



Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda

Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 11:30 AM

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

Members: Micheal Metcalf, Chairperson; Christiana Sipe-Pauley, Vice- Chairperson; Debbie VanEngelen; Steve Hayes; Olyvia Meyer; Todd Shaw; Paul Melni; Tom Bixler; Mckenzie Redd

- 1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order
- 2) General Public Input
Allow 15 minutes for public input with 2 minute time slots per member of the public to be recognized by the department chair on a first come, first served basis. Members of the public must sign-in at the beginning of the meeting to be recognized.
- 3) Consent Calendar
 - a) **ACTION ITEM:** Request to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2026 Commission meeting
By:
- 4) Items of Consideration
 - a) **INFORMATIONAL:** Welcome and introductions for Commissioner McKenzie Redd
By:
 - b) **DISCUSSION:** Review Auger Falls Conceptual Plan and evaluate the proposed archery and whitewater proposed uses for alignment
By:
 - c) **ACTION ITEM:** Continue Discussion of Parks and Recreation Master Plan and park project priorities.
By:
 - d) **ACTION ITEM:** Consider a request from Commissioner Sipe to review the Tree Commission as it relates to the duties of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
By:
- 5) Department Updates
- 6) Adjournment

Any person(s) needing special accommodations to participate in the above-noticed meeting could contact Josh Palmer (208) 735-7312 at least two working days before the meeting. Si desea esta información en Español, por favor llame a Josh Palmer al teléfono (208) 735-7312.

Public Input Procedures

- 1.** Individuals wishing to provide public input regarding matters relevant to the City of Twin Falls shall
 - wait to be recognized by the Mayor or Chairman
 - approach the microphone/podium
 - state their name and address, and whether they are a resident or property owner in the City of Twin Falls, and proceed with their input.
 - 2.** The Chairman may limit input to no less than two (2) minutes. Individuals are not permitted to give their time to other speakers.
- * Any person not conforming to the above rules may be prohibited from speaking. Persons refusing to comply with such prohibitions may be asked to leave the hearing and, thereafter removed from the room by order of the Chairman.



Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From:

ACTION ITEM

Request:

Request to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2026 Commission meeting

Time Estimate:

Background:

Approval Process:

Budget Impact:

Regulatory Impact:

History:

Analysis:

Conclusion:

Attachments:

1. 041426 Minutes WD



Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 11:30 AM

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

Members: Micheal Metcalf, Chairperson; Christiana Sipe-Pauley, Vice- Chairperson; Debbie VanEngelen; Steve Hayes; Olyvia Meyer; Todd Shaw; Paul Melni; Tom Bixler; Mckenzie Redd

1) Confirmation of Quorum/Call Meeting to Order

Commissioner Metcalf called the meeting to order at 11:29 AM

A quorum was present.

Members Present: Micheal Metcalf, Paul Melni, Olyvia Meyer, Christiana Sipe-Pauley, Tom Bixler, Debbie Van Engelen, Steve Hayes, Todd Shaw

Members Absent: Mckenzie Redd

Staff Present: Wendy Davis, Chance Munns, Mitch Humble, Craig Hawkins, Stacy McClintock, Kate Sullivan, Mable Shurtleff

2) General Public Input

- Commissioner Metcalf opened the general public input portion of the meeting.
- Clarified that comments shared are for informational purposes only.

Public present made presentations as follows:

Justin Smith, Adventure Idaho Rafting and Sam Swanson, Merrick Whitewater, addressed the Commission regarding community interest in development of a whitewater surf park feature in Twin Falls.

Key points from the presentation included:

- Interest exists within the local whitewater, paddling, surfing, and recreation communities.
- The proposed location discussed was near Rapid #3 / Auger Falls area.
- Presenters stated the site appears to have:
 - Adequate flow for much of the year,
 - Sufficient river gradient,
 - Existing trail and parking access,
 - Potential connection to other recreation amenities.
- The presenters emphasized they were not requesting City funding at this time.
- They requested coordination with the City on possible next steps, including a feasibility study / RFP process.
- The presenters referenced examples of other whitewater park projects in Idaho and elsewhere and described potential recreation and economic benefits.

