



Minutes

TUALATIN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 10, 2026

Virtual Meeting

Members Present:	Emma Gray, Adam Peterson, John Makepeace, Cosi Slider, Taylor Sarman, Beth Dittman
Members Absent:	Carl Hosticka (excused)
Staff Present:	Dustin Schull, Parks & Recreation Director Rich Mueller, Parks Planning & Development Manager Kira Hein, Project Manager Bella DePhillipo, Office Coordinator
Public:	Nisha George

Call to Order

1. **Roll Call:** Emma Gray called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. **Election of Officers:** Bella DePhillipo pointed the committee to the link in the meeting agenda to vote.

Approval of Minutes

1. **January 13, 2026:** Emma Gray entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13th meeting. Cosi Slider seconded, and the minutes passed with unanimous approval.

Communication and Comments

1. **Chair:** Emma Gray shared that this is John Makepeace's last meeting and thanked him for his service, especially for his contribution to Veterans Plaza. Emma then welcomed Nisha George to the committee and invited her to introduce herself. She also emphasized that Nisha will be a voting member of the committee after her council approval next month.
2. **Staff:** Bella DePhillipo announced the election results for Adam Peterson as chair and Emma Gray as vice chair.
3. **Public:** Nisha George spoke as a member of the public along with her daughter about an incident on the Greenway trail with a pothole, and read a letter that her daughter wrote to Council about the potholes on the trail. Emma Gray thanked her for writing the letter. Emma asked that Nisha's introduction be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Old Business

1. **Parks & Trails Bond Update:** Kira Hein updated the committee on the onboarding of David Evans & Associates as the owner's representative for the new Riverfront Park. The timeline is still slated for community engagement in the

summer. Kira also spoke on the Nyberg Creek trail, adding that contractors are out right now completing the last stretch of the trail and are expected to finish in the spring.

2. **Park Utility Fee Update:** Kira Hein gave a quick recap of the community engagement outreach done during summer camp last year for the new TCP playground, and shared that the project will be going out for construction in April.
3. **ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Update:** Kira Hein shared that Basalt Creek is out to bid for construction, and that it will hopefully be open to the public by August. Adam Peterson asked which pot of money the new crosswalk by the trail on Highway 99 will come out of, and Kira responded that it falls under the community development department. Beth Dittman asked about the opening of Las Casitas, and Dustin Schull answered that May 2nd was chosen by representatives of the community. Beth Dittman requested that a refresh on funding sources could be added to the agenda of a future meeting, and Dustin agreed that April would be a good meeting.
4. **Annual Committee Report - March 23:** Bella DePhillipo requested a photo from each committee member and shared that the report is not yet ready for final review. She will send it out via email before the next meeting, and will send out an email requesting the photos as well.
5. **Core Opportunity Reinvestment Area Update:** Beth Dittman shared that the last committee meeting was a deep dive into the consultant's report and provided feedback on each recommendation. Emma Gray asked if there was a timeline for coming back to the committee with what was prioritized, and Beth said she could return with an update in the spring.
6. **Committee Goals Review:** Emma Gray shared that the goals would be finalized at the next meeting along with the annual report.

New Business

1. **Utility Fee Update:** Dustin Schull shared that he took the Utility Fee to Council last night for an update, and gave a brief overview of what the fee has been in the past and that it is used for asset maintenance and replacement. He shared that a consultant was brought on to take a look at the existing rate and recommended three different increases, Council seemed to agree with raising the rate to \$6 and now the consultant will be brought back to discuss further before returning to council for a final decision. Emma Gray asked if there was any discussion of not raising the fee, and Dustin said there was general approval for raising it. Beth Dittman asked if the increase will be earmarked for parks projects alone, and Dustin said that the Council policy surrounding it will protect it for that.
2. **Board & Committee Summit Report 2025:** Dustin Schull gave a brief overview of what the summit was as a brand new event, and shared that Council felt it was very informative before their advance and are planning another one for 2026. Adam Peterson shared his positive experience as a participant.
3. **Riverfront Park Letter of Support:** Dustin Schull explained that he and Kira Hein are requesting a federal funding earmark for the Riverfront Park along with Megan George, and that part of that is a Letters of Recommendation campaign. He requested a signature from the committee. Beth Dittman motioned to approve, Taylor Sarman seconded, and the letter was recommended with

unanimous approval. Dustin also added that Kira has submitted two letters of intent for grants for this park.

4. **Program Update:** Kira Hein gave a brief overview of Share the Love and how the program is currently underway. She also shared that the JPC meal program has increased membership by 400%, and Dustin Schull added that 60 people are signed up for the Valentine's Day lunch.
5. **Maintenance & Operations Update:** Dustin Schull shared that 16 new benches have been added into the Lake of the Commons, and that a memorial bench program is now in the final stages of implementation.
6. **Volunteer Update:** Kira Hein shared that Jackie Konen's volunteer coordinator position has been filled, and Emma Gray requested that they attend a meeting in the future once they've settled in.

Upcoming Dates & Calendar Review

1. **Arbor Month Poster & Photo Contests - March 10 TPARK Meeting (In Person):** Emma Gray reminded the committee that the March meeting will take place in person for voting on the Arbor Month contests.
2. **Arbor Month Presentation, Awards & Proclamation - March 23:** Emma Gray invited any member to attend the upcoming council meeting for support.

Committee Member Communications: Emma Gray shared the Volgistics link for recording hours and told Nisha George that someone from City staff would reach out to set her up with that. She also added that it has been an honor to chair the committee.

Adjournment: Emma Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:04 pm.

