



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Community Center- 415 S. HWY 395

Where Life is Sweet

October 08, 2026 at 5:30 PM

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. MINUTES
 - [A.](#) June 2026 - P&R Committee Meeting Minutes
 - [B.](#) 2026 TRT Recreation Projects Grant Meeting Minutes
3. REPORTS AND BUSINESS
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Harkenrider Center Updates
 - C. TRT-Rec Projects Committee Member
4. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Upcoming Events & Programs
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. COMMITTEE OPEN DISCUSSION
7. NEXT MEETING - November 12, 2026
8. ADJOURN

**** AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE****

Please contact Hermiston City Hall, 180 NE 2nd Street, Hermiston, OR 97838 (Phone No. 541-567-5521) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation. TTY and TDD users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900 or 711.



Parks & Recreation

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes June 11, 2026

<u>Committee Members</u>	<u>City Representatives:</u>	<u>Youth Advisors:</u>
Position #1 ☐ Jay Ego	☒ Jackie Myers, <i>Council Representative</i>	☐ Aspyn Inners
Position #2 ☒ Mary Mejia-Weaver	☒ Maria Duron, <i>Council Representative</i>	☐ Yaneisy Perez
Position #3 ☒ Hunter Tibbals	☒ Brandon Artz, <i>P&R, Director</i>	☐ Gabriel Richards
Position #4 ☐ Carlisle Harrison	☒ Kasia Robbins, <i>P&R, Rec Manager</i>	☐ Jazmin Sanchez
Position #5 ☒ Stephanie Hughes	☐ Telisha Goodwin, <i>P&R, Operations Coord.</i>	☐ Sofia Rodriguez
Position #6 ☒ Helen Nevin		
Position #7 ☐ Doug Minton		

Members of the Public:

None

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Hunter Tibbals at 5:31 pm with a quorum present.

Minutes

- January 2026, P&R Committee Minutes
 - A. Stephanie moved and Mary seconded motion to approve the minutes.
 - B. Motion carried unanimously

Reports & Business

Introduction

- Introduced Mya Moreno as the new full-time Recreation Coordinator/Aquatics Manager.
- Introduced Andrew Guerrero as Recreation Coordinator.
- Recreation staff is now fully staffed for the summer season.
- Lifeguard recruitment has been successful with nearly all seasonal positions filled. Staff discussed the importance of training and retaining returning employees.

Director's Report

- City and Project Updates
- HAWC Project:**
 - Council presentation was completed.
 - Community outreach and surveys will be conducted throughout the summer.
 - Results will be presented to City Council in September for a final decision on whether to proceed with design.

Horizon Park

- Basketball court has been completed.
- Playground installation is substantially complete.
- Final landscaping, curbing, pathways, and surfacing remain.
- Park opening is anticipated within the next few weeks.
- Committee discussed hosting a community Horizon Park Opening Party/Ribbon Cutting following 4th of July Celebration.



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Belt Park Bridge

- Ribbon cutting was held for the newly completed bridge.
- Students who constructed the bridge were recognized for their work and partnership with the local welding program.

Downtown Tree Project

- Greenworks will evaluate downtown tree wells and provide recommendations for improvements, replacement trees, and accessibility enhancements.

I Love My City

- Successful community cleanup event completed.
- Parks, downtown areas, and graffiti cleanup were completed.
- Fifteen trees were planted in Belt Park by Youth Advisory members. ARC updates:

Forestry Grant Update

Progress continues on the Community Forest Plan including:

- Tree inventory
- Hazardous tree assessments
- Tree maintenance planning
- Arboretum development
- Downtown tree planning
- Continued community education and future tree plantings

Aquatics

Pool Operations

- Pool mechanical systems are functioning well overall.
- Staff continue proactive maintenance on filtration and water clarity.
- Future improvements remain dependent on the outcome of the HAWK project.

Second Grade Swim Lessons

- 347 students participated this year.
- High-risk drowning assessments have decreased from 83% in 2018 to 59% in 2026.
- Program success continues through strong partnership with the Hermiston School District.
- Kiwanis Club continues supporting the program through donations of goggles, sunscreen, and water safety books.