A Commissioner asked about the anticipated timeline. The presenters responded that:

- A feasibility study could take approximately one year, in order to observe seasonal river conditions.
- Full project development, from concept through completion, could take seven to ten years.

Commissioner Melni asked whether environmental stakeholder discussions had begun. The presenters stated that initial outreach had occurred, but the feasibility study would be the appropriate next step to identify all stakeholders and permitting considerations. Because the matter was not a posted agenda item, Commissioner Metcalf stated that no further Commission discussion or action could occur at this time, but the topic could be brought back on a future agenda.

Don Wertz of Magic Valley Bow Hunters provided an overview of currently scheduled events and organizational activities. He expressed interest in partnering with the City to expand community programs. He noted increasing community demand for additional events and programming opportunities for the proposed Archery Range.

- Suggested establishing a public archery range to serve community needs.
- Highlighted potential benefits:
 - Increased youth engagement,
 - Opportunities for scholarships.
- Discussed possible locations:
 - Sites that allow arrows to be safely directed into a rock wall,
 - Locations with easy public access, avoiding the need to travel deep into the canyon,
 - Quick access or short visits (e.g., lunchtime use).

Commission Discussion:

- Commissioner Hayes raised questions regarding liability considerations.
- Mr. Wertz indicated local businesses have committed to helping fund much of the project.
- Commissioner Metcalf noted the topic could be scheduled for a future agenda item.
- Director Davis stated that a next step could be to review the proposals with respect to alignment with the Auger Falls Master Plan.

3) Consent Calendar

MOTION: Commissioner Melni moved to the consent agenda as written. Commissioner Sipe-Pauley seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 8 to 0.

- Approve minutes from the following meeting: February 10, 2026.
- Consider a request to remove one Boxelder at 1899 Stadium Blvd, Cascade Park.
- Consider a request to remove one Elm at 346 6th Ave N.

4) Items of Consideration

- a) Welcome Commissioner McKenzie Redd and introductions
Item tabled for next meeting.
- b) Introduction and presentation of vision and proposed fee increases from Travis Hofland Golf, LLC regarding Twin Falls Golf Club.
Travis Hoffman, Golf Course Concessionaire, provided an informational update regarding operations at the Twin Falls Golf Club.

Topics discussed included:

- His personal and professional background in golf and instruction.
- His history with the Twin Falls Golf Club and reasons for returning.
- His vision for the facility, including:
 - Strong customer service,
 - Instruction and player development,
 - Junior golf programming,
 - Retention of current players,
 - Making golf accessible and affordable for the community,
 - Expanding services and revenue opportunities.
- He stated that his focus is not solely on fee increases, but on growing revenue through improved service, programs, and usage.
- He discussed the importance of:
 - Instruction,
 - Club fitting,
 - Corporate outings and events,
 - Junior golfer development,
 - Creating pathways for new golfers to enter the game.
- He also mentioned exploring sponsorship, scholarship support, and potentially a future foundation model to assist youth participation.
- Early operational observations included positive performance in areas such as cart revenue and driving range use.

Commission discussion included questions about scholarships, sponsorship, adult beginner golf opportunities, website access, and online scheduling/communications. Staff indicated links and website information would continue to be improved.

No action taken.

- c) Consider a request from Wanda Gustafson to donate a bench to be placed on the Canyon Rim Trail, above the Shoshone Falls.
Open Space Supervisor Sullivan presented a memorial bench donation request from Wanda Gustafson. Discussion occurred regarding the wording of the proposed inscription. A modification was recommended so that the inscription would read in an approved memorial format, such as "In memory of ..."

MOTION: Commissioner Sipe-Pauley moved to approve the memorial bench donation request

amending "In loving memory of..." to "In memory of...". Commissioner Meyer seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 8 to 0.

