

# Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission

## June 2024 Minutes

Monday, June 10, 2024

The Parks, Recreation + Tree (PRT) Commission met at the Powell Community Center (PCC) on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Chair Nicole Sullivan (Ward I), Vice-Chair Sarah Emanuels (Ward III). Commission Members Katie Anderson (Ward I), Dustin Wolfe (Ward I), Sam Komosa (Ward II), Dylon Sease (Ward III), Jacque Gameson (Ward IV), Cindy Long (Ward IV).

**Council Liaisons:** Councilmembers Debbie Kring and Brian Schmid.

**Staff:** Penn Almoney, Parks and Recreation Director.

**Not in Attendance:** Angela Vandegrift (Ward II), Sarah Grittmann (Ward II).

### Call To Order:

Chair Nicole Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes from the May 13, 2024, Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission Meeting were reviewed. **Jacque** requested an edit to the discussion items changing “Rock Canyon fence” to “Rock Creek fence”. Jacque motioned to approve the minutes with the edits. **Cindy** seconded.

**Updated Minutes were approved 6-0**

### Positive Improvements:

**Mission Market.** Several commissioners attended the first Mission Market of the season on Thursday, June 6, positively commenting on the weather and patron and vendor turnout.

**Swim Lessons at PCC Pool.** While patronizing PCC, Katie observed swim lessons and complimented the staff at the swim lessons this year. She was impressed with the staff’s attention to detail.

**Mission Family Aquatic Center (MFAC).** A concerned citizen approached Katie and shared that they did not renew their MFAC membership in 2024, because they were ejected from the pool last year due to a non-approved pool t-shirt. Penn noted that the pool clothing guidelines cite, “swim appropriate attire”, and shared that a patron, for example, cannot wear denim shorts or

other materials not designed as swimwear since they may fray or clog the filters/straining baskets. Penn asked that Katie provide his contact information to the concerned citizen.

The first swim meet of the season is Tuesday, June 11 at 5pm. Penn noted that there will be four clubs competing and signage will be placed to direct attendees to parking and non-parking areas. Councilmember Kring shared that 210 kids registered this year for the Mission Marlins.

A resident requested the Mission Marlins move up their leave by 15 minutes to provide a full hour of lap swim before the MFAC opens to general use. Penn explained that thanks to the flexibility of the Mission Marlins, “we were able to increase the amount of lap lane swim time from 30 minutes in 2023 to 45 minutes this year.”

**Sustainability Commission Liaison.** Nicole represented the PRT Commission at the June 3 Sustainability Commission meeting. Tom Coffman from GFL Environmental - Mission’s waste management provider - gave a presentation on GFL’s equipment and programming and how they connect to sustainability and the environment. He complimented Mission because trash consumption was down 5% last year, while recycling was up. GFL also advised of new recycling guidelines this year – something Nicole requested be shared in the Mission Magazine, social media, and on the city website. The Sustainability Commission also discussed the sustainability component of the city-wide Comprehensive Master Plan.

**Tree Drive Subcommittee.** Penn met with Bridging the Gap, who has agreed to partner with Mission. They will provide 50 trees for \$4,100.00 and will leverage pre-existing programs and marketing/educational materials. The community can participate in three distinct ways: 1) **Buy a Tree.** Purchase a tree at a volume discount directly from Mission; 2) **Give a Tree.** Plant a tree on your own; and 3) **Win a Tree.** Donate to the Mission Charitable Fund for a spot in a drawing that will award 25 lucky winners with a new tree. Penn expects the Tree Drive to ramp up after the Mission Market is closed for the season and plans to have an announcement in the next Mission Magazine. Jacque shared that Mission will use the giving tree concept that is utilized around the holidays at the PCC – where ornaments are located on a tree so that citizens can participate.

**Water Works Update.** Penn reported the August 2024 opening date is still active. Concrete has been poured for curbing, restroom and shelter foundation, and 90% of the trail. The parking lot foundation is complete in anticipation of pouring the first layer of asphalt for the week of July 10-14 if the weather cooperates. Sod and tree planting has commenced and the solar picnic table is set to be delivered the week of June 10-14.

Katie remarked that Rushton Elementary starts school on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 with an open house occurring Monday, August 12. The entire community is invited to the open house - which has a theme of "No Place Like Home" – to tour the brand new school. As the commission's August meeting is also set for August 12, commissioners were supportive of having the meeting at Water Works Park.

Nicole requested an update on people trespassing on Water Works Park during construction. Penn shared it has not improved and that city staff has escalated efforts to deter trespassing. City Administrator, Laura Smith, sent a letter to nearby neighbors and additional signage has been ordered to assist in deterrence.

Penn also advised that he met with a fence installer to bid an ornamental fence replacement around WaterOne property on the north and east side of Water Works Park, which faces the public.

**Mohawk Phase 2 Update.** Penn noted that mobilization for Phase 2 will commence on June 17. There are a few punch list items on Phase 1 that have yet to be resolved, such as landscaping, T-Mobile Wifi installation, tree replacement, and leaking water fountain repair. Staff anticipates Phase 2 to be completed by the end of September 2024.

Jacque expressed excitement to see this beautiful park renovation coming to completion.

