period

Kathleen Burns (440 East 7th St, Moscow) and Frank Cheng (776 Shoshone St, Moscow) spoke

on behalf of a group of pickleball enthusiasts who are requesting the City construct some pickleball courts for public use. They acknowledged that several of the City's parks have outdoor basketball courts with pickleball lines on them, but due to the growing interest in the sport they would like to see fenced pickleball courts built. Curtis said the proposed fiscal year 2020 budget did initially include a request for the approximately \$400,000 needed to build a pickleball court, but that request was cut during the budget process; however, the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency has agreed to work with the Parks and Recreation Department to build a pickleball court on the now-defunct tennis courts at Ghormley Park, tentatively planned for Fiscal Year 2021. Burns said they are also interested in offering pickleball classes and in using the Hamilton Indoor Recreation Center gymnasium for pickleball, and asked who she should contact about these possibilities; Curtis suggested she contact Recreation Supervisor Greg Morrison.

Curtis announced that Recreation Supervisor Kellisa Kulm's last day with Moscow Parks and Recreation will be September 13; the commissioners expressed their appreciation for all she has done for the department and wished her well on her future endeavors.

3. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update 2019: Schedule (ACTION ITEM) – Dwight Curtis

Referencing the recently-adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Curtis presented for commissioner review and approval a proposed schedule for implementing and/or completing the Master Plan's actionable items; he advised that this is a projected schedule and is subject to change:

- **3.2.1 Park Development**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

Grand openings for both Itani and Lola Clyde Park playgrounds are scheduled for this fall; the development of both Milton Arthur and Moser Parks are still waiting for access to be available.

- **3.2.2 Environment**

Start: In Progress Complete: 2020

Progress is already being made on this item; Curtis reminded the commissioners that with regards to pesticides, the goal of this item is a reduction, not elimination, of the use of pesticides.

- **3.2.3 Water Conservation**

Start: In Progress Complete: 2020

This item is already being worked on, with staff looking at areas where water usage can be reduced and where wisescaping may be an option.

- **3.2.4 Accessibility**

Start: In Progress Complete: 2020

The department's goal is not to just meet the legal minimums but to do all they can to include everyone and provide the best experiences for all; this includes programming as well as the facilities and amenities. As such, this is an item that is continually being worked on.

- **3.2.5 Alternative/Renewable Energy Resources and Savings**

Start: 2021 Complete: 2021

Budget-dependent. Previous studies assessing the feasibility of using solar power at the Hamilton-Lowe Aquatics Center have concluded it is not a cost-effective option; however, as technology continually changes and different options have become more affordable, it may be worthwhile to do another study, possibly including other facilities in addition to the HLAC.

- **3.2.6 Parkland Dedication Evaluation**

Start: 2020 Complete: 2021

This item will require guidance from the City's Legal Department, but will be brought before the commissioners for their recommendations prior to being finalized.

- **3.2.7 Overhaul City's Parks and Facilities Standards**

Start: 2020 Complete: 2021

The National Recreation and Parks Association recently changed how standards are determined; instead of setting the same standards for every agency, they now recognize that every community is unique and therefore each should be able to set their own standards. This makes meeting this goal more involved and challenging, but it is one well worth striving for.

- **3.2.8 Other Areas of Needed Action**

Start: 2020 Complete: 2021

A covered or indoor playground has been discussed before, but there was a lack of interest in it. Similarly, covering or 'bubbling' the pool for year-around use has also been discussed but this is likely an expensive option both in terms of immediate costs as well as ongoing expenses such as the maintenance and staffing of the facility.

- **3.2.9 Pathways, Greenways, and Linear Connections**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

- **3.2.10 Cultural Enhancement**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

- **3.2.11 Convenience and Accessibility of Public Parks, Recreational Areas, and Public Open Spaces**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

- **3.2.12 Even and Equal Distribution of Park Spaces, Activities, and Facilities to Meet the Diversity of Local Areas**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

- **3.2.13 Effective Management, Administration, and Partnerships**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

Items 3.2.9 through 3.2.13 are ongoing and are continually being worked on by staff.