- d) Consider a request to remove one Ash and one Arborvitae from City Park

Superintendent Munns presented a request involving the removal of two trees in a park setting. He explained the condition of the trees and the broader planting context in the area, including future replacement considerations and ongoing park improvements such as pedestrian traffic changes.

MOTION: Commissioner Melni moved to approve the removal of the two identified trees in City Park. Commissioner Sipe-Pauley seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 8 to 0.

- e) Consider a request to remove one Mulberry and one Silver Maple along Gooding St. at 160 9th Ave N.

Superintendent Munns presented a tree removal request associated with a sidewalk replacement / sidewalk grant project at Gooding St. at 160 9th Ave N.

- The silver maple is dead and should be removed.
- The mulberry showed signs of root flare separation and possible whole-tree movement, raising safety concerns.
- Alternatives such as root avoidance and canopy reduction were considered, but removal was presented as a reasonable option.
- Replacement trees would be required, though not necessarily in the same exact locations.

Commission discussion included whether the trees were significant to the character of the street and whether replacement plantings would maintain the landscape pattern.

MOTION: Commissioner Melni moved to approve the removal of the silver maple and mulberry trees as presented by staff. Commissioner Sipe-Pauley seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all members present voted. Approved 8 to 0.

- f) Continue Discussion of Parks and Recreation Master Plan and park project priorities. Director Davis discussed the park improvement list and requested that Commissioners continue reviewing park sites and submitting comments. She indicated comments could be collected and organized for future discussion.

Commissioners discussed ways to better compile observations and feedback in advance of meetings.

5) Department Updates

Superintendent Munns presented:

- Restrooms are anticipated to be opening this week.

- There are a couple of capital improvement projects currently ongoing.
- The upcoming Arbor Day event is planned for April 24. The event is expected to include a ribbon cutting, public remarks, and tree-planting activities. Commissioners were invited to attend and participate.
- Several capital projects are in various stages of construction and implementation this year.

a) March Department Updates.

b) April Department Updates

6) Adjournment

Commissioner Metcalf asked whether the Commission would like to have further discussion regarding the two groups of presenters. Director Davis responded that the discussion could be incorporated into the Master Plan review, noting that both groups align well with broader conversations about space usage and evaluation.

Potential Future Discussion Items:

- Tree Commission structure and recommendation to the Mayor and Council.
- Park planning and improvement priorities.
- Recreation building and committee-related follow-up.
- Master Plan review.

The meeting adjourned at 01:00 PM

Mable Shurtleff
Mable Shurtleff, Project Coordinator
Parks and Recreation Department



Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026
To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From:

INFORMATIONAL

Request:

Welcome and introductions for Commissioner McKenzie Redd

Time Estimate:

Background:

Approval Process:

Budget Impact:

Regulatory Impact:

History:

Analysis:

Conclusion:

Attachments:

None



Date: Tuesday,
May 12,
2026

To: Parks and
Recreation
Commission

From:

DISCUSSION

Request:

Review Auger Falls Conceptual Plan and evaluate the proposed archery and whitewater proposed uses for alignment

Time Estimate:

Allow approximately 30 minutes for review and discussion.

Background:

Two public presentations were made at the April 14, 2026 Commission meeting regarding expanding access and uses of Auger Falls Heritage Park.

- Justin Smith, Adventure Idaho Rafting and Sam Swanson, Merrick Whitewater, addressed the Commission regarding community interest in development of a whitewater surf park feature in Twin Falls.
- Don Wertz of Magic Valley Bow Hunters proposed an archery range to be added in the park.

The Commission expressed interest in understanding the Auger Falls Conceptual Plan with regards to identified and future plans and uses of the space. This discussion will include an overview of the Conceptual Plan and an opportunity to evaluate the proposed uses.

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Consider a request from Commissioner Sipe to review the Tree Commission as it relates to the duties of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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