

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

Wednesday, January 21, 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

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

Commissioner Leckie arrived during Additions or Corrections.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS

1. CONSENT CALENDAR *All items on the Consent Calendar are Action Items*
Motion to approve the October 15, 2025 meeting minutes. This motion, made by Paris and seconded by Moore, Carried.
Aundrea Leckie: Yes
Kholt Moore: Yes
Helen Paris: Yes
Adam Reed: Yes
Malea Sampsel: Yes
Yes: 5, No: 0
 - A. Approval of the October 15, 2025 Parks, Recreation, & Community Forestry Commission Meeting Minutes
2. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS on Non-Agenda Items (5-minutes maximum)
Bill Brizee introduced himself as the Vice-Chair of the Historic Commission for the City of Hayden. Brizee stated that he had attended the Arts Commission meeting the previous week, where Mark's Ranch, a new development, gave a presentation regarding a park planned to be dedicated to the City. He said he had asked Mark's Ranch to give a presentation to the Historic Commission and the Arts Commission and wanted to inform this commission that they were planning to do so. Brizee noted that Mark's Ranch had sketches of an old water tower they were considering installing and benches made from old farm equipment. He stated that he planned to suggest at the next Historic Commission meeting that a joint meeting be held with the Arts Commission and this commission to discuss the project.
The commission discussed getting involved with the Mark's Ranch Park development and forming a subcommittee at the next meeting.
3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Parks, Recreation, & Community Forestry Commission City Code Amendment Discussion (ACTION ITEM)
 - i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

The subcommittee stated that they were waiting to meet with other commission chairs to work on developing a template to be used by all commissions, with each commission able to add its own framework to the template. The clerk said she would inform their liaison, Suzanne Cano, and see when a meeting with the other commissions could be scheduled.
 - B. Pickleball Courts (ACTION ITEM)
 - i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Sampsel stated that the pickleball courts issue came down to whether there would be pushback from local residents. The subcommittee stated that it wants to conduct a community survey and contact the Homeowners Association (HOA) to determine support or opposition to the courts. Sampsel said they would speak with the Stoddard Park community HOA. The commission noted that a workshop would be needed to develop the community survey. Commissioner Reed stated that fundraising support was available through the Inland Northwest Pickleball Club and Selkirk Sport, contingent upon receiving community backing.
 - C. Parks' Signage (ACTION ITEM)
 - i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Leckie recused herself from the subcommittee so as not to create a quorum. The subcommittee stated that they are waiting to meet with the Historic Commission, as they want to be involved in park signage around the city. The commission discussed assisting City staff by collaborating on updating the City's website to make the parks page more user-friendly. The subcommittee discussed meeting to refresh the work they did last fall and bringing a mock-up to their liaison, Suzanne Cano, to test on one page online. Bill Brizee mentioned that a sign was installed at Stoddard Park as a Boy Scout project, and the individual from the Boy Scouts made it a history board.
 - D. Bike Trail Map (ACTION ITEM)
 - i. Subcommittee Update (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Leckie gave a presentation on gaps that need to be addressed regarding the bike trails, including public awareness of where to find bike paths online, simplifying terminology for easier understanding, and inconsistent bike accessibility. Vice-Chair Paris suggested recommending the establishment of bike lanes on certain key roads. She noted that future developments could include additional lanes but recognized that Hayden is a mix of older and newer areas, so full coverage would not be possible. She stated that adding lanes on five main roads or corridors would significantly support getting around the city.

Leckie suggested the possibility of clearer bike path markings, and the commission agreed. Commissioner Reed recommended that Leckie reach out to the Planning Department regarding requirements for new developments, including shared-use pathways, sidewalks, connectivity, and how large a development must be to set aside area for a City park. Leckie stated that the information was helpful and that there would likely be a second phase to this effort. She said she would begin by addressing the simplest gap, which is making the bike path map easier to find on the City's website.
4. NEW BUSINESS
- A. Election of Chair (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Reed nominated Commissioner Sampsel as Chair. Commissioner Sampsel accepted the nomination, and Commissioner Leckie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Motion to elect Malea Sampsel as Chair. This motion, made by Reed and seconded by Leckie, Carried.