### **Acton Items & Planning.**

Penn reported that he presented several items to Council for budgetary approval. These items include \$62,000.00 for PCC south bathroom remodel, \$134,135.00 for the PCC indoor track resurfacing, and \$23,145.56 for the sanding, priming and repainting of 1500 linear feet of the Rock Creek Trail fencing from the county buildings to Target. Penn noted that the new track came in \$5,800.00 under budget and features blue and dark gray coloring. Penn also shared that Mission got its money's worth with the old track, which is 25 years old, and was only guaranteed for 15 years.

Councilmember Kring asked what percentage of Mission's landmass is open green space. Penn didn't have the answer readily available, but said that there are 28.17 acres of city park land.

**Tree Plaque Committee.** Jacque asked when the Tree ID Plaques will be installed. Penn shared that the plaques and posts have been picked up and installation will occur in the next ten days. Jacque's hope is that these are installed by the June 21 Backyard Campout at Andersen Park.

## **Maintenance Items.**

**PCC August closure.** PCC will be closed for two weeks from August 19 to 31 for annual maintenance. Items of note that will be addressed are track resurfacing, repainting conference rooms, and south bathroom renovation. After the maintenance closure, the city will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Powell Community Center. Penn expects the city to provide open houses, marketing and branded items to celebrate the anniversary, noting that the new full-time Business Manager will be in place by then to assist. Councilmember Kring shared that her first vote on City Council was to approve the funding for the PCC.

**Increase in unhoused persons at parks.** Staff has received an increase in reports of unhoused individuals staying at parks – specifically Broadmoor Park – that are interfering with park activities. Penn noted that Mission’s ordinance limits any person removal to outside park hours of operation. When Katie asked about potential resources that the city can provide, Penn noted that Mission has a licensed co-responder that is part of the police force that assists interactions with individuals and points them to resources. Councilmember Kring noted that it is not an easy solution as you have to balance the needs of the individual with the park access for other citizens. Dustin recommended that we display United Way’s 211 resources. Dustin - who works at United Way - explained that 211 is a service provided by the United Way that routes individuals to a variety of non-profit services such as housing and utility assistance.

**Andersen Park Parking Lot.** Katie observed that there is a dirt and gravel footpath that many patrons use to “cut across” the grass to access Andersen Park and MFAC. She noted potential safety concerns and asked if we can potentially surface when the parking lot is resurfaced.

Nicole wanted to re-address Jacque’s maintenance request from April’s meeting about adding a handrail at Andersen Park. Penn shared that American Disabilities Act (ADA) rules stipulate that we cannot make a small modification without revisiting the entire site for ADA compliance. Penn also said that ahead of the trail resurfacing, the city will need a conceptual redesign and slope survey of Andersen Park. He will bring up this request when he meets with Laura Smith.

**2024 Backyard Campout at Andersen Park.** The annual backyard campout will occur from 6:00 pm, Friday, June 21 to 9:00 am, Saturday June 22. Penn noted that volunteers are needed and the Mission typically gets about 20 families.

**Mission Summer Family Picnic – Saturday July 13, 2024.** Penn advised that volunteers are needed for food and drink distribution and table and pop-up inflatable management. He also said the electric light show will return this year and hopes that the technical difficulties from

last year are resolved. Volunteers will need to sign up one to two weeks before the picnic. Dustin and Jacque let Penn know that they are available and willing to volunteer.

Nicole asked about the included vendors. Penn said the Taste of Aloha food truck, a stuffed animal vendor, and a dessert vendor were all invited to participate on site.

Katie asked if Rushton Elementary could get a small table and Penn directed her to email Recreation Program Supervisor, Jenny Smith.

Jacque asked if the Sustainability Commission would have a booth promoting recycling. Councilmember Kring shared that, “while it’s a great idea, the last time we tried this patrons were mixing garbage and recycling,” – nullifying any recycling effort. If Mission were to implement a recycling program, a more robust effort would be needed to ensure compliance. Penn said that he will reach out to the Sustainability Commission to gauge interest.

**Parks Tour.** Katie requested the August meeting to be held at Water Works Park to coincide with the Rushton Elementary open house. Jacque requested that we tour the PCC in September after the August maintenance closure. Nicole noted that the PRT still needs to visit Streamway Park as it will stimulate discussion of dog park feasibility.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants.** Dustin requested an update on Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. Penn advised that Mission is planning on applying for the grant this year for either Broadmoor or Andersen Parks. Penn mentioned that since COVID hit, grant applications may take over a year to be approved, which effectively creates a two year funding cycle (from application to award announcement- planning for the use and then using the funds during the project). Any project expenses completed prior to the award announcement cannot be submitted for reimbursement.

**New City Park Space.** Dustin requested that in upcoming meetings the PRT hear more about the empty service lots that have been recently designated as park space along Woodson. These were designated in anticipation of a potential sale of Beverly Park to Milhaus, which is a two-building apartment project along Beverly and Martway St.

#### **Adjournment:**

**Cindy** moved to adjourn the meeting, **Jacque** seconded the motion.

**Motion passed 8-0** (Dustin W. and Sarah E. arrived after the minutes were approved).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Sam Komosa, secretary pro tempore.