

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY COMMISSION
MEETING
FOR THE CITY OF HAYDEN, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO**

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Commission Meeting: 4:00 PM
Hayden City Hall Council Chambers, 8930 N. Government Way, Hayden, ID 83835

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ronald Duell: Present
Aundrea Leckie: Present
Kholt Moore: Present
Helen Paris: Present
Adam Reed: Present
Malea Sampsel: Present

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS

The Agenda Item 4.A. Specialized Needs Recreation Presentation was moved to after Agenda Item 2. Visitors/Public Comments.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR *All items on the Consent Calendar are Action Items*
Motion to approve the June 17, 2026 meeting minutes. This motion, made by Leckie and seconded by Moore, Carried.
Ronald Duell: Yes
Aundrea Leckie: Yes
Kholt Moore: Yes
Helen Paris: Yes
Adam Reed: Yes
Malea Sampsel: Yes
Yes: 6, No: 0
 - A. Approval of the June 17, 2026 Parks, Recreation, & Community Forestry Commission Meeting Minutes
2. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS on Non-Agenda Items (5-minutes maximum)
There were no visitors.
3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Parks, Recreation, & Community Forestry Commission City Code Amendment Discussion (ACTION ITEM)
This agenda item was discussed after Agenda Item 5.B. Recreation & Community Events Update, and the meeting continued through the agenda in the correct order thereafter while skipping over agenda items already discussed.

Commissioner Reed, with assistance from Vice-Chair Paris, told the commission that the latest update on their drafted Code Amendment was that it had gone to Administration and then to Community Development Director Donna Phillips. Phillips reached out with a few

questions, and the item was then sent back to City Administrator Lisa Ailport, where it was currently awaiting further updates. Chair Sampsel gave a brief summary to new member Commissioner Duell regarding the agenda item and the work the commission had completed on it.

B. Pickleball Courts (ACTION ITEM)

i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Sampsel said the survey was not completed in time for the Dog Days of Summer-Fest event. The commission discussed continuing work on the survey, including targeting neighborhoods near proposed pickleball court locations. Commissioner Reed said he would send the clerk an article regarding noise concerns related to pickleball to distribute to the commission. The commission also discussed resources and potential partnerships related to pickleball, including assistance from the Inland Northwest Pickleball Club (INWPC), the City of Coeur d'Alene's pickleball courts, and the Post Falls Pickleball Facility.

Vice-Chair Paris emphasized the importance of continuing to advocate for pickleball as a priority in future park planning and suggested the commission continue communicating that priority to City Council. The commission discussed previous recommendations supporting pickleball, the inclusion of pickleball courts in the Hayden Canyon Park plans, and the goal of expanding pickleball opportunities in both future and existing parks. Sampsel said the commission would continue raising the issue with City Council and include it in its quarterly written report.

C. Bike Trail Map (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Leckie said she had heard new member Commissioner Duell was interested in biking and gave a brief background on the agenda item. Chair Sampsel briefly explained what a subcommittee is and does. Leckie motioned to add Duell to the Bike Trail Map Subcommittee. Commissioner Moore seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to add Commissioner Duell to the Bike Trail Map Subcommittee. This motion, made by Leckie and seconded by Moore, Carried.

Ronald Duell: Yes

Aundrea Leckie: Yes

Kholt Moore: Yes

Helen Paris: Yes

Adam Reed: Yes

Malea Sampsel: Yes

Yes: 6, No: 0

i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Specialized Needs Recreation Presentation

This agenda item was moved to after Agenda Item 2. Visitors/Public Comments during Additions or Corrections.

Suzanne Knutson introduced herself as a board member for Specialized Needs Recreation (SNR) and gave a brief summary of her role and how she works to find opportunities for SNR participants to be involved in the community so that community members have opportunities to interact with participants. Ms. Knutson provided commission members with a brochure containing information about SNR and an invitation to their upcoming September event. She also mentioned additional activities they would like to invite commission members to attend, including a pickleball tournament in August and a kickball tournament.

SNR Executive Director Lindsay Patterson gave a presentation on SNR, which included a brief history of the organization, activities offered for adults and children with special needs, organizational growth, annual budget, funding received from surrounding cities, and the building expansion project. The presentation's main point was that SNR hoped the City of

Hayden would consider increasing its annual municipal investment so that it would more closely resemble the number of Hayden residents and families who rely on SNR every year.

