

Parks, Recreation and Community Forestry Commission

Quarter 4 2026 Update

Commissioners

Malea Sampsel- Chair
Helen Paris- Vice Chair
Adam Reed
Kholt Moore
Aundrea Leckie
Ronald Duell

Current Focus:

We have established goals and priorities for upcoming year allowing us to focus our efforts and form subcommittees for efficiency.

Commission Goals and Objectives

- Implement monthly park review coordinating with public works
 - *Improves our knowledge of parking amenities, issues, upcoming projects
- Improve community access to digital information for parks amenities, city navigation and pathways, as well as public engagement
- Improve communication between other community advisory commissions and city council with monthly review of reports
- Improve amenities, access to information and education for open space
- Make open space more visible and usable for all community members

Specialized Needs Recreation

- We made a recommendation to increase SNR funding to \$6000 annually and City Council APPROVED!!!
 - *We sincerely appreciate the ability to pass on information and recommendations to the council and see related quick action :)

Other current activities

- We are represented in the Civic Center steering committee
- We are represented in the McIntire Park Development Steering Committee
- We held a joint meeting with Historic Commission to improve communication going forward and foster team efforts especially related to Stoddard Barn and Silo project, signage at our parks and along our pathways.

Current subcommittees

- Pickleball
 - We are home to the largest pickleball supplier in the country, and we do not have any public pickleball courts. Potential projects include new parks (Hayden Canyon) and current park's locations. We plan to work closely with local Pickleball Associations to push this project forward.

- Bike Trail Map
 - We are working towards a publicly accessible local map for accessible bicycle routes, indicating designated bike lane, sidewalk, bike path, etc... this is to improve resources for bicycle safe routes in our community as well as access to those resources.
- Stoddard Park
 - We are working to improve community engagement at this park with ideas such as signage for local trees along pathways, potentially an Augmentative and Alternative Communication sign (for which we have funding), distance markers and pathway division lines to support safe use of multiple modalities

Recent events we supported:

- Hayden Days
 - We supported the city staff with parade line-up and judging
 - we had a great community turnout for this parade again!

Upcoming events we will support:

- Friday Night Frights
 - Trunk or treat held at Hayden Meadows Elementary on Friday 10/30 6-7:30pm
 - *Our commissioners volunteer for traffic control and will have a “trunk” decorated while we hand out candy
- Hayden Lights Parade
 - Parade held before Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony beginning at 5pm on Saturday 12/5.
 - *Our commissioners participate in lining up and judging the parade

We Need Volunteers!:

- We have a current opening for a commissioner on our board
- volunteers are needed throughout our community advisory commissions

We appreciate timely communication of information related to our parks, recreation, events, pedestrian and community forestry issues and projects. This is imperative to our commission to reach our goals and maintaining engaged volunteers. We look forward to this continuing!