Aundrea Leckie: Yes

Kholt Moore: Yes

Helen Paris: Yes

Adam Reed: Yes

Malea Sampsel: Yes

Yes: 5, No: 0

B. Election of Vice-Chair (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Moore nominated Commissioner Paris as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Paris accepted the nomination, and Commissioner Leckie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Motion to elect Helen Paris as Vice-Chair. This motion, made by Moore and seconded by Leckie, Carried.

Aundrea Leckie: Yes

Kholt Moore: Yes

Helen Paris: Yes

Adam Reed: Yes

Malea Sampsel: Yes

Yes: 5, No: 0

C. Honeysuckle Boat Launch Survey

Dan Hall explained to the commission that the survey concerned maintenance at the Honeysuckle Beach boat launch. He stated that the launch is being replaced, the southern dock is being shifted to provide full access, and a sidewalk is being added on the north side near the beach to connect to the dock's gangway, improving accessibility for wheelchair users.

D. Teen Programs for 16-18 year olds (ACTION ITEM)

Commissioner Moore stated that, when reviewing city programs, he noticed a lack of offerings for youth aged 16 to 18. He suggested using some of the commission's budget to fund teen nights or similar activities. Commissioner Leckie said she would be interested in reviewing historical data to determine if programs for that age group had been successful in the past and that this could be considered when allocating funds. The commission agreed to discuss this agenda item further next month after obtaining information about the budget and historical programs for older teens from their liaison, Suzanne Cano.

5. REPORTS

A. Parks Update

Dan Hall provided an update, stating that the Honeysuckle Boat Launch survey was part of public outreach for the Waterways Improvement Fund grant, for which the application is due on the 30th of the current month and is nearing finalization. Hall mentioned that an Open House for the McIntire Family Park master plan was held during the Hayden Lights Parade, noting a strong turnout and exceptional feedback. Vice-Chair Paris provided an update on McIntire Family Park as a member of the Steering Committee, discussing progress and amenities under consideration. She stated that the next meeting for McIntire Family Park is scheduled for February 9.

Commissioner Reed noted that he was a member of the subcommittee as well and stated that he believed Architects West would be preparing the final main design with one or two bid alternates, with construction expected to proceed through April. Commissioner Leckie asked whether survey data could be aggregated and shared with the commission so that community priorities are kept in mind. She also asked if the Historic Commission had been invited to the committee, suggesting this as another way to ensure all commissions are involved. Paris and Reed stated that they did not believe the Historic Commission was included. Chair Sampsel stated that the Historic Commission should be involved.

Hall mentioned that he could speak with the City's Engineer regarding the development of Mark's Ranch Park and provide an update to the commission.

B. Recreation & Community Events Update

The clerk provided an update, stating that a new Recreation Coordinator had been hired. She reported on the sports that had started, the number of teams participating, and the upcoming registration dates for soccer and youth volleyball. She noted that a Men's 4's Volleyball League would be tried this year and that applications were being accepted for returning vendors for Hayden Days. The clerk also informed the commission of the date for Arbor Day and the need for volunteers. She added that the calendar of events for the current year was being finalized and would be provided to the commission by their next meeting. Commissioner Leckie asked if sponsors were needed for soccer, and the clerk confirmed that they were. Vice-Chair Paris noted that judging for the parade was somewhat difficult and suggested announcing the categories ahead of time so participants would know them. The clerk replied that the categories are included in the parade application packet.

C. Trees, Parks, & Bike Pedestrian Report

There was nothing to report.

D. Commission Round Table Discussion

There was no round table discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:48 pm.

Isabelle White, Clerk