

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Robby Cooper
Commission Chair

~Agenda~

Dwight Curtis
Staff Liaison

prc@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7087

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

Thursday
August 27, 2020

5:15 PM

Hamilton Indoor Rec Center
1724 E F Street

Call to order

1. **Approval of minutes from June 25, 2020** – Robby Cooper
ACTION: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.
2. **Public Comment Period** – Robby Cooper
Only for items not listed on the agenda, including responses to previous comments/questions from the public.
3. **Consideration of Proposed Electric Radio Control Model Racing Car Track** – Chris Caylor
ACTION: Commission will receive presentation on an electric radio control model race car track proposed for the overflow parking area at Mountain View Park. After review, make recommendation on next step.
4. **Consideration of Proposed Bee City USA for Moscow** – Mark Heinlein
ACTION: Commission will receive presentation on the benefits of the City of Moscow becoming a Bee City USA. After review, make recommendation on next step.
5. **Parks and Recreation Programs: COVID Update** – Dwight Curtis
ACTION: Receive update. No action required
6. **Staff Reports**
 - a. **Parks, Facilities & Projects Update** – Dave Schott
 - b. **Pathways & Tree Commissions** – Dave Schott
 - c. **Pool Status** – Dwight Curtis/Karen L Johnston
 - d. **Recreation Programs** – Dwight Curtis**ACTION:** No Action
7. **Open Discussion** – All
8. **Next Meeting Date:** September 24, 2020.

Adjourn

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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Robby Cooper
Commission Chair

~DRAFT Meeting Minutes~

Dwight Curtis
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**Thursday
June 25, 2020**

5:15 PM

**Hamilton Indoor Rec Center
1724 E F Street**

The meeting was called to order at 5:22 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Damon Burton, Robby Cooper, Mark Heinlein, Ted Kisha, Justin Minden (arrived at 5:27 PM), Susan Peterson, Susan Steele, Nancy Tribble, Sara Zaske

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dwight Curtis, Parks and Recreation Director/Staff Liaison; Donna Howard, Staff; Karen L Johnston, Recreation Supervisor; Greg Morrison, Recreation Supervisor; David Schott, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director; Gina Taruscio, City Council Liaison.

1. Approval of minutes from February 23, 2020 – Robby Cooper

ACTION: Approve minutes as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION VOTE
MOVER:	Peterson
SECONDER:	Tribble
AYES:	Burton, Cooper, Heinlein, Kisha, Petersen, Steele, Tribble, Zaske

2. Public Comment Period – Robby Cooper

Only for items not listed on the agenda, including responses to previous comments/questions from the public. There were none.

3. Consideration of Parkland Dedication for Gateway on Sixth Project – Dwight Curtis

Curtis explained that the developers of a new residential and business use project have proposed working with the City and the Urban renewal Agency (URA) on construction of a pathway in lieu of a parkland dedication. The required parkland dedication area is small based on the parcel, cash in lieu of the parkland dedication would be nominal, but a pathway going through the development would link existing pathways and be an excellent addition to the area. The land in question is behind the Ghormley Park ballfields and Pattys Kitchen, near Deacon St. By working with Bill Belknap of the URA, the developers and the City of Moscow each will share a portion of the construction costs. Curtis expects this will be a phased project as the funding will need to be included in the FY 21 or 22 budget request. The developer will begin by preparing the area then the City and URA will finish paving the pathway. Curtis asked the P&R Commission to consider recommending to City Council the pathway option in lieu of parkland dedication or fees. Cooper opened the topic for discussion. Jim Stephens and Rusty Olps, owner/developer of the Gateway on 6th project, showed an aerial view of the planned development and explained that the building site will include 27 brownstone townhouses and some over 55 living units. They will be contributing 20 feet at the end of the pathway and 10 feet at the beginning to connect to Paradise Path. Part of it will be a fire lane. Then they will put in a path that meanders along the ballfields from their property line connecting to the old pool house building in Ghormley Park. Kisha asked about parking; the developers explained they were currently leasing 84 parking spaces from the University, near Lilly St.

ACTION: Recommend to City Council to accept pathway option in lieu of parkland dedication or fees.

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

4. Staff Reports Since COVID-19

a. Parks and Facilities General – Dave Schott

Schott's staff has been busy working to get the pool ready; two employees left, Nate Poznick and Travis Seltenreich and were replaced with Meredyth Whiteman from the City's Water Department and seasonal employee Zac Carscallen.

