

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2026
Community Room, Library**

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

Scott Cranston, Chair
Mike McDowell
Jim Lien
Bridget Hill
Mason TerDoest, Student Rep

STAFF PRESENT:

Adam Rouse, Interim Parks & Recreation Director
Melissa Brandt, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

ABSENT:

Christie Wood
Ginny Tate
Warren Bakes
Jennifer Pytlewski, Alt Student Representative

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cranston called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Five members present resulting in a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Lien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Action Item*

Commissioner Lien made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026, meeting, Commissioner TerDoest seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed unanimously.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

Interim Director Rouse: Our Recreation Division kicked off youth baseball and softball programs with a bigger turnout than last year. A Gonzaga University basketball camp was held this past Saturday at McEuen with two of their basketball players with 50 kids participating. A kids pickleball camp began today, and we have the Kiddie Parade on July 2. A bunch of events in the parks are coming up, and this weekend Ironman and Car d'Alene both take place. Michael Koep will be producing a concert for the 4th of July as he did last year with food and other vendors.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner McDowell: Vandalism occurring in our restrooms and park areas to various pieces of public equipment, it's causing a lot of extra effort for staff to clean up

and make operational, it's costing us the taxpayers a lot of money. Request we develop a report identifying the costs, to hold people accountable for what they are doing. We can put together some numbers and reports. Cranston: Not only direct repair costs but staff time to do the repairs and taking them away from completing regular duties. Interim Director Rouse: It's constant, almost daily, restrooms vandalized heavily.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

8. BUILDING MAINTENANCE UPDATE – *Information Item*

Interim Director Rouse: Some of our projects are mid-completion. The Bandshell has been in the process of getting painted, decking is complete, finish up painting with dryer weather. Adam Korytko, building superintendent, will complete a full presentation to include work being done at the Fire Station 2 training tower. Interviews were just held for a custodian position.

9. MCEUEN PLAYGROUND TURF REPLACEMENT – *Information Item*

Interim Director Rouse: This will go to Council we needed to get it on the agenda and get approval to speed up the project, there is a two-to-three-week lead time to order supplies and then schedule. The turf is 10 years old, and the inspection showed it is at the end of its life. Seams are wearing out black pad showing through, estimated life span is 10-12 years. High traffic areas are wearing out. The company that was chosen will have the ability to replace worn areas with a Velcro replacement it will be removable, precut and easily installed. New more durable surface, pad replacement and removal sections in high traffic and fall zone areas. Turf products change annually and the replacement will be of higher quality and more durable. Seeking approval for the winning bid of \$249,964 by Stewart Contracting, they are using ATS Turf that now has a local office.

10. HECLA SOLAR PHONE CHARGERS – *Information Item*

Interim Director Rouse: Hecla mining approached a while back about partnering to install solar 'flower' charging station, they would have opened and closed automatically, an 8-foot-wide flower structure, it wouldn't have fit with our park aesthetic. Shifted gears and came up with solar charging stations that would include seating as well as a cell phone charging location. Hecla will purchase three of these and install them down in the McEuen plaza, along the seawall by the boat launch and somewhat down by the Harbor House. Working on a Memorandum of Understanding to spell out who will take care of maintenance, these will be a gift to the city, will include some signage that informs the public about Hecla Mining and silver use for solar panels. Nice amenity for the public.

11. IGNITE UPDATE – *Information Item*

Interim Director Rouse: Request for projects within the river district, worthy of partnering to utilize ignite funds, ours was the only one proposed, the shoreline erosion at Johnson Mill River, is in bad shape, boulders have moved, you can see erosion fabric, been that way for a time, spoke with ignite executive director Will Osborn, to talk through the idea to bring to their board to discuss and get some funding, it looks

promising. First guess for cost would be at least \$1M all the way down the shoreline, we will keep the Commission updated. Commissioner Lien: Will funding include the trail from Atlas Mill Park when complete. Interim Director Rouse: we are hoping to take care of items not yet completed from the master plan, we may see if the trail could be lumped in, but not sure how much money is available through ignite.

12. SOLAR LIGHTING INSTALLATION – *Information Item*

Interim Director Rouse: Bill Greenwood got this going before he left. Along the sidewalk by the skatepark there is some solar lighting. There was no lighting at the parking lot at Jewett house. These lights are programmable to go off at certain times or stay on at 40% for the remainder of the evening. Commissioner TerDoest: Will there be more added? Interim Director Rouse: Not any specific plans, it is easier to do a solar light than trenching and adding electrical costs these two lights, the one at the Jewett House and the one at the skatepark were around \$8,000. These self-contained units can be added anywhere.

13. NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Cranston announced the next meeting date.

Next meeting date:

- Monday, July 20, 2026: 5:30 p.m., Meeting; Library Community Room

Commissioner Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.