

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Cat Harner
Chair
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**Regular Meeting
Minutes**

David Schott / Betsy Rawls
Staff Liaisons
208-883-7098 / 208-883-7088

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

**Thursday
March 26, 2026**

5:15 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Steele, Sally Greene, Ted Kisha, Mark Heinlein, Richard Gayler, Cat Harner, Gretchen Hayes, Emily Klarquist

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alyssa Knight

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Betsy Rawls (Staff Liaison), David Schott (Staff Liaison), Hadley Cabitto, Allison Anders, Cynthia King, Scott Sumner (City Council Liaison), Kelsey Johnson, Cynthia King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Parks and Recreation Commission December 11, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Cat Harner**
Presentation of minutes for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented.

Kisha moved to approve the minutes. Heinlein seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- 2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 15 minutes)**
Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

There were no public comments.

- 3. Update: IRPA 2027 Conference – Betsy Rawls**

The Parks and Recreation Department is in the early stages of planning to host the 2027 IRPA (Idaho Parks and Recreation Association) annual Conference.

Four Parks and Recreation staff will be attending the 2026 IRPA Conference held in Twin Falls this year, April 21st-23rd. Moscow Parks and Recreation was asked to host 2027's conference and would like to have the Parks and Recreation Commission involved in planning and tabling, as well as University of Idaho Recreation students on board. Further planning will be discussed at future commission meetings.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: No action, update.

4. Consideration of the 2026 Parks and Recreation Commission Farmers Market Tabling Request (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

The Parks and Recreation Commission will discuss upcoming Farmers Market dates to host a Parks and Recreation Commission table. In 2025, the commission opted for June 14 and August 2 to promote Bee City USA and public outreach for upcoming recreation programs, respectively. In addition, the commission will also discuss an alternate date and general theme for each Farmers Market.

Commission members decided on two dates for tabling at the 2026 Farmers Market: June 13th and August 1st. The June 13th table will focus on the Bee City Subcommittee, and the August 1st table will focus on promoting upcoming recreation programs and the Fall/Winter 2026 activity guide that will be going live on that same day. The following backup dates were also determined: June 20th and August 15th.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve dates and theme for the upcoming Farmers Market season; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Greene moved to approve the dates of June 13th and August 1st for Parks and Recreation Commission tabling at Farmers Market. Hayes seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous.

5. Consideration of the 2026 Annual Parks and Facilities Tour (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

In the past, the Parks and Recreation Commission conducted an annual park and facilities tour in late summer. However, last year, the commission choose May 22 for the annual parks and facilities tour in lieu of the May meeting. This year, staff recommends the tour in lieu of the June 25, 2026 meeting. The commission will set a date for the annual tour and discuss desired sites to visit.

The commission came up with a list of parks and facilities that they would like to see on the tour this year. Parks sites listed at the meeting included the Hamilton Community Garden, Harvest Park, Itani Park (due to its pesticide-free status in 2026) and the future site of Moser Park. Members also discussed visiting older facilities to assess their status. The commission decided to cancel the June commission meeting in favor of conducting the park and facilities tour, and commission members will contact David with any other site visit ideas that they have.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the June 25, 2026 tour date and site visit locations; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Kisha moved to approved the motion. Hayes seconded.

Roll call vote: Aye: Unanimous.

6. Consideration of the April 23, 2026 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

Parks and Recreation staff will be attending the Idaho Recreation and Parks Association conference April 13 through April 23. Staff recommends cancelling the meeting April meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commission members agreed to cancel the Parks and Recreation Commission in April, with the option of scheduling as special meeting as needed.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve cancelling the April 23, 2026 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Hayes moved to approve the meeting cancellation. Klarquist seconded.

UPDATES/REPORTS

1. Recreation and Pool Update – Betsy Rawls

- 1.) Moscow Parks and Recreation social media has been seeing consistent activity and increased engagement. Staff have been working on a Moscow Parks Madness social media series, which engages users in viewing and voting for their favorite parks and facilities during the March Madness timeline. There will also be a video series of City parks features, taking place after Moscow Parks Madness. This will be accomplished with the assistance of the City of Moscow’s Communications Specialist.
- 2.) Registration for summer programs opens April 1st.
- 3.) The Hamilton Community Gardens are mostly rented, with just one raised bed available and two large plots waiting on renewals.
- 4.) Parks and Recreation’s first annual Hoop-A-Palousa is still taking registrations. The City partnered with Moscow School District to provide more gym locations for this event.
- 5.) Recreation staff are choosing from different designs to order a new “fun run” obstacle course for the Hamilton Lowe Aquatic Center this summer.
- 6.) Micro soccer numbers are up this season, especially at the Pre-K/K level.

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

- 1.) A volunteer planting event will be taking place at Harvest Park on Saturday, March 28th, from 10am to noon.
- 2.) Parks and Recreation staff are putting on a Facility Improvement Day on April 4th, from 9am to noon. Moscow Baseball Association shared the event flyer on their social media, which will most likely bring in participation.
- 3.) Parks staff have been busy with general cleanup, especially in response to recent flooding.
- 4.) Facilities staff have begun with early set up at the aquatic center. There has also been progress with the building of the new City shop, for which there will be a public art installation voted upon by community members. (Art submittals have been narrowed down by public vote from 21 to four project proposals.)
- 5.) Many Parks and Facilities staff have been deep in budget planning.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS:

1. Next Park and Recreation Meeting: May 28, 2026

ADJOURN

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