



## Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 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 11:30 AM

Members Attending: Metcalf, Melni, Meyer, Shaw, Volmer, Sipe-Pauley, VanEngelen

Staff Attending: Davis, Munns, Etzold, McClintock, Pauley, Green

### 2) General Public Input

### 3) Consent Calendar

#### a) Request to approve minutes for the following meeting: January 14, 2025

Commissioner Metcalf made a motion to approve the consent calendar, as presented.

Commissioner Sip-Pauley seconded the motion.

### 4) Items of Consideration

#### a) Election of new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Meyer moved to appoint Commissioner Metcalf for Chairperson. Commissioner Sipe-Pauley seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

**Approved 5 to 0.**

Commissioner VanEngelen arrived.

Chairperson Metcalf asked for nominations for Vice-chair.

Commissioner Meyer nominated Commissioner Sipe-Pauley.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Meyer moved to appoint Commissioner Sipe-Pauley as Vice-chair. Chairperson Metcalf seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted.

**Approved 6 to 0.**

#### b) Department Updates

##### **Aquatic Supervisor Pauley –**

Monday Presidents Day is one of the busiest days outside of summer days. Pool is needing new lifeguard chairs. They want to make swim lessons smaller, classes limited to

4 instead of 8. Wanting new diving blocks. Wanting to open earlier in the summer. Needing lighting for when the bubble is off.

Renovations- No big changes, trying to find a schedule and what that will look like with closures and inconvenience and the possibility of swim meets not happening this summer. Systems that have gone out are not part of the maintenance money. Right now, having a hot water mixing valve issue.

Lap swim capacity on Saturdays. 3 lanes on the shuttle side, 1 is the swim test lane and the other 2 are for the wiggle track inflatable.

- Commissioner Meyer asked if they will be closed during renovations.
- Supervisor Pauley replied that they are trying to not close or at least minimally. The April meeting should know more about what will happen. The meeting next week should know what this will look like.
- Commissioner Shaw asked if the E street pool closed.
- Supervisor Pauley replied that it's closed and has led to an increase in usage during the day. Staffing is difficult.
- Commissioner Meyer asked if Dirkes Lake will be closed during the renovations.
- Supervisor Pauley stated they don't want to close during the summer. Not June or July.

#### **Recreation Supervisor McClintock -**

2 staff members went to Boise for E-sports training. BSU has a world champion. This is a computer sport gaming.

- Commissioner Shaw stated CSI is starting to use it.
- Supervisor McClintock stated schools are starting but there are no recreation departments that she knows of. Finding ways to fund it with grants to not use tax dollars.
- Commissioner Shaw asked if Boise has any.
- Supervisor McClintock replied no.
- Commissioner Shaw asked why the city would want to do this.
- Supervisor McClintock feels this is important to service the kids in a non-competitive environment.
- Commissioner Shaw asked if they could get a scholarship through this.
- Supervisor McClintock stated yes, eventually.
- Director Davis explained that if they start young, they can work towards that.
- Supervisor McClintock added that with AI and all the advancements, technology is the way to go.
- Vice-Chair Sipe-Pauley asked if this would have open office hours or function more like a club with certain times.
- Supervisor McClintock explained it will have open gym time to practice but also leagues with tournaments and coaches.
- Commissioner Melton stated he likes this idea for a smaller community to come together and stay local.

Regular Fall and Winter sports are still going on. Coaches, volunteers and staff for K-3 are going well. PreK started last year. Going to reevaluate fees.

### **Parks Superintendent Munns -**

Dugout replacing and painting in different parks continuing.

Christmas tree from the commons was planted at Fire Station 3 this year.

Thompson Park is getting a new playground.

Fish hatchery is getting demolished during the process it was discovered that the bridge is not capable of supporting crossing.

Arborists attended training.

Construction Management Team RFQ will be published soon.

Canyon Trail Junction - Wright Brothers contracted to be the construction management team - are working with designers to finalize for publication.

RFQ for the City Park - money is from CDBG – will have more information as we go.

Idaho Department of Lands is sampling ash trees.

Hiring 2 park operators and a project coordinator to start in April.

- Commissioner Meyer asked what CMGC stands for.
- Superintendent Munns replied it is Construction Management General Manager. It allows someone to piece that out for us.
- Director Davis clarified that it allows the bidding to be separated out instead of all at once.
- Supervisor Pauley CORE is using CMGM for the pool also.

### **Open Space Supervisor Etzold -**

Maintenance on the Canyon rim trail - new fencing, bridge section and asphalt.

Shoshone Falls - compacted the road and widened.

- Director Davis stated the first phase is attached and detached trail.

Ticket booth data has been analyzed. April 1 - September 30, 2024, had 112,828 visitors.

Used the Idaho power traffic counter that showed missing information when no one was in the booth. Off season statistics.

- Chairperson Metcalf asked for the estimated time of completion.
- Supervisor Etzold stated they hope to open on June 1. Want to finish Shoshone and Dierkes at the same time.
- Commissioner Sip-Pauley asked about the off season and are you trying to capture lost revenue.
- Supervisor Etzold replied yes, they are trying to find options.
- Commissioner Shaw asked if there is a large out of state presence during that season.
- Supervisor Etzold said we don't know what portion is local or out of state.
- Director Davis stated they got a lot of phone calls in November about the park being closed.
- Commissioner VanEngelen asked if they track how many tour buses come through.
- Director Davis stated that the regular bus from China had stopped but had returned last year.
- Commissioner VanEngelen asked how often the contracts are renegotiated for the concession stand.
- Director Davis replied it's every 5 years.

- Commissioner Meyer asked if we could get someone there on weekends.

#### **Director Davis –**

Golf Course – Steve’s contract expires in 2025. Will need to look at what this will look like going forward.

Public Arts - electrical boxes are wrapped. New artwork in Downtown commons installed today. Grand opening in March.

2 new commissioners are coming in and will start in April.

- Vice-Chair Sipe-Pauley asked for a general update with rec center work.
- Director Davis replied they are looking for a location. They are looking at city owned properties and if any will work.
- Commissioner Meyer asked if anyone could attend the meetings.
- Director Davis replied they are public meetings. They were moving forward, then slowed, then stopped. They need a place to build. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
- Vice-Chair Sipe-Pauley asked if they were looking for someone new.
- Director Davis stated the committee started with 15 and dropped to 7. They didn't want to bring new people in and catch them up. The Bond election will need fresh people.
- Councilperson Vollmer asked if the recreation department is lacking in programs.
- Commissioner Meyer stated she misses having an indoor pool/play area. The mall indoor playground is the best option right now but hard with kids with so many other things in the mall.
- Supervisor McClintock stated the recreation department is missing the 0-4 age group option. Currently we have nothing for active older adults.

#### **5) Department Updates**

#### **6) Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:49 PM

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Jody Green, Planning Technician