

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2021

Members present Charles Maynard, Chuck Perry, Charlene Rios, Warren Tracey, Ryan Holterhoff, Greg Nevarez, and Troy White

Staff present Susan Schwiesow, Clayton Pray, Tom Los, and Stefanie Dunn

2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD

Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Charles Maynard	X	X										
Charlene Rios	X	X										
Warren Tracey	X	X										
Chuck Perry	X	X										
Ryan Holterhoff	X	X										
Greg Nevarez	E	X										
Troy White	E	X										

C=Meeting Cancelled X=Present A=Absent E=Excused R=Resigned

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order by Charlene Rios at 12:01 p.m. via Zoom conference call.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Maynard moved to approve the minutes dated January 13, 2021. Motion seconded by Mr. Perry. Motion unanimously approved and passed.

Correspondence/Communication

Mr. Maynard and Mr. Perry provided an update following the first meeting of the Creative District. The result of that meeting was committee assembly of stakeholders from the community. The committee would focus on projects to make Moses Lake more attractive and committee members were asked to read through the purpose of the committee prior to next meeting. Mr. Maynard expressed some concern about whether the City is truly ready for large-scale art-related projects. Ms. Schwiesow explained this committee is being spearheaded by Dollie Boyd, Museum Manager and there are still many things that need to be discussed to finalize next steps for the committee.

Group discussion around commitment of Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and Mr. White expressed some interest in being involved. Mr. White would like to attend the next meeting on February 18, 2021 to gain further information on this committee, its purpose and what his involvement might look like.

Plat Reviews/Dedication, or Fee in Lieu of Land

- A. Barrington Park: Down past Park Orchard a 0.6-acre area set aside for a park. Ms. Schwiesow explained that home developer may develop a park or pay fee in lieu of land for Parks & Recreation to develop a small park in that development.
- B. Lakemont (Power Point Park): Plans submitted to build homes near Power Point Park and Community Development has been in discussions with the developer for potential park in the

development with some amenities. Area name has been changed to Lakemont, which may or may not impact the name of the already existing Power Point Park.

- C. Sun Terrace: Out by Moses Lake Golf Course in Aho Development, 11.5 acres of land dedicated to develop a potential park out in that area.

Board discussion around benefits of having the housing developer create/develop a park. Ms. Schwiesow explained it's much easier if developer creates the park.

Recreation Update

Mr. Los advised Parks & Recreation is working on new Spring Brochure, new recreation instructor agreement contract, which is something we have not truly developed. He also advised that several sports leagues are requesting to use our ballfields, which has worked so far provided we follow current guidelines for Phase I. Mr. Los advised that we are not offering special events with current COVID-19 guidelines, with the exception of the Youth Day Parade, MLK Event and hopefully Spring Fest.

Mr. Los advised that the Ice Rink is operating at 50% revenue compared to what it was doing this same time last year, some of which was due to weather delays and COVID-19 guidelines for capacity. He advised that Moses Lake Youth Hockey Association has requested to extend their season; pending cold temperatures remain desirable, we are looking to extend their season to March 14, 2021.

Museum is working on their next gallery opening on March 5, 2021 and online registration for our Community Gardens starts next week. Board discussion around capacities for ballfields in each Phase of the State's opening plan.

Board also asked about pool opening this year. Mr. Los summarized that registration will be delayed until we know more, and we are not currently offering season passes. Mr. Los also explained that with pool rentals, he is requesting that organizations/individuals pay \$500 deposit upon booking dates. Mr. Los explained that there is some concern about lifeguard staffing this year with the pool not opening last season. He went onto explain that there are not as many returning as usual and new lifeguards are more difficult to recruit due to high school not doing any aquatic classes this year. He is advertising primarily on social media and thru word of mouth with lifeguards. Mr. Los said he is hopeful that the pool will open this year and he anticipates capacity guidelines being a reality.

Parks Update

Mr. Pray advised they are still doing winter maintenance and shoreline clean-up. City Council last night approved reallocation of Cascade Campground funds to redo the infields at Lauzier Athletic Complex. Mr. Pray advised they are hoping to start the project March 1, 2021. Mr. Pray also advised that pool liner installation should start on or around March 1, 2021, which will really help improve the pool.

Board question about Maintenance annual schedule, to which Mr. Pray advised that there is not a set schedule. He went onto explain that the facilities and parks, like Blue Heron Park, Cascade Park and McCosh Park, that see more use require more frequent and sometimes intensive maintenance.

Board discussion about the current shape of Neppel Trail following the homeless clean-up. Ms.

Schwiesow explained that the portion of land from the trail to the shore belongs to Columbia Basin Railroad and the City is working with them to try to encourage upkeep. Parks & Recreation is responsible for the trail, which Ms. Schwiesow advised our Maintenance consistently clean-up. The Board expressed some concern about rutting along Neppel Landing, which Mr. Pray advised is a combination of lawnmowers, city maintenance and police vehicles being driven through that area. There may also be other vehicles driving on the grass causing unnecessary rutting.

Board questions about new lights at Lauzier Athletic Complex and whether they have been used. Ms. Schwiesow explained that these lights have been used consistently for teams practicing and they have worked well.

Director's Report

- A. Parks & Recreation Comp Plan: Ms. Schwiesow provided an update that it closes on February 26, 2021 and will move forward after we receive all RFP back.
- B. Larson Recreation Center: Ms. Schwiesow advised that bid opening is February 23, 2021 and we are hopeful it will come in within bid estimation so we know whether we will be moving forward with building.
- C. Adopt-A-Street: Ms. Schwiesow advised this program was active last in 2009 and Parks & Recreation has been asked to bring this program back. She went onto explain that we will contact those who participated in this program then and move forward from there. Ms. Schwiesow explained that those who adopt their street(s) will be provided some training, vest and safety materials and they will be responsible for keeping it clean.
- D. Department Name Change: Ms. Schwiesow presented the new proposed name for Parks & Recreation at the City Council meeting on February 9, 2021, which was well-received, and City Council will hear a motion for the name change at the February 23rd council meeting.

Comments/Questions from the Board:


The Board expressed concern related to the trees along Broadway Avenue and who is responsible for maintaining them. Mr. Pray clarified that there are a few trees that Parks & Recreation are responsible for at Larson Field, for example, but the responsibility of maintaining the trees and landscaping along Broadway belong to the property owners. Mr. Nevarez shared that Code Enforcement would be the entity to enforce property owners taking care of their landscaping and trees. He went onto offer reaching out to Code Enforcement via a formal complaint to tackle this concern and see what can be done.

The Board discussed clean-up of the shoreline of Moses Lake, which Mr. Pray advised is something that Maintenance crews do consistently on City parks property.

Adjournment:

Mr. Maynard moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Perry. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Minutes approved by Parks & Recreation Advisory Board on 10th of March 2021.

By: 
Stefanie Dunn, Administrative Assistant
Moses Lake Parks & Recreation