- **Project updates:** Jim Lyle Rotary Park's playground will be replaced by August, the new equipment arrived, still waiting on the tiles to be delivered and the concrete replaced by Knox. He expects installation to occur in August. The pathway near Itani Park is going to be continued to Crestview Dr. and should be completed in early September. The concrete at the entrance to the 1912 Center will have an acrylic overlay applied to it. The City once again hired the Idaho Department of Corrections laborers for some projects including cleaning up entry areas, yard work maintenance at the Water Department and string trimming the weeds at Harvest Park. The Harvest Park soil tests are complete and show an acidic environment; after the weeds are mowed, staff will plant a cover crop.

b. Pathways Commission – Schott said they have not met since February due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

c. Tree Commission – Likewise, no meetings since February, per Schott.

d. Pool Opening Status – Curtis said the pool is presently scheduled to open on July 1 and he is waiting on further information about how the pandemic will affect daily operations. As of now masks will be required when not in the water, distancing will be required, sanitizing stations will be set up, the locker room showers will be turned off but the family room showers will be available, there will be a sanitizing routine and schedule for the facility, only one slide will be open. All of the staff is hired and trained, including an additional safety officer to oversee that the cleaning and sanitizing is done properly. We are still selling pool passes but at a lower rate due to the shorter season and wondering if we should not have season passes and just charge an entrance fee. Possible costs would be \$1 for a child/senior and \$3 for adults. That could involve having the patrons leave every two hours, limiting the number of people coming into the pool. With a smaller number of people at the pool at one time we might not have to require masks. Curtis is concerned about people not wearing masks but the Health Department said it is OK for an outdoor facility. He added if masks are not required they would at least be recommended. Staff would mark the grass with paint showing how far apart they need to be while out of the water. The deck chairs will be spaced far apart and patrons will be encouraged to bring their own chairs. Curtis is waiting to hear from City Council on opening and if any other processes will be required. Tribble asked about monitoring the six-foot distance in and out of the pool; Curtis replied it would be impossible to do while people are swimming but staff will enforce it while people are out of the pool. Curtis heard that Governor Little is considering moving back to Stage 3; if that were to happen the pool couldn't open due to the 50-person limit. There are 30 staff members required to be working while the pool is open. Curtis added the pool pass sales are way down, only 33 season passes sold so far this year. There have been many people requesting refunds, citing concerns about getting COVID-19 or refusing to wear a mask. Kisha thought marking the dots is a good idea but added how hard it would be to tell a three-year-old to stay in the area. Burton asked if the public complains when the pool loses \$15,000 in a normal year, how will the public react to Curtis' estimate that it will lose \$85,000 this year, especially with added budget concerns? Curtis replied the opinion was if this was for the good of the community, City Council felt it was an acceptable loss. Curtis added that those numbers were just projections, it is difficult to estimate anything in this situation. Taruscio said the City Council felt strongly that the pool should be opened but she is concerned that the financial loss would be nothing compared to the loss of even one human life. She added there could also be financial assistance from the CARES Act to help offset losses due to this novel coronavirus. Minden asked to clarify if the bathrooms would be open – just the showers would be closed? Curtis

replied that yes, people could use the restrooms but showers would be unavailable. Curtis added how last year the pool wasn't closed at all due to fecal contamination; the mandatory bathroom breaks and swim diapers are credited with helping that. The swim teams will have their same early morning practice times, we will turn on the showers in the locker rooms for them, they are very conscious of all this. He added that there will also be more lap swimming time since we won't have swim lessons in the morning.

e. Recreation Programs – Karen Johnston & Greg Morrison

Morrison said the HIRC reopened two months ago; it is still at Level 1 to keep people apart from each other while in the gym and it is limited to 10 people in the gym. The governor's wording says "can – should" so maybe next week we will increase the gym limit but a lot depends on what happens with the pool. People have been coming in and using the facility. If we have people waiting and ten people in the gym we will empty it out on the hour. Recreation programs are slim: cancelled youth T-ball, coach pitch, many of the Skyhawks sport camps. Historically that's our biggest camp; their basketball camp is usually the most popular but this year only two signed up. This week we do have three Skyhawks camps going. The Phillips Farm camps went well, the two one-week programs were held outside. Planning now on having an adult softball league. Since Governor Inslee said everyone must wear a mask in Washington Morrison received inquiries about Washington teams playing on our fields. Morrison is looking forward to the late summer and fall sports like co-ed adult softball and youth volleyball. He's checked the community garden plots and needed to call some people to remind them to take care of their spaces. Kisha agreed that there were lots of weeds blooming in the garden plots.

Johnston did have to cancel some activities due to the pandemic. The Eggan was closed when the school district closed but reopened for Kids Kamp on June 8. The program can hold 24 kids per day, we have about 50 different kids participating, this year we are staying close to home, walking more places. They are going to do different things and have been tapping into the team's talents – puppetry, today Wild at Art came to the Eggan Youth Center. We also had visits from the Moscow Volunteer Fire Department who provided safety training, and the Hamilton-Lowe Lifeguards did some training. We found some great program ideas on Facebook. The pool has instructors hired and we are getting 25 guards trained, some are for the HLAC and others are for other aquatics centers because our pool opened earlier than the others. There also is an art camp starting soon.

ACTION: No Action

5. Open Discussion – All

Curtis mentioned that Kristin Graham took a job elsewhere and her replacement, Kristie Ingham, will start on July 13.

Peterson asked if the commission table at Farmers Market was cancelled in light of their new format; Curtis replied yes, they are evolving just like everyone else.

Peterson asked about the status of the P&R Commission's annual parks tour. After a brief discussion all agreed to skip it this year as there are no new commissioners and thus could save expenses for the City.

6. Next Meeting Date: July 23, 2020.

Adjourned at 6:19 PM

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