



Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 11:30 AM

City Hall Overflow Room, CH-116
203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

Members: Kirk Melton, Chairperson; Jade Titus, Vice-Chairperson; Debbie VanEngelen; Corey King; Micheal Metcalf; Olyvia Meyer; Todd Shaw; Christiana Sipe-Pauley; Paul Melni

1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order

Chairperson Melton called the meeting to order at 11:50 AM

A quorum was present.

Members present: Melton, Melni, Meyer(phone), Shaw (phone), Sipe-Pauley(phone), Vollmer

Staff present: Davis, Humble, Orozco, Munns, McClintock, Etzold, Pauley, Green

2) General Public Input

3) Consent Calendar

MOTION: Commissioner Metcalf moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Commissioner Melni seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

Approved 5 to 0.

a) Request to approve the November 12, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes.

b) Consider a request to remove two spruce at 625 4th Ave East

Consider a request to remove two spruce at 625 4th Ave East

A simple majority will approve this request

Parks staff does find evidence meeting tree removal criteria for proposed two spruce at 625 4th Ave East and recommends approval of request, waiving replacement of one tree.

Twin Falls City Code 8-4-8 (D) declared nuisances

4) Items of Consideration

a) Welcome new Commissioner, Paul Melni
Introduction for all members and staff.

b) Overview of Commission responsibilities

- c) Consider a donation request from Linda and Duane Stands to place a park bench along the Canyon Rim Trail for "Barney J. Lewis 1927-2022"

Staff Presentation:

Director Davis presented the request to consider a donation request from Linda and Duane Stands to place a park bench along the Canyon Rim Trail for "Barney J. Lewis 1927-2022"

A simple majority will approve the request.

Staff recommends approval of this request.

MOTION: Commissioner Metcalf moved to approve the request to consider a donation request from Linda and Duane Stands to place a park bench along the Canyon Rim Trail for "Barney J. Lewis 1927-2022". Commissioner Melni seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

Approved 5 to 0.

- d) Consider a request to remove one Ash tree at 124 Buchanan

Staff Presentation:

Parks Superintendent Munns presented the request to consider a request to remove one Ash tree at 124 Buchanan

A simple majority will approve this request

Parks staff does find evidence meeting tree removal criteria for proposed Ash at 124 Buchanan. Twin Falls City Code 8-4-7 and recommends removal with replacement.

Questions & Comments:

- Superintendent Munns explained the difference between a public tree and private tree. Public trees are in public rights-of-way. Private property owners are still responsible for maintenance and need to get a certified arborist. Removal needs to go through the commission.
- Commissioner Metcalf asked about the second tree and is a certified arborist working on it.
- Superintendent Munns stated he's working with the tree service that originally did the work.
- Chairperson Melton asked if they are going to get licensed with the City.
- Superintendent Munns stated they will not until an employee becomes an arborist and won't qualify until they do.
- Director Davis explained you have to be Twin Falls licensed tree company to work on public trees.
- Commissioner Metcalf clarified that they are voting on the removal of the tree.
- Superintendent Munns stated he will handle the second tree.
- Commissioner Metcalf asked if there was a monetary citation or just a warning.
- Superintendent Munns explained that code enforcement is involved so the city has a record.

- Commissioner Shaw asked if the homeowner had just wanted the tree pruned.
- Superintendent Munns replied they hired someone not knowing the company needed additional licensing and permissions.
- Chairperson Melton asked if the homeowner had already paid for the service.
- Superintendent Munns stated he thinks they have.
- Commissioner Meyer asked if the commission can ask the company to pay for a certified arborist.
- Director Davis explained it would start with a fine.
- Chairperson Melton asked if they know the cost for a certified arborist to remove it.
- Superintendent Munns replied it's about \$1000.
- Commissioner Shaw asked if the tree is dead or can it regrow.
- Superintendent Munns clarified that the amount of regrowth should be substantial, it would take a long time to fix this problem.
- Chairperson Melton would like to ask for a fine of \$2500 to pay for an arborist.
- Commissioner Meyer asked if they are fined can they appeal.
- Director Davis explained that the way code is written it would have to go to court.
- Superintendent Munns stated the city does offer options for training.
- Commissioner Melni suggested to give a time frame for cleanup.
- Commissioner Metcalf suggested to have the company pay a fine or pay for licensed arborists to finish the work.

Condition: tree company pay fine of \$3000 to cover the removal and replacement or hire a company that is licensed by the city to complete before march 2025.

MOTION: Commissioner Metcalf moved to approve the request to remove one Ash tree at 124 Buchanan, with the condition that the tree company pay a fine of \$3000 to cover the removal and replacement or hire a company that is licensed by the city to complete before March 2025. Commissioner Melni seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

Approved 5 to 0.

Commissioner Sipe-Pauley joined the meeting.

- e) Consider a request to remove Two Elms at 716 Grandview Drive North.

Staff Presentation:

Superintendent Munns presented the request to remove Two Elms at 716 Grandview Drive North.

A simple majority will approve this request

Parks staff does find evidence meeting tree removal criteria for proposed Two Elms at 716 Grandview Drive North.

Twin Falls City Code 8-4-7 and recommends removal without replacement.

Applicant Presentation:

Questions & Comments:

- Chairperson Melton asked why the city doesn't want to replace the trees.
- Superintendent Munns explained the request to not replace is because of power lines, but could condition to have placed in a different location.

Condition: replacement be added and location to be decided by parks

MOTION: Commissioner Metcalf moved to approve the request to remove the Two Elms at 716 Grandview Dr N, with condition to replace them with location to be determined by parks department. Commissioner Melni seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

Approved 6 to 0.

- f) Vista Bonita Open House follow up

Staff Presentation:

Parks Superintendent Munns presented a follow up for Vista Bonita Open House.

5) Department Updates

- a) January Department Update

Kate Etzold open space supervisor gave a brief introduction.

6) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 01:03 PM

Jody Green

Jody Green Planning Technician