



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 09, 2025 at 2:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

The meeting of the Sandpoint Parks and Rec Commission was called to order at 2:30pm on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025, by Chairman Long in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Taylor Long
Commissioner Tyler Wagner
Commissioner Heidi Bohall
Commissioner Lori Siemers
Commissioner Dan Tadic
Commissioner Josh Delucchi joined the meeting at 3:20pm
Guest ACHP Commission Chair Elle Susnis
City Council Liaison Joel Aispuro
Staff Liaison Jason Welker
Commissioner Jessica Janssen via zoom

ABSENT

Commissioner Eric Donenfeld
Commissioner Gwen Victorson

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. June 11th, 2025, Draft minutes for Approval - **Action Item**

The June 11th, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as presented by unanimous vote of commissioner's present.

Motion made by Wagner, Seconded by Tadic.
Voting Yea: Long, Wagner, Bohall, Siemers, Tadic

Old/Unfinished Business

None

New Business

2. City Council Directive for JER - Update

Director Welker provided a recap of the presentation made to City Council two weeks prior. Two operational options were presented. Option 1: Maintain current operations at the JER as a tennis/pickleball facility, with the potential to partner with USTA Pacific Northwest (PNW). Option 2: Transition the facility to a multi-sport venue with additional surfaces and equipment (e.g., turf, basketball court). City Council selected Option 1 and directed staff to pursue a partnership with USTA PNW. City Council also expressed support for the purchase of a

special event floor covering for the JER. The flooring cover is kept on a large roll and could accommodate parties, banquet-style dinners, and other events. The plan is to start small and begin with coverage for one tennis court.

Director Welker went on to share what a partnership with USTA PNW could bring to the table, upcoming changes to membership and fee structure, a proposed volunteer program that would allow the building to increase open hours, the upcoming JER Grand Opening currently in the planning stages, and maintenance / infrastructure issues still wrapping up.

Paid parking approved two weeks ago 30:19 and boat launch fees. Paring passes for city residents \$15 3-6hrs free per day.

3. ACHP Proposal to Paint Basketball Courts - Discussion

Arts Culture and Historic Preservation Commission Chair Elle Susnis proposed exploring painted murals on outdoor basketball courts (e.g., City Beach, Hickory Park) as a way to support local artists and beautify city parks. She shared examples from other cities like Spokane, where similar projects have successfully blended art and recreation. Susnis and commissioners discussed possible models to follow, design criteria, court improvements via sponsorships, and obtaining basketball player feedback.

The commission expressed general support for exploring court murals as temporary public art. Emphasis was placed on ensuring the courts remain functional for competitive play and maintaining community engagement throughout the process. Chair Susnis will conduct further research on materials, costs, and artist opportunities. Staff will explore the feasibility of using SURA art funds for a City Beach basketball court mural, and commissioner Delucchi and Council Liaison Aispuro will seek input from the basketball community.

General Announcements/Comments

None

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 3:37 pm

I presided over the meeting and can confirm that minutes, prepared by the Board Clerk and City Staff Liaison, were approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission during their regular meeting held on

August 13, 2025.

Gwen Victorson

Taylor Long, Chair
Vice

Gwen Victorson

Kami Omodt

Kami Omodt, Board Clerk