



Parks & Recreation Office  
901 Montana Avenue  
June 3, 2025  
6:30 pm

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Gary Stevenson called the meeting to order at 6:53pm. Wendy Taavola called roll.

### ROLL CALL

#### PRESENT

Gary Stevenson  
Bob Bosk  
John DeFiore  
Roger Aho  
Jay Bostwick

#### ABSENT

Cathy Sjoquist  
Anne Pfothenauer

#### STAFF PRESENT

Wendy Taavola, Director

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Stevenson pointed out the following errors in the minutes.

1. John DeFiore called the meeting to a close, not Roger Aho.

Motion made to approve minutes of May 6, 2025 meeting with the one error corrected, by Stevenson, seconded by Bostwick.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

### OLD BUSINESS

Gladstone Area Pickleball Use Agreement – All changes that were agreed upon at the last meeting were made, checked by John DeFiore. A motion was made by DeFiore, seconded by Bosk, to accept the use agreement as presented.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

Recreation Advisory Board Bylaws – A discussion was initiated by DeFiore regarding when in the annual schedule would be reviewed by the board. Director Taavola mentioned that June 1<sup>st</sup> is when fee schedules are submitted, and suggested they be reviewed in April each year. Member DeFiore expressed concern regarding the fees and why we are charging to rent the kayaks. The kayaks do not get rented often. Director Taavola stated that the campground daily rates will be increased by \$5 for each site type. This was done by the department after the Commission requested a rate study. Member DeFiore requested to review the fee schedule at the next

meeting. Member Aho requested clarification on Section 2.2, 1a of the bylaw regarding eligibility. After discussing the wording of the section, Member Bostwick made a motion to table the item until a clarification can be obtained by the city clerk. Member Stevenson seconded the motion.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

Member Stevenson inquired about whether or not there is anything posted at the pavilions on days they are rented out stating that they are reserved. Director Taavola stated that there wasn't, but we could put up an acrylic paper holder to do so.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tree Removal Subcommittee – Have not met, will meet this week with the Conservation District. Director Taavola updated the board on the intention of the meeting with the Conservation District; they would like to work with us to plant trees in the park. The Conservation District will be supplying the trees. Member DeFiore stated that his intention for the subcommittee is to have a plan to take care of the trees we have before planting new trees.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Taavola gave an update on the Pram Shack building. Trusses have been approved by the engineer, and we will be ordering once we have approval. Block will be going in first. The trusses will be ordered from Menards; their truss estimate was the lowest. It will take 2-6 weeks once the trusses are ordered before they are delivered.

The board was also updated on the Fourth of July Celebration planning. We have received several vendor and parade applications so far. We are still looking for a Grand Marshall for the parade. The theme of the parade is "National Treasure". Next year we will have a committee to plan the celebration, the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the country.

The grand opening of the pickleball courts is on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

An AED has been donated by the Gladstone Schools for the sports park. It will be mounted up at the snack shack.

There has been a donation of 24 flowerpots and flowers to fill them for downtown on Delta Avenue. The department has purchased a 100-gallon water tank for the back of the Kubota for the purpose of watering all of the flowers throughout the city. Patricia from the DDA has agreed to fund half of the purchase.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Roger Aho:** Aho inquired about the Farmer's Market pergolas. Mr. Aho also mentioned staining the wood on the fishing pier; it is getting weathered.

**Gary Stevenson:** Stevenson inquired about the sinkhole near the harbor. Director Taavola informed the group that the sinkhole has been repaired.

**Bob Bosk:** Bosk inquired about water faucets in the park and whether they have been turned on for the summer. Director Taavola informed the group that the water is on in the park. Bosk stated he was told about an issue with them not working.

**Jay Bostwick:** Bostwick inquired about the sand at the skate park. Director Taavola updated the board about the ongoing efforts this spring to eliminate the sand problem. The department is working on putting up a barrier between the beach and the skate park. Mr. Bostwick also asked if a microwave was purchased for the ski chalet. Director Taavola stated it has not and it is on her list.

**John DeFiore:** DeFiore inquired about the volunteer staining project from last year at Kid's Kingdom. He asked if we were going to finish the project. Director Taavola stated that the project is on our list and the department intends to finish it. He suggested cutting the trees and picking up leaves prior to staining and working in sections while staining. Mr. DeFiore also spoke about leveling the flower planters in the park and the broken boards on the bridge in Van Cleve. Additionally, Mr. DeFiore informed the group that there is a lighting issue at the fish cleaning station, it was out when he was there one night this week. He also suggested cutting the delineators in Van Cleve at an angle, so water runs off of them instead of pooling.

There being no further business before the board, Bostwick motioned; DeFiore seconded to adjourned meeting at 8:34 pm.