



CITY-COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 5, 2022



CITY MEMBERS

- David McGuire, Chair
- Benjamin Kuiper

COUNTY MEMBERS

- Jerry Blythe
- Alex Tommerup, Vice Chair
- Nyle Howsmon (Lincoln Parks Board) **OR**
- Ernie Lundberg (Lincoln Parks Board)

JOINT MEMBERS

- Neal Murray, School District

COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

- Sean Logan, City Commissioner
- Jim McCormick, County Commissioner

STAFF REPRESENTATIVES

- Lewis and Clark County Representative
- Doug Smith – Parks, Recreation and Open Lands Director
- Craig Marr – Parks Superintendent
- Kait Perrodin – Aquatics and Recreation Manager
- Heather Kahler – Parks Administrative Assistant, Recorder

Visitor(s):

- **Officer Randy Ranalli with the Helena Police Department**
- **Marilyn Greely – member of the public**
- **John Andrew – member of Helena Citizens Council**

1. Call to Order 11:30am

2. Establish Quorum/Introductions/Review Agenda/Approval of Minutes

- + 10.05.2022 Agenda – **No changes or additions**
- + September 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes - Time-Stamp Summary:
[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/inMDoXhXQVm62eUAI2T4-0MxZZceJxrcDU65tumNCXxejLepYhHdamsUOYOzz70.ZKFHOAQ91Z72pB - ?startTime=1662571920000](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/inMDoXhXQVm62eUAI2T4-0MxZZceJxrcDU65tumNCXxejLepYhHdamsUOYOzz70.ZKFHOAQ91Z72pB-?startTime=1662571920000)

- **Ernie moved to approve the minutes, Jerry seconded, all in favor, motion moved.**

3. Comments from Persons Present

The board will accept brief comments from the public for items that are not on the agenda at this time.

- **Member of the public, Marilyn Greely was present to share to the board her concern of the homeless activity at Cartwright Park directly next to her residence. She**

“The City - County Parks Board’s mission is to promote investment in the development and maintenance of parks, recreation, trails and open space.”

proposed to the Parks Department that they cut back if not completely remove a section of trees and bushes to prevent camping overnight. She also proposed a fence or some sort of blockade be added to prevent people from walking through easily. Craig Marr said he would be more than happy to meet with her on location to get a detailed view of what she is talking about and begin working on a solution.

- Member of Helena Citizens Council, John Andrew brought up concern of the lack of tree thinning and fire mitigation around the Dale Harris Park area. He would like to see similar fire mitigation efforts that have been done on Mount Helena and the Rodney Street area.

4. Unfinished Business

Board Member Appointment Update

- Heather updated the board that she has been working with the Clerk of the Commission's office on letting them know how many vacancies are currently on the board. There is one city vacancy and one county vacancy and they are currently being advertised on the City of Helena Website. She also mentioned that a Lewis and Clark County representative is continuing their efforts to fulfill the Lincoln Parks Board.

5. Action Item(s)

None

6. Presentations/Discussion Items

By-Laws Updating

- Board Members should gather any of their own thoughts and findings of what needs updating. Members or a volunteer from the board could send those changes and revisions to Heather to update the Bylaws and have a draft put together.

7. Reports

County Commission Report – nothing to report County Commissioner not present

City Commission Report – nothing to report, City Commissioner not present

Lewis and Clark County Report – nothing to report

City Parks and Recreation Maintenance Report-

- Craig reported that Park maintenance has been busy winterizing parks by blowing out the irrigation systems and closing the permanent restrooms.
- Also working on improving the turf by fertilizing, aerating and removing debris.
- We have been working on investigating where a leak in the lazy river is occurring so we drilled some sample areas on the deck and have narrowed the search to a couple primary areas.
- Parks will be working with public works to determine if we can accommodate some new wells on park property related to the city's water reservation.
- We received the engineering report and drawings to repair the Fire Tower. The next steps will be to complete fund raising and secure a contractor to do the work.

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- Urban Forestry is gearing up for a large project mid-October working with a contractor to remove numerous green ash trees on the west side of town. This is funded through a grant from the DNRC. Wrapping up the planting season and pruning.

✚ City Parks and Recreation Director Report

- Introduction of Doug Smith, new Parks, Recreation, Open Lands Director
- Doug introduced himself and said he is looking forward to working for the City of Helena and the Parks Board

8. Communications and Future Agenda Items (Board Members)

9. Next Meeting Date

✚ Wednesday November 2, 2022 11:30am-1:00pm

✚ City/County Building Room 426 and Zoom

10. Other

- ✚ Alex mentioned there is going to be an open house at the new courts at Barney Park on October 22nd and pickleball will be played.

11. Adjournment – 11:59am

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