Hermiston Family Aquatic Center

- Pool scheduled to open Saturday.
- Staff anticipate a busy opening weekend.

Parks Maintenance

New Equipment

- Department received a new **Toro Groundmaster 5910** mower.
- Equipment features:
 - 16-foot cutting deck
 - Approximately 20 acres per hour
 - All-wheel drive
 - Climate-controlled operator cab
- Purchase funded through an internal Public Works loan with repayment planned over two to three years.



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Upcoming Programs & Events

Staff provided updates on upcoming events including:

- Birdies & Beyond Youth Golf Camp (Camp Full)
- Birdies & Beyond Golf Tournament (Registration Still Open)
- Stars & Stripes 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
- Summer Feeding Program
- Science in the Park
- Melon Fest Planning
- Fourth of July Celebration
 - New circus-style entertainment
 - Additional food vendors
 - Community mural sponsored by Amazon
 - Traditional pool celebration to continue

Open Discussion

- Community survey will be distributed in English and Spanish throughout the summer.
- Discussion included pool maintenance, irrigation canal safety education, employee retention, and future park improvement opportunities.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm



Parks & Recreation

Recreation Projects Fund Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes June 16, 2026

<u>Committee Members</u> Position #1 ☒ Helen Nevin Position #2 ☐ Val Hoxie Position #3 ☒ Hunter Tibbals Position #4 ☒ James Whalley Position #5 ☒ David McCarthy	<u>City Representatives:</u> ☒ Brandon Artz, P&R Director
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Members of the Public:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Committee members assembled and called to order by Hunter Tibbals at 3:00pm with presentations beginning at 3:10pm.

MINUTES

The Recreation Project Fund Advisory Committee met on June 16 to review 12 proposals submitted for the 2026-27 allocation. Amount budgeted in FY 26/27 for distribution is \$125,000 and the combined amount requested for all applicants is \$231,160.

Application packets were sent to prior applicants and known parties of interest and made available on the City's website April 1 – May 31.

The distribution criteria for applicants is as follows.

TRT Funding Criteria and Eligibility

- Total budgeted project fund allocation for 2026/2027 is \$125,000.
- Projects must be within the City of Hermiston.
- Applicants must have a non-profit tax status.
- Projects that benefit Hermiston through enhanced tourism, promotion, marketing, and lodging will be given highest consideration.
- Projects that benefit the greatest number of participants will be given greater consideration.
- Projects that represent a broad base of other support shall be given greater consideration.
- Funded projects are required to submit a breakdown of expenditures on how the funds were spent including receipts prior to reimbursement.

Applicants were allowed 10 minutes to describe their project proposals and answer questions from the Committee. After review of the applications, the Committee discussed each proposal in detail and through consensus, settled on the award amounts in the following table.

A motion was made by David McCarthy to recommend the amounts listed below, seconded by Jim Whalley. Motion passed unanimously.



Parks & Recreation

Recreation Projects Fund Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes June 16, 2026

Applicant	Description	Committee Award
Hermiston Downtown District	Melon Fest	\$10,000
Cinco de Mayo	2026 Cinco de Mayo Event	\$10,000
Inland Northwest Musicians	Orchestra Events	\$1,440
Hermiston Parks & Recreation	Annual Free Community Events	\$15,000
Hermiston Parks & Recreation	Mobile Video Trailer	\$30,000
Hermiston Sports Commission	Hermiston Sports Commission	\$7,000
Hermiston Basketball Club	Tournament Awards	\$8,000
541 Pickleball Club	Pickleball Enhancements	\$560
Hermiston Rotary Club	2026 Pickleball Tournament	\$5,000
Eastern OR Women's Business Lab	EO Women's Business Summit	\$20,000
Made to Thrive	Program Funding	\$3,000
Hermiston Jr Bulldogs	Youth Football Program	\$15,000
	Total Requested \$231,160	Total Award Recommendation \$125,000

ADJOURNED

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm. No future meetings scheduled.