



PARKS & EVENTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 12, 2025

This meeting was conducted in person and remotely via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER: Commission Chair Emily Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

Commission Members: Emily Anderson, Amanda Frame, Rene Price, Hadley Evarts, and Paul Sweum were present.

Councilmember Ethan Benson was absent.

Community Liaison Nicole Wiebe was absent

City Staff:

Jeff Hamlin, Parks & Public Works Director; Phil Bennet, Deputy Parks & Public Works Director; Dylan Gamble, CIP Manager; and Robert Thrall, Legal Assistant.

Introductions were made.

AGENDA APPROVAL – Agenda was amended removing agenda item number 7, Follow Up on Playground Ad Hoc Tour. Agenda was amended moving item 6, Cricket Pitch Updates/Plan to number 2 on the agenda. Agenda was amended moving agenda item number 8, Parks and Events Commission Election to agenda item number 3.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Chair Anderson made public comment. She thanked Vice Chair Sweum on his commitment of 11 years to the Commission. Vice Chair Sweum made public comment on his time as chair to the commission. He commented on his appreciation of the Commission. Vice Chair Sweum also made public comment regarding donating food to the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT – Councilmember was not present.

MINUTES:

1. The minutes dated September 9, 2025, were approved as presented.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2. Cricket Pitch Updates/Plan. Deputy Parks & Public Works Director, Phil Bennet led the discussion and explained the importance of Cricket to the community. He spoke on the City's proposed plan to merge a Cricket Pitch into Centennial Park. Images of the proposed pitch were shown. Deputy Director Bennet went over the images presented. Vikrant Sathyakumar provided more details about the Pitch and the materials it would be made of. He also discussed how Centennial Park will be able to accommodate both Cricket and Baseball being played simultaneously. Commissions had an opportunity to ask questions.

3. Parks and Events Commission Election. Chair Anderson led the discussion on Commission elections. Chair Anderson gave her thoughts on being Chair and the opportunity to allow another Commissioner the option to take over as Chair. Vice Chair Sweum made a motion to nominate Rene Price for Commission Chair. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Evarts nominated Commission member Frame as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Trail Signage. Parks & Public Works Director Jeff Hamlin informed the Commission that it would be taking longer than initially thought to implement. Commissioner Price discussed the different groups she had been in contact with to coordinate the design of the signs. Vice Chair Sweum commented on Redmond Ridge being an example the Commission could use. CIP Manager Dylan Gamble made comment on the signage King County uses for their trails as potential examples for the City's trail signage. Director Hamlin stated he believed end of Summer 2026 would be a good time to continue the discussion on trail signage.

5. Orchard Park (trees). Director Hamlin discussed the FEMA lots and arboretum park. CIP Manager Gamble spoke on FEMA lots. He provided updates on current plans. Director Hamlin gave input on his belief that the Parks Department would be able to do the project. Staff and Commissioners made comments and asked questions.

6. Volunteer Trail Steward/Adopt a Trail Program. Commissioners discussed this item and determined it was discussed and covered under agenda item 4. Trail Signage.

7. Cottonwood and Hoff Parks Concepts. CIP Manager Gamble led the discussion. He presented different renderings and images of the projects. Manager Gamble went through the two parks and the design benefits of each. Mr. Sathyakumar made comment that there should be push bucket swings. Commissioners and staff made comments and gave input on the various designs. Commissioners chose the concepts they preferred for both Cottonwood and Hoff Parks. For Hoff Park, Commissioner preferred Design Concept A, with an included swing and Design Concept B for Cottonwood Park.

SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT:

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Frame asked questions regarding the Steller Dog Park Tour.

Chair Anderson discussed how after agenda items are discussed at the Parks and Events Commission, one or two Commissioners will present to the Parks and Public Works Committee.

Vice Chair Sweum discussed a previous topic of ways to involve commissioners in City events.

Chair Anderson discussed the possibility of changing the time of the Parks and Events Commission.

FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION:

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

Minutes prepared by Robert Thrall, Legal Assistant.

Recorded meeting audio is available on the city website after the meeting.

Minutes approved at the May 12, 2026 Parks & Events Commission Meeting.