



PARKS COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Palmer Lake Town Hall – 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake, Colorado

MINUTES

Call to Order. Commission Chair Reid Wiecks called the meeting to order at 5 PM.

Roll Call. Present: Jennifer Nilson, Phyllis Head, Reid Wiecks, Mike Pietsch. Absent: Kevin Magner, Cindy Powell, Ande Furrer. Others present: Trustee Nick Erhardt, Gene Kalesti, Garcia Wood. Staff: Dawn Collins, Jason Dosch, Tish Torweihe.

1. Welcome new members Kevin Magner and Jennifer Nilson.

Approval of Minutes

2. Minutes from 8/8/2023. MOTION (Mike, Jennifer) to approve minutes from August 8, 2023. Motion passed 4-0.

Petty Cash Report. Mike Pietsch reported donations and expenditures with a new balance of \$317.

Public Works Supervisor Report. Jason will wait until the items come up on the agenda.

Town Administrator Report

3. Kiosk Revenue. Collins provided copies of the kiosk revenue report, with YTD \$31,000 net collection and the month of August \$6,500.

4. Report of Funds Expended. Discussion took place about the expenses using CTF funds - \$3300 on noxious weed removal around Centennial, plan to use \$10,000 to purchase resurfacing material for Centennial playground, and replacement cost of the restroom door at the lake. Other expenses were reviewed to be split between Parks kiosk revenue and PW - \$23,000 for the new power at the ped bridge. Resurfacing of the Glen Park courts will use kiosk funds.

5. Update on RR Lighting Plan. Collins will continue to reach out to the RR regarding the pedestrian bridge lighting plan status. There has been no response.

Business Items

6. Consider Alternate Parks Commission Member. Introduction was made to Garcia Wood. She provided her background in outdoor education and ran several ropes courses and regular hiking in Palmer Lake. She stated that she would like to be involved in keeping the town small and bringing respect to the town and assist with keeping open spaces. MOTION (Reid, Mike) to recommend the Board of Trustees appoint Garcia Wood as an alternate member. Motion passed 4-0.

7. Parks Volunteer Hours Report. Not available currently. Hours can be reported to Tish to assemble a monthly report.

8. Plans for Creek Week Service Day on 9/30. Volunteers can help clean the creek and help with spreading wood chips. Students may volunteer for credit hours. Discussion took place about details of the flyer and Tish will distribute.

9. Update on Trail and Bridges. Mr. Gene Kalesti provided an update regarding the bridge and trail activity. He attended a meeting with the USAFA cadets to review two designs to start building in March. They plan to raise funds for the bridges - approximately \$20,000 per bridge is needed for the design and installation. Discussion about engineering the reinforcement of the embankment took place. He stated that cadets took very detailed measurements. They will design in the fall and install in the spring. Pikes Peak Regional Building rep, Keith Curtis will assist with permitting. Once the design is completed, it will be sent to the Town office. Creek Week focus will be to remove junk from the creek. Jason will order the roll off needed. Roughing out trails will be an additional focus with volunteers.

10. Update on Non-motorized Grant. Jennifer assisted Cindy to submit the grant by Oct 3rd due date. The motorized grant is detailed with timing and how funds can be used. The bridge work starts in March so monies may need to come from another source.

Centennial Park

11. Centennial Park Updates - Ped Bridge Landscaping, Restroom Door Repair, Court Activity. Reid reported that the ped bridge landscaping is completed. The process with contractors should be run through the Town and then reimbursed by Awake the Lake. Jason informed members that the restroom door replacement is scheduled for September 18th.

South End SUP and Kayak Launch Area, Need for Signs along Water below Landscaping, East End of Bridge. Parks is planning a very informal launch site on the south end to encourage people to park on the west side of the bridge. The handrail broke the day before the Wine Festival because the base was weak and it will be reinstalled or a new one installed. Disc golf needs signage for patrons to know it is a disc golf flight zone. Discussion arose regarding dates for the Outdoor Classic Jan 5-7 and Winterfest to keep in mind.

Glen Park

12. Update on Tennis/Pickleball Courts and Rules. Mike replied to resident concerns posted on Nextdoor that the tennis courts are no longer in Glen Park. There are over 70 pickleball players on a regular basis. He confirmed the tennis courts are still there, and it includes more pickleball courts. Most people were in favor of pickleball courts. Reid listened to a podcast regarding sound improvements with equipment and a screen to add to the courts. Tennis courts look great with the exception of some cracks present, which Reid will reach out to Renner for warranty repair. Issues about rules and storage are being worked out. Mike reviewed rules and pickleball logistics. The group that plays regularly is a great group that welcomes everyone. Garcia Wood mentioned weekend use and providing separate used nets. There are no plans to advertise the pickleball courts.

Public Comment. None

Report of Other Meetings. None

Next Meeting (9/26 workshop) and Future Items. POC list, Creek Week, Earth Day, Attract & Retain Volunteers.

13. Summary of 8/21 Workshop Activity. The COS Switchback presentation was postponed. Creek Week and Earth Day were discussed - two speakers will be planned for Earth Day. Members are seeking raffle items and Reid will ask REI for support. Also reaching out to several nurseries - Garcia inquired about tree planting grants. A coordinator will be needed to manage the overall event. Phyllis discussed the importance of noxious weed removal and bug integrating on Old Carriage Road. Phyllis will plan a weed party and coordinate with the town office for a flyer design.

14. Palmer Ridge Pickleball Club. A student is putting together a pickleball club and has three sponsors and would like to play one or two days after school. At some point, Parks will have to come up with a reservation plan.

Adjourn. Reid adjourned the meeting at 6:38 PM.

Minutes by: Tish Torweihe, Administrative Specialist