



# **PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION**

Monday, November 10, 2025 at 4:00 PM

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Vice Chair Howard Blumenthal  
Commissioner Jerry Belcher  
Commissioner Lucas Green  
Commissioner Scott Jacobson  
Commissioner Lynne Pettit  
Commissioner Ashley Stanley  
Commissioner Jacob Woodruff

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Buck Tupper, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor  
Dawn Richardson, Admin Billing Specialist  
Jamie Ford, Admin Billing Specialist

### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

Chair Dana Lathrope  
Commissioner Paul Barlow

### **CALL TO ORDER – 4:00 PM**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2025**

Vice Chair Blumenthal asked if everyone had read the minutes. Commissioner Jacobson requested a correction regarding the article on Milton Creek, noting that it would be Sean Clark's column and that he and Lindsay Wilson would be doing it. Commissioner Pettit requested an amendment to items 1, 3, and 4 regarding her connection issues, suggesting the wording be changed to "Commissioner out of town, video connection issues."

**Motion** to approve the minutes of October 13, 2025 as amended was made by Commissioner Jacobson, seconded by Commissioner Woodruff.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Blumenthal, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Green, Commissioner Jacobson, Commissioner Pettit, Commissioner Stanley, Commissioner Woodruff

### **TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR:** From attendees not otherwise of the agenda

Vice Chair Blumenthal welcomed new Commissioner Stanley to the board.

**NEW BUSINESS****2. Round Table Question**

Vice Chair Blumenthal posed the question: "What do you consider the most pressing thing in our parks?" Commission members identified several concerns including staffing and funding issues, park misuse, low attendance, trail maintenance and accessibility, and the need for more volunteerism.

**3. Bylaws Update**

**Motion** to postpone the Bylaws update to the next meeting was made by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Jacobson.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Blumenthal, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Green, Commissioner Jacobson, Commissioner Pettit, Commissioner Stanley, Commissioner Woodruff

**4. Master Plan Items**

Commissioner Pettit mentioned she had plans she submitted in October 2022 for Dalton Preserve. It was agreed to postpone this item to the December meeting.

**5. Term Expirations - Dana Lathrope & Scott Jacobson**

Vice Chair Blumenthal noted that Commissioner Lathrope and Jacobson's terms would expire on December 31.

**OLD BUSINESS****6. Parks Assessments**

The Commission discussed park assignment rotations. It was agreed to maintain the current assignments for one more month, with new Commissioner Stanley taking over assessment of Heinie Heumann Park and the Dog Park.

**Motion** that Commissioners continue with their current park assignments for one more month, with Commissioner Stanley assuming responsibility for Heinie Heumann Park and the Dog Park, was made by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Jacobson.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Blumenthal, Commissioner Belcher, Commissioner Green, Commissioner Jacobson, Commissioner Pettit, Commissioner Stanley, Commissioner Woodruff

**7. Urban Trail**

Commissioner Belcher presented updated maps of the Urban Trail, which had been simplified and reoriented. He noted the trail is approximately two miles long and takes about 45-50 minutes to walk. The map will be distributed to City Councilors, and the implementation of the trail will be on the agenda for an upcoming City Council meeting on November 19 at 3:00 PM.

**8. Milton Creek - Standing Item**

Commissioner Jacobson reported that work with the City Council regarding the Milton Creek project continues, with plans for a site visit involving Councilors and the Port Commission. Commissioner Green mentioned they plan to attend a future City Council meeting to discuss rezoning considerations for the area.

**STAFF REPORT**

Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Tupper reported:

- Information about park leash rules was published in the City newsletter and social media
- A large oak tree at Civic Pride Park posing a safety hazard will be removed
- A kiosk location at Civic Pride Park has been identified
- Dead trees near walking trails at McCormick Park are being removed for safety
- A replacement for the building maintenance position is in process
- The Urban Trail will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting

**COUNCILOR'S REPORT**

Councilor Sundeen was absent.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Vice Chair Blumenthal reported on the recent work party at the Botanical Gardens, noting 13 volunteers contributed approximately 30 hours. He raised concerns about e-bikes and motorized vehicles in the parks and mentioned exploring potential regulations for these vehicles in City parks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Jamie Ford, Administrative Billing Specialist