



Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 11:30 AM

Council Chamber Overflow Room CH-116
203 Main Avenue East- Twin Falls, Idaho

Members: Kirk Melton, Chairperson; Jade Titus, Vice-Chairperson; Debbie VanEngelen, Corey King; Ashley Squires; Micheal Metcalf; Heather Muth; Todd Shaw; Christiana Sipe-Pauley

1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order

Kirk Melton called the meeting to order at approximately 11:35 a.m. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Kirk Melton, Chairperson; Jade Titus, Vice-Chairperson (online); Debbie VanEngelen, Corey King; Ashley Squires (online); Micheal Metcalf; Heather Muth; Todd Shaw; Christiana Sipe-Pauley

Members Absent: Micheal Metcalf

Council liaison (present): Cherie Vollmer (arrived at 11: 45 a.m.)

Staff Present: Wendy Davis, Parks and Recreation Director; Chance Munns, Parks Superintendent; Stacy McClintock, Recreation Supervisor (online; left at 12:25 p.m.); John Pauley, Aquatics Supervisor; Elois Joseph, Parks and Recreation Project Coordinator.

Guests present: Kelly Herrgesell, Community Impact Manager, Chobani.

2) General Public Input

There was no general public input at this meeting.

3) Consent Calendar

- a) Request to approve the January 9, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes.

MOTION: Corey King moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Christiana Sipe-Pauley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Kirk Melton, yes; Jade Titus, yes; Corey King, yes; Ashley Squires, yes; Heather Muth, yes; Deb VanEngelen, yes; Christiana Sipe-Pauley, yes; Todd Shaw, yes. Approved 8 to 0.

4) Items of Consideration

- a) Introduction of new City Council liaison Cherie Vollmer

This item was considered after item b)

Wendy welcomed the new Parks and Recreation Commission liaison Cherie Vollmer.

Councilmember Vollmer introduced herself to the group. Commissioners and staff at the meeting introduced themselves.

- b) Consider a request from Chobani to name an area of the trailhead at Poleline and Eastland in recognition of their donation.

This item was considered first.

Wendy Davis presented the request. A letter from Chobani introducing the requested name for the sub-element at this site was attached to the agenda packet for consideration.

Kelly Hergesell, Community Impact Manager and representative from Chobani, presented the letter. "Chobani Wellness Park" was the name that Chobani selected, with the support of Chobani founder Hamdi, for the sub-element at Canyon Trail Junction.

Discussion ensued regarding the choice of name. Commissioners were in support of the name.

MOTION: Corey King moved to approve Chobani's request to name the implementation at the park at Poleline and Eastland as "Chobani Wellness Park". Heather Muth seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted. Kirk Melton, yes; Jade Titus, yes; Corey King, yes; Ashley Squires, yes; Heather Muth, yes; Deb VanEngelen, yes; Christiana Sipe-Pauley, yes; Todd Shaw, yes. Approved 8 to 0.

Wendy Davis mentioned that the recommendation will go to City Council on the 26th of February.

Councilmember Vollmer joined the meeting at approximately 11: 45 a.m.

- c) Request from Commissioner Corey King to revise the "Arborist Review" portion of the Tree Removal Process.

Commissioner Corey King presented the request, including the following:

- Arborist review portion of the Tree Removal requests to be reconsidered.
- Concerns regarding the current process , and the request to consider an alternate process where the customer/ licensed tree worker make an assessment and the reasoning for removal, with the role of City staff to verify whether the request and reasoning are justified.
- Tree violations were discussed.
- The commission's role to make recommendations to modify policy or code.
- City License to work on Public/Right-of-Way Trees – process for obtaining licensing, the current list, and how those who violate code are notified of the list.
- Revision of the permitting process – process workflow to return it back to the Parks Superintendent, so the department can verify the trees are being replaced, and that they are replaced with the correct tree per specifications and ordinance.

Wendy Davis provided some additional information, including the tree violation process. The current process results in citations given to the homeowner, having the citation go to the arborist instead would be more effective in preventing repeat offenses.

Prior commissions and city staff have attempted to work on the Tree Ordinance.

Discussion ensued. Having a series of questions on the request form such as the viability, lifespan, surrounding area, desirability of the tree species, etc.... was discussed. Internal, City initiated requests for Tree removals was discussed.

Terminology, and use of layman's terms to help facilitate comprehension of the status of the tree and/or arborist review was mentioned.

Commissioners were in favor of re-evaluating the process to include the property owner's or licensed tree arborist to make the initial assessment, to be followed with the City's arborists verifying the validity of these assessments.

The commission requested that this item be revisited at a future meeting.

No action was taken on this item.

Jade Titus left the meeting.

Stacy McClintock left the meeting at approximately 12: 25 p.m.

5) Department Updates

a) Department Update 2024

John Pauley gave an update on the pool:

- Pool will be shut down for a month to complete much necessary improvements to the facility
- new pump, piping to improve flow on the system, recoating decks, warranty work on liner, black racing lines, adding 20 yd lanes to increase capacity, and other minor projects
- budget for a UV light system for the circulation system to help with the smell of chlorine
- Guard certifications training
- Hiring for Spring-Summer season

Discussion ensued regarding the deck recoating.

Chance Munns gave an update on Parks, including the following:

- Baxter's Dog park plans in progress
- Parks staff attended a conference and training in Boise
- Ball field fence repairs
- Christmas tree was planted at the Parkwood Water Retention Area.
- Backstops and dugouts at Frontier and Harmon being worked on, Oregon Youth Complex completed.
- Playground equipment repairs.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Sledding hill at Vista Bonita Park.
- Story trail at Thomsen Park in current budget discussions as the trail needs to be improved before the story panels can be installed.
- Restrooms at Frontier Park.

****for a full account of this meeting, please view the recorded meeting on the city website, www.tfid.org****

Wendy Davis gave an update on the golf course including the following:

- Clean-up of the golf course
- Expecting another busy year
- No change in Season Pass prices for 2024

Scheduling of annual reports for Facilities and Programs was discussed.

Wendy Davis gave the Directors update, including the following:

- Budget priorities are currently being discussed.
- Harmon Skate Park and Canyon Trail Junction.
- Shoshone Falls Grade Road project – SLFRF dollars, bid came in higher than anticipated. Expected to be a Fall 2024 Project.
- Failed surfaces at Sunway Park to be re-evaluated.

6) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:59 p.m.



Elois Joseph
Parks and Recreation Project Coordinator