



May 9, 2024

# City of Hermiston Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

## ***Parks & Recreation***

### Committee Members present:

Carlisle Harrison	Jeff Kelso
Nicole Westing	Hunter Tibbals

### Also present:

Jackie Myers, City Councilor  
Brandon Artz, Parks & Recreation Director  
Kelly Schwirse, Parks & Recreation Admin  
Kasia Robbins, Recreation Coordinator

Members not in attendance: Lydia Raath

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:31 by Jeff Kelso

## **MINUTES**

- Motion to approve March 14 meeting minutes was made by Carlisle Harrison and seconded by Nicole Westing. Motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS & BUSINESS**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT** *presented by Brandon Artz,*

#### **RECREATION COORDINATORS**

- New recreation coordinator has been hired, Stasha Haynes will join our department on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Stasha currently works for the City of Richland Parks and Recreation where she has started a number of programs including their Aloha Grass Volleyball Series. She has experience in aquatics and is a certified lifeguard instructor. Stasha is excited to come to work for Hermiston Parks & Recreation and continue growing and creating programs.
- Recruitment for the position of Recreation Coordinator/Facilities Manager has yielded 14 applicants. Four applicants were selected for interviews to be held on May 20. Projected start date in mid-June.
- Diana Picard, Facility Manager/Recreation Coordinator will be retiring July 1<sup>st</sup>

#### **FUNLAND TACTILE MAP**

- Unveiling of the new tactile map at Funland Park was held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Kodi Arnold, a Hermiston resident and member of the committee for the tactile map was honored with the unveiling and the first to utilize the map through touch.
- The Funland Tactile Map project was in cooperation with the Hermiston Lions Club and is one of only three playground tactile maps like this in the country.



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### **HORIZON PARK**

- 10 new trees were planted at Horizon Park on April 25 in partnership with AWS and coordinated through The Arbor Day Foundation as part of a \$22,000 tree planting fund.
- AWS provided 30 volunteers along with materials and worked alongside our parks crew to get them securely planted in the park.
- Looking forward to partnering again this fall for plantings in front of the Community Center, McKenzie Park and the Harkenrider Senior Activity Center as a continuation of the same tree planting fund.

### **HARRISON PARK**

- One basketball court ready to bounce balls, one court is curing, and the other is being prepared to be poured.
- Concrete work being provided by Jason Blake.
- 30' hexagon pavilion has been purchased and ordered, basketball hoops have arrived and are ready for installation.
- Kriss Dammeyer has expressed interest in having a mural painter paint on the courts in the future.

### **CIMMARON PARK**

- Local Grant Program grant application has been submitted. Presentation in late May.
- Concept design by Greenworks includes two different options for the playground location and includes natural rock features and a small pavilion and pathway. Estimated project costs \$461,414

### **STORY WALK**

- Altrusa International has fundraised approximately \$16,000 to purchase 19 double-sided aluminum frames for the Story Walk along Riverfront Park walking path.
- Posts for these signs will be delivered in June at which time we will hold a work party to get these built.
- Stories will be featured in English on one side and Spanish on the other.

### **HERO SPORTSPLEX**

- HEROS hosted first lacrosse tournament on March 30<sup>th</sup> in addition to five league lacrosse games.
- Half of the field lights have been installed. Approval was granted for a storage building on site to house equipment.

### **HARKENRIDER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER**

- Work has commenced in the basement.
- The Arc of Umatilla County has moved their operations, holding some of their activities such as walking and Zumba at the Community Center and Bingo at the Harkenrider Senior Activity Center.
- Renovations at The Arc building have not yet started.

### **FINANCIALS**

- Overview of current financials and program participation numbers.

### **SKATE PARK**

- Official Ribbon Cutting of the Teen Adventure Skate Park on Saturday May 11 1:00pm
- Next phase will be installation of irrigation, planting grass and landscaping.
- Sidewalks to be going in within the next couple of months.



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#### **AQUATIC CENTER**

- Language introduced for a pool Passholder Behavior Policy
- Motion was made by Nicole Westing to accept the behavior policy as written. Seconded by Carlisle Harrison. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Spring Bazaar, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm at Hermiston Community Center
- I Love My City and Community Recycle event on Saturday, May 18 9am-12pm
- Kid's Fishing Derby, Saturday, June 1 10:00am at McNary Ponds

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

#### **ADJOURNED**

Meeting adjourned at 6:14pm

Next meeting, June 13, 5:30pm