

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Nancy Tribble
Chair
prc@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

David Schott / Greg Morrison
Staff Liaisons
208-883-7098 / 208-883-7088

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

Thursday
June 23, 2022

5:15 PM

Hamilton Indoor Rec Center
1724 E F Street

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm.

PRESENT: Richard Gayler; Catherine Harner; Mark Heinlein; Ted Kisha; Jackson Landis; Susan Petersen; Susan Steele; Nancy Tribble; Sara Zaske.

STAFF: Donna Howard; Greg Morrison; Tyler Ochoa; David Schott.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Parks and Recreation Commission May 26, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Nancy Tribble**
Presentation of minutes for approval.

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

Heinlein moved to approve the minutes as presented. Gayler seconded. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- 2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)**
Mike Gates, Moscow, ID, asked if there was a program for adults with disabilities on a limited income similar to the City's Youth Scholarship Fund (YSF). He said it can be difficult to afford a season pass to the Hamilton-Lowe Aquatics Center (HLAC) and asked if Parks and Recreation could set up an adult pool pass assistance program. Schott responded that the YSF is funded by City Council and they set the parameters on who is eligible. Morrison invited Gates to come back during work hours next week and discuss the matter further.

Sara Zaske arrived at 5:18 pm.

- 3. Review of the Parks and Recreation Commission Farmer's Market Display Board (ACTION ITEM) – Nancy Tribble**
The Parks and Recreation Commission will host a Farmer's Market table on June 25, 2022. The Commission will review the proposed display board.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission display board; or provide staff with further direction.

Schott shared the two handouts that Howard created, one about the City's Parks and a second highlighting employment opportunities at the HLAC. Then he showed the draft images of the panels she designed for the Farmers Market (FM) display board. These covered Anderson

Frontier Park as a pesticide free park, Moscow becoming a Bee City USA, the Ghormley Pickleball Courts and improvements at Harvest Park. There were QR codes for the Parks and Recreation website and the HLAC Employment Application. Howard will finish the displays, print off the handouts and Tribble will pick them up by 4 pm on June 24th. Tribble will set up the display at FM Saturday morning.

Zaske moved to accept the displays, handouts and arrangements as discussed. Petersen seconded. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. Consideration of the 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Tour (ACTION ITEM) – Nancy Tribble

The Commission will discuss the date, time and content of the 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Tour.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the date, time and content of the 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Tour; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Schott opened the discussion by asking if the commissioners wanted to vacate the July meeting altogether or hold an abridged meeting before the tour. A discussion ensued on that and the purpose of the tour, where to go and how many sites to visit. The commissioners considered visiting areas that are new or received significant recent improvements such as Harvest Park, Phillips Farm, the flag pole and flower bed installed at Jim Lyle Rotary Park for the Rotary Club's 100th anniversary observance, the Ghormley pickleball courts, Moser Park, Lena Whitmore, Mountain View Park, and Milton Arthur Park.

Petersen moved to have a short meeting, if needed, on July 28th in the HIRC then to go on the tour. Heinlein seconded. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

5. Report: Parks and Recreation Commission Strategic Planning Historical Overview – David Schott

Staff will present a historical overview of the parks.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: No action, report.

Schott shared a history of Moscow's parks, beginning when East City Park was first established as the first City Park then up to the present day. Most of the information was from the Parks and Recreation Historical Guide. He highlighted milestones and shared many photos.

6. Report: Parks and Recreation Commission Strategic Planning Operational Overview – David Schott

Staff will present an operational overview of the parks.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: No action, report.

In order to update the Strategic Plan, Schott would like to establish goals and plans for Parks and Recreation's future. Schott explained how the Parks staff keeps a record of their daily activities. This allows him to get an overview of how many hours are spent mowing, removing snow, cleaning the parks, etc. He also shared information on caring for the ballfields, how water is used in the parks, who is financially responsible for different public spaces and how to plan for future improvements. Gayler noted this didn't include growth in recreation programs; Morrison replied that the Master Plan addresses meeting citizens' needs for facilities and public spaces so it

doesn't cover recreation programs. The recreation staff are continually adding new programs based on trends, such as the upcoming pickleball tournament. He also said there are twenty to thirty people who regularly play pickleball in the HIRC Gym and there are many college age people playing on the Ghormley courts, it is rapidly gaining popularity. Gayler asked if traditional team sports like softball, volleyball and soccer were still being offered; Morrison replied that the pandemic negatively impacted adult participation in team sports but he has seen a surge in youth sport participation. Morrison added that team sports tend to increase and decrease in popularity over the long term and wouldn't be surprised to see a rebound in team sports' registrations in the coming years.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Recreation and Pool Update – Greg Morrison

Morrison said it was difficult to hire enough lifeguards but they finally have minimum staffing. He asked Assistant City Supervisor Jen Pfiffner to approve paying the guards more than originally budgeted to compete with nearby Pullman and Clarkston aquatics programs. The HLAC will soon offer another American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification course and that should allow him to employ additional guards. Morrison also hired 15-year old guards, who are limited by the hours they can work. Morrison complimented Ava Barker who has been working for the HIRC and HLAC; she has been the pool manager this year and is doing a phenomenal job getting everything organized. There is the new play structure and Morrison is getting lots of positive feedback. Morrison recently took over management of the Moscow School District's Community Playfields at Joseph Street. Tanner Paulson and Andrew Pace have been doing a great job, despite the many scheduling issues and all of the rain. The staff began using Google Sheets last year for scheduling per Calvin Macy's suggestion and it helps to keep everything organized. Micro soccer was also impacted by the rainy spring weather but it otherwise went well. Morrison also gave a shout-out to Schott for coaching T-ball, that was a big help. The HIRC Gym floors were recently refinished which caused some facility closures due to the fumes. The floors were completely sanded, sealed, painted and finished this year with oil-based products to better protect the wood. The floor also now includes permanently painted pickleball lines and Morrison is planning an indoor pickleball tournament this winter.

Tyler Ochoa reported that the Summer Break Kids Kamp is in week two of their ten-week program; almost every day is filled to capacity with waitlists, there are many activities planned including field trips and guest speakers. Dog Obedience classes are in full swing and going well. The Phillips Farm Nature Camp is also at full registration, the kid's woodworking class is doing well and Ochoa recently fielded a call about the Winter Holiday Parade so he will begin planning that. He is happy to announce that he will observe his one-year work anniversary this Sunday.

2. Parks, Facilities and Community Forestry Update – David Schott

Schott reminded the commissioners that the Bee City USA application will be considered this Monday; the Public Works Finance Committee is at 3 pm, followed by City Council at 7 pm. The City had to accept bids from two different contractors for the Milton Arthur Park playground prep, one for the earthwork and another for the concrete. If City Council approves those, Schott expects it to be ready for the playground installation in October. Due to the rainy spring weather, the Parks staff is working hard to catch up on all of the mowing. Even the Facilities Supervisor Jay Lewis was helping to mow.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is July 28, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 655 pm.

Minutes Approved On
JUL 28 2022
Donna Sue Howard
Clerk/Deputy Signature