The commission asked questions regarding funding assistance and discussed the presentation. Recreation and Community Events Director Suzanne Cano recommended to Ms. Patterson and Ms. Knutson that they present the presentation to City Council, and they agreed. Cano said she would work on getting the presentation added to the City Council agenda for August. The commission discussed recommending that City Council consider increasing the municipal investment and decided to hold a special meeting the following week, tentatively on Tuesday, to further discuss the recommendation. The clerk would verify the date, and the commission would finalize the meeting date by the end of the week.

B. Goals & Objectives **(ACTION ITEM)**

This agenda item was discussed after Agenda Item 4.A. Specialized Needs Recreation Presentation.

Recreation and Community Events Director Suzanne Cano told the commission that they needed to submit their individual goals and objectives to the clerk so they could discuss them at their next meeting or a special meeting and develop goals for fiscal year 2027. The commission said they would send their goals and objectives to the clerk within two weeks.

C. Hayden Days

This agenda item was discussed during Agenda Item 5.B. Recreation & Community Updates with the confirmation of volunteers for the Hayden Days Parade.

D. Submission of Quarterly Written Report for Council Review

The commission discussed items to include in the written report to City Council. The commission briefly discussed McIntire Family Park, with the clerk stating she believed survey work had begun. Vice-Chair Paris mentioned that City Administrator Lisa Ailport had discussed potential funding from the Hayden Urban Renewal Agency (HURA) that could assist with completion of the park.

5. REPORTS

A. Parks Update

There was no staff update provided for this agenda item.

B. Recreation & Community Events Update

This agenda item was discussed after Agenda Item 4.B. Goals & Objectives.

Recreation and Community Events Director Suzanne Cano gave updates on baseball, the Summer Concert Series, and fall youth sports registration. Commission members confirmed their volunteer assignments for the Hayden Days Parade with Cano. The commission briefly discussed the judging sheet for the Hayden Days Parade.

C. Trees, Parks, & Bike Pedestrian Report

Commissioner Reed provided an update that the generator for the youth baseball pitching machine had been overheating. He reported the issue to Recreation Staff, who said they would address it.

The commission discussed park amenities after Vice-Chair Paris raised concerns about possible standardization of what should be included in parks and expressed interest in being involved if standards were being developed. Chair Sampsel said the current framework was broad and included in various documents, including the Parks Master Plan, which identifies suggested amenities. The commission discussed that they could continue bringing forward recommendations for specific items they would like to see included in parks.

The commission discussed continuing to advocate for a dog park as a community goal. Paris mentioned conversations she had with City Council members regarding having similar amenities available on both sides of the highway, using a dog park as an example, and asked how the commission could continue bringing those ideas forward. Sampsel said the

commission could continue recommending opportunities when they arise but would not be able to implement a policy requiring them. The commission briefly discussed Finucane Park as a potential location, including public support and current city regulations regarding dogs in parks. Sampsel suggested holding the discussion for the Goals and Objectives agenda item at next month's meeting to determine if a dog park should be a priority.

D. Commission Round Table Discussion

Vice-Chair Paris left at the beginning of this agenda item.

Commissioner Duell briefly introduced himself, and the other commission members introduced themselves and provided an overview of the commission's role, abilities, and previous work. Commissioner Reed asked if a subcommittee could be created for Specialized Needs Recreation (SNR) during the upcoming special meeting. Chair Sampsel said the special meeting would include the recommendation discussed, and if the commission wanted to create a subcommittee it could be considered at that time. She also noted that the Goals and Objectives agenda item at the next meeting would be an opportunity to review, revise, or add subcommittees. Commissioner Leckie asked if the clerk could resend the most recent community survey received last year to the commission members. Chair Sampsel suggested it would be helpful to review as many of the surveys as possible since she knew there were several.

The commission discussed the Bike Rodeo, including potential involvement with special needs groups, creating a sensory day, and the possibility of the commission taking over planning the event. The clerk provided an update that she had discussed the Bike Rodeo with Recreation & Community Events Director Suzanne Cano, including the possibility of the commission taking over planning the event, as the commission originally started the event. The commission discussed continuing to work collaboratively with the library, which had previously organized the event, and decided to add the Bike Rodeo to next month's agenda for further discussion.

The commission briefly discussed agenda items for next month's meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Isabelle White, Clerk