

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**May 12, 2021**

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

Members absent Troy White

Staff present Susan Schwiesow, Clayton Pray, Carrie Hoiness, Dollie Boyd, and Stefanie Dunn

**2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD**

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

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 7:01pm.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the minutes dated April 14, 2021. Motion seconded by Mr. Maynard. Motion unanimously approved and passed.

Correspondence/Communication

Ms. Rios attended last meeting and has been updating herself with past meeting recordings. She advised that this committee is still in the research phase and a survey has been sent out to the public to gather information on what the community wants to see downtown. Ms. Schwiesow advised that there are around 100 responses so far. Ms. Schwiesow clarified how the Creative District boundary was determined.

Recreation Update

Mr. Los provided a recreation update. Community Gardens are 50% full so far and communication has increased with gardeners via bi-monthly newsletters. Cascade Campground is nearly full for Memorial Day weekend and the Parks Office has seen an increase in calls regarding booking camp sites this summer. No COVID restrictions for the campground. The first tournament has already happened, and Explorer Day Camp is starting to fill up with 12 week-long registrations so far. Mr. Los explained that early registration is higher than it was in 2019.

Mr. Los advised there is a summer intern for the department, Felicia Ziemer. She is in the final weeks of her degree in Sports Management. Mr. Los advised she will be helping out with essential office duties as well as recreational programming.

Mr. Los advised that the summer brochure is being finalized and will be available in June. He also advised that Pickleball for Free program started last week, which targets youth, however, we are starting to see more families participating in programs together. Pickleball drop-in program will begin this week, \$5 per person and will be at the roller/ice rink. There are 3 courts painted for use.

Mr. Los shared that T-Ball exploded this year. We had 241 kids signed up, which is about 100 more than we saw in 2019; T-Ball was cancelled in 2020. The Recreation Specialist worked very hard to accommodate everyone that signed up and was able to find just enough coaches for all the teams.

Mr. Los advised that we are still moving forward with opening the water park. Of course, Parks continues to monitor current county phase and will adjust as needed. Mr. Los advised that we have sold about 150 season passes so far this year, which is quite a bit less than previous years, however, the water park's daily capacity is capped at 1,000 people and online registrations can be made up to 7 days in advance. Mr. Los explained that training of staff is scheduled over the next 2 weeks and then the water park will open Memorial Day weekend.

Parks Update

Mr. Pray advised that project to rebuild infields at Paul Lauzier Complex began this week, which is about halfway complete and wrap up could be as soon as end of the week. Mr. Nevarez inquired why the infield improvements were not done in the off-season. Both Mr. Pray and Ms. Schwiesow explained that the process for approval of this process and contractual elements with the company took longer than anticipated. Ms. Schwiesow explained that long-term goal is to update all infields over the next few years.

Mr. Pray also advised that parks are busy, and docks are all in. Water Park pool is full, and Maintenance will be filling the lazy river and flow rider this week and next. Ms. Schwiesow encouraged the Board to visit the water park this year, if possible, to see all the updates with new pool liner, signage, and landscaping.

Mr. Pray advised that pet station was installed at Marina Park and 2 permanently mounted garbage cans were installed at Peninsula Park. Mr. Maynard commended Mr. Pray for their work in making Marina Park look nice the last few weeks but wanted to mention the vegetation at Marina Park along the shoreline and whether it could be trimmed. Mr. Pray advised he can investigate this; Maintenance will have to ensure vegetation is only trimmed on city property, not the shoreline.

Mr. Maynard also asked about the cracks along Neppel Landing trail and whether these can be repaired. Mr. Pray advised this is a project already being worked on by Streets Department and there should be improvement in the next week or so.

Mr. Maynard inquired about the clock tower on 3<sup>rd</sup> in round-about and why the correct time is not always displayed with the daylight savings changes. Mr. Pray advised this was donated to the City by Moses Lake Rotary Club and that it is Parks Department's responsibility to update the time, which they will make a point to do soon.

Director's Report

1. Larson Recreation Center – Ms. Schwiesow advised that groundbreaking took place this morning. There was a very good turnout from community, city council, Parks board and local representatives. Ms. Schwiesow thanked the board members who were able to attend the ceremony.
2. Parks & Recreation Comp Plan – Ms. Schwiesow confirmed that stakeholder meetings are scheduled for next week. These will be conducted via Zoom and Ms. Schwiesow provided some of questions that will be asked. She also explained that in addition to the stakeholder meetings, we will be conducting focus groups, which will consist of community members (school district, businesses, etc.). Ms. Schwiesow explained that the final element of these meetings next week will be a Public Forum on Thursday night, May 20<sup>th</sup> and all Board members are encouraged to attend this if possible. This will also be conducted via Zoom meeting.
3. WRPA Virtual Conference - Ms. Schwiesow explained that Spencer Grigg was nominated and awarded a Distinguished Service Award for his service as Parks & Recreation Director.
4. Museum - Ms. Schwiesow advised that the Museum had their first in-person opening last Friday. The museum staff felt that opening was well attended, and the museum programs are seeing an increase in registration.

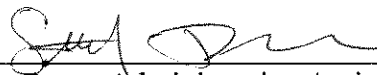
Comments/Questions from the Board

Board discussion regarding the trees along Broadway Avenue. Mr. Nevarez has reached out to Code Enforcement, and they are working on the best way to proceed. Mr. Nevarez advised that Code Enforcement has a few concerns, 1) they do not have a tree specialist who can assess the state of the trees in that area and 2) there are some development plans for that area, so Code Enforcement wonders if landscaping will be addressed as the area gets developed. Board questions about the irrigation of those trees in that area, to which Mr. Pray advised that there is a meter there, however, it is not currently functional.

Adjournment

Mr. Maynard moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Holterhoff. The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Minutes approved by Parks & Recreation Advisory Board on 14th of July 2021.

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