

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting minutes
September 25th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.
Mt. Room Chambers, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Tim called the meeting to order. Kori conducted roll call with the following members present: Joyce Gifford, Erin McClellan, Tim Lainhart, Melissa Deyoe, and Emily Lisborg. It was noted that Ken Worcester and Tim Wuest were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes made by Emily Lisborg, seconded by Erin McClellan. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Payson Farms HOA - Park Property Proposal

Scott Archer presented an update on the Payson Farms HOA park property proposal. He explained that the Payson Farms HOA owns, manages, and maintains a 1.73-acre park and has requested that the City consider taking ownership and management of the site. Staff had conducted an analysis of the maintenance impact to the City, estimating approximately \$9,300 annually for basic maintenance based on current conditions. Additionally, potential deferred maintenance costs were identified, including approximately \$25,000 for playground replacement, \$6,000 for picnic table replacements, and up to \$15,000 for irrigation system replacement, totaling around \$46,000.

Scott noted that according to the recently adopted Parks Master Plan, the size of this park (1.7 acres) classifies it as a pocket park, and the City already exceeds the amount of pocket park facilities needed. While the park serves its neighborhood well, it doesn't meet the minimum standard of 3 acres required for a neighborhood park. He also mentioned that there are several HOA-owned parks throughout the city, and accepting this one could lead to similar requests from other HOA's.

Pat Ullman, a resident and former HOA president, spoke about the park. She described it as well-maintained with picnic tables and a play structure that serves not only the HOA but also neighboring subdivisions. She emphasized that the park has been continuously maintained and is an asset to the community.

Committee members discussed concerns about the staffing impact, particularly since the parks maintenance budget had recently lost all seasonal staffing. Questions were raised about the proximity to other parks, including the recently opened Hazel Grove park, which opened in May 2022.

The committee decided to table the discussion until the next meeting when more members would be present.

Motion to table the discussion until the next meeting made by Joyce Gifford, seconded by Tim Lainhart. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Draft Parks Capital Improvement Plan

Tom Kissinger, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director, presented the draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for parks. He explained that this would be the first formal CIP for Parks and Recreation, following the recently approved Parks Master Plan. The presentation outlined various funding sources, including:

- Park System Development Charges (SDCs) - Must be used for growth-related projects on the SDC project list.
- Metro Local Share - Approximately \$1.9 million allocated from the 2019 Metro Parks and Nature bond that must be spent or under contract by 2029.
- A potential parks utility fee (similar to other utility fees like stormwater) that could help fund deferred maintenance projects and reduce dependency on general fund money.
- Grants and donations from various sources including Metro, state, and federal programs.
- General fund allocations, primarily focused on maintenance and operations.

Tom then outlined planned projects across multiple fiscal years:

For FY 2025-2026:

- Rivercrest ADA pathway
- Wesley Lynn Dog Park (primarily funded by Metro Local Share)
- Singer Creek Annex trail development (potential project)

For FY 2026-2027:

- Hillendale restroom replacement
- Park Place pathways and shelter
- Chapin Park playground expansion
- Pioneer Center roof replacement

For FY 2027-2028:

- Canemah Children's Park shelter replacement
- Clackamas Park boat ramp (first phase)
- Atkinson Park redevelopment and ADA improvements
- Old Canemah Park trail improvements

For FY 2028-2029:

- Wesley Lynn Park infield turf installation
- Clackamette Park phase 2 (RV Park relocation)

For FY 2029-2031:

- Hillendale playground replacement
- Rivercrest lower shelter replacement
- Rivercrest Spray Park replacement
- Clackamette Park phase 3 (park amenities)

Committee members asked questions about project timing, funding expiration dates, and alignment with community priorities from the Parks Master Plan. Tim requested that at the next meeting, staff provide information from the community engagement survey to ensure the CIP aligns with what residents had identified as priorities. The committee also discussed the need to consider land acquisition for future parks, particularly in underserved areas.

Barclay Park Off-leash Dog Area

Mayor Denyse McGriff attended to discuss concerns about Barclay Park's off-leash dog area, which was established in 2015 as a one-year pilot program but had continued since then without formal review. She explained that there have been increasing concerns about uncontrolled dogs throughout the park, conflicts between dogs, and safety issues for other park users. The Mayor also noted ongoing problems with camping in the ravine area adjacent to the park and recent incidents including a tree fire started by a camper.

Committee members discussed potential solutions, noting that since the pilot program began, the city has developed Tyrone S Woods Dog Park and is planning the Wesley Lynn Dog Park. Joyce pointed out that the off-leash area in Barclay Park is not well-defined, leading people to allow their dogs off-leash throughout the entire park.

After discussion about enforcement challenges and the lack of clear signage, the committee decided to recommend ending the temporary off-leash designation at Barclay Park.

Motion to end the temporary off-leash dog experiment at Barclay Park with an open-ended timeline until more information can be gathered, with the clause that input would be sought from community members regarding this change made by Erin McClellan, seconded by Joyce Gifford. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Upcoming Committee Vacancies/Term Expirations

Kori reported that Tim Lainhart and Joyce Gifford's terms are expiring on December 31st, 2025. There are also two additional open positions, plus the unfilled youth position, for a total of four available spots. She noted that four applications have already been received, two of which are from the McLaughlin neighborhood (only one could be accepted due to neighborhood representation rules).

The committee agreed to hold interviews on December 4th, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

Motion to hold committee interviews on December 4th, 2025 made by Melissa Deyoe, seconded by Erin McClellan. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Staff Updates

Scott provided several updates:

- **Willamette Falls Public Improvement Funding:** The City has received \$12.5 million from the State of Oregon (transferred from Metro) to create public access at the former Blue Heron site, now called Tumwata Village by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The City is working with Grand Ronde to develop plans for public improvements that complement their development vision.
- **Clackamas Park Design and Engineering Project:** The City has completed the RFP process for consultants and will soon enter contract negotiations for the design and engineering work.
- **Aquatic/Rec Center & EOT Conceptual Design & Planning Project:** An RFP has been issued and proposals received for the conceptual design and planning of a future aquatic/recreation center to replace the existing pool, and for plans regarding the End of

the Oregon Trail site. Staff requested a PRAC representative for the consultant selection committee.

Motion to appoint Ken Worcester as the primary representative and Erin McClellan as the backup for the Aquatic/Rec Center & EOT Conceptual Design project selection committee made by Joyce Gifford, seconded by Tim Lainhart. Motion did not pass by roll call vote. Erin McClellan, Emily Lisborg, and Melissa Deyoe each voted 'no'.

Motion to appoint Erin McClellan as the primary representative and Ken as the backup for the Aquatic/Rec Center & EOT Conceptual Design project selection committee made by Emily Lisborg, seconded by Melissa Deyoe. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Additional updates included:

- The Parks System Development Charges methodology was approved by the city commission with some adjustments.
- Tom announced upcoming fall events including the inaugural OC Fall Fest (October 5th), cemetery tours at Mountain View Cemetery (October 4th), the Swamp Swim (October 25th), and Saturday Night Spirits at the Ermatinger House (November 1st).

Committee members expressed their appreciation for the summer programs, Concerts in the Park, and other activities that had taken place since their last meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING - OCTOBER 23RD, 2025

The next meeting was confirmed for October 23rd, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned about 8:30 p.m.