- **3.2.14 Designation of City Parks and Properties as Nicotine-Free**

Start: In Progress Complete: Ongoing

Survey results indicated that citizens are very interested in this option; this

is an item that warrants further discussion to determine which direction the commissioners would like to go.

Curtis asked if anyone had any changes they would like to suggest for this proposed timeline; no changes were suggested.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Review/discuss proposed schedule, make desired changes, approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED BY ACCLAMATION VOTE
MOVER:	Burton
SECONDER:	Tribble
AYES:	Burton, Cooper, Heinlein, Kisha, Steele, Tribble, Zaske
ABSENT:	Minden, Petersen

4. Pesticide-Free Hamilton Garden Discussion (ACTION ITEM) – Dwight Curtis

Recently a community garden plot was returned by a renter with chemical sensitivities because their health was being affected by the pesticides being used by other gardeners, and while current policy does not ban the use of pesticides, Curtis wondered whether the community's interest in reducing their overall use may warrant a review of the policy. After some discussion, during which several questions were raised including how a ban would be enforced, how it would affect current renters, and what would be done to ensure that gardeners would effectively control their weeds so they did not create problems for other gardeners, the commissioners requested that staff investigate the topic further and bring the information to a future commission meeting for discussion. Surveying current plot renters to determine their views on the subject was also suggested.

5. Citizen Survey Question (ACTION ITEM) – Dwight Curtis

Every other year, the City of Moscow distributes a citizen satisfaction survey to the public; each commission is invited to submit up to three questions to be included in the survey. On the most recent survey, the Parks and Recreation Commission submitted two questions, included one asking whether Parks and Recreation provided adequate programs and activities and one asking which age group would benefit from more activities. After some discussion, the commissioners recommended rewording the first question to eliminate the term 'adequate' and instead ask how the public rates the overall quality of the programs and activities offered by Parks and Recreation; no additional changes were requested.

REPORTS

1. General Parks and Facilities Update - David Schott

The Hamilton Indoor Recreation Center exterior painting project and the Fire Station 2 roofing project have both been completed. The safety tiles are in at Lola Clyde Park; irrigation and seeding will follow shortly. At Itani Park, the safety tiles and playground equipment have been installed and the site will be hydroseeded soon; the work at Lena Whitmore Park will be also completed within the next few days. The conceptual plan for Harvest Park will be going to the Public Works/Finance committee on Monday, August 26 and to City Council on Tuesday, September 3.

2. Moscow Pathways Commission Update - David Schott

The Pathways Commission's annual bike tour will be held September 19th.

3. Moscow Tree Commission Update - David Schott

The Tree Commission has been working on establishing their goals for 2019 with an eye towards achieving the Tree City USA Growth Award again.

4. Recreation Programs - Kellisa Kulm, Dwight Curtis

The Hamilton-Lowe Aquatics Center was able to stay open a week longer than usual due to the late start of the University of Idaho's fall semester. The pool season will end with the Palouse Youth Triathlon and the Howling at the Hamilton events, held on September 7 and 8, respectively. Other upcoming events include the Best Scooter Trick competition, the Cops and Robbers Run, and the Moscow Half-Marathon and 10K Run. In addition, summer sports programs are wrapping up and registration for fall programs is underway.

5. Pesticide Reduction Efforts - Dwight Curtis

Parks and Recreation staff and the Sustainable Environment Commission have been working together to develop a plan to reduce the City's use of both pesticides and water; staff will also be seeking input from Nichole Baker, the Water Department's wisescaping expert. The initial phase will include dividing each public property into zones that can be evaluated to determine if it is a candidate for changes such as wisescaping or drip irrigation. This endeavor is a long-term project, likely spanning several years, and will involve some shifting of staff roles but ultimately should result in cost savings for the City as well as serving as an educational tool for the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is September 26, 2019.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

NOTICE: Moscow City Council and committee meetings are televised, videotaped and/or recorded. Individuals attending the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the City Clerk, at (208) 883-7015 or TDD 883-7019, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.

Minutes Approved On

OCT 24 2019

Clerk/Deputy Signature