



City of Hermiston Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Parks & Recreation

Committee Members present:

Carlisle Harrison Jeff Kelso
Nicole Westing Angel Aguilar
Lydia Raath

Also present:

Jackie Myers, City Councilor
David McCarthy, City Councilor
Brandon Artz, Parks & Recreation Director
Kelly Schwirse, Parks & Recreation

Jim Whalley, Community Member
Hunter Tibbals, Communit Member

Members not in attendance: Ericka Juarez

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:34 by Jeff Kelso

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from November 9, 2023 Parks & Recreation Committee meeting made by Carlisle Harrison, seconded by Nicole Westing. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS & BUSINESS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT *presented by Brandon Artz*

RESOLUTION 2311 – RECREATION IMMUNITY

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR USE OF TRAILS OR STRUCTURES IN PUBLIC EASEMENT OR UNIMPROVED RIGHT OF WAY PROVIDED IN ORS 105.668.

Resolution would affect all trails (improved and unimproved) in the Parks and Recreation park system.

- Resolution would go into effect within 30 days of being adopted.
- \$5,000 grant included to provide updated signage at all of the trails.
- Motion in support of Resolution 2311 was made by Lydia Rath and seconded by Angel Aguilar. Motion carried unanimously.

YEAR IN REVIEW - 2023

251+ Programs, Classes and Events	73,500 Aquatic Center Visits
4,134 Registered Participants	2,478 2-Week Swim Lessons
1,212 Youth Sports	1,804 Aqua Fit Visits
172 Arts & Theater	103 Lifeguards and Staff
404 Adult Sports	131 Private Community Center Rentals
529 Summer Camps	105 Public Community Center Rentals
4,227 Summer Food Service Meal Served	

Projects Completed: Riverfront Park Playground, Horizon Park naming and turf, Bark Park Pavilion

Outlook 2024: Skatepark completion, Horizon Park playground, Cimmaron Park & Trail, Harrison Park Basketball Courts, Funland Tactile Map Dedication, HERO Sportsplex 1st Tournament



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TEEN ADVENTURE SKATEPARK

A design flaw detected in the ADA ramp has created delay in completion. All efforts by California Skate Parks to fix the design issues of the ramp are being made. The resolution is creating a short pathway around the back side connecting the ADA parking stalls to the skate park.

CIMMARON RECREATION AREA

Parks and Recreation to apply for \$400,000 Local Government Grant Program (LGGP) Cimmaron Terrace developers Rotschy Inc., dedicated approx 8 acres of wetlands to Parks and Recreation. Additional acreage was purchased for \$165,000 and will serve as the matching portion of the LGGP grant application. Purpose of this grant will be to provide trail improvements, retaining wall, playground equipment, improve direct trail access, lighting, irrigation and grass, security cameras. Park naming open house event in addition to surveys published through social media and local schools will be used as a resource for naming the park.

Motion made by Angel Aguilar to support the application for the LGGP grant. Seconded by Lydia Rath. Motion carried unanimously.

HARRISON PARK

\$195,000 budget for project, \$160,000 current funding. Project includes courts, picnic pavilions, pathways, lights, and security cameras. Parks crews to start in March grubbing out footprint for courts and lay conduit.

PICKLEBALL FACILITY

Parks and Rec has been working with the Hermiston Pickleball Club over the past year in search of a location to build a pickleball facility. Plans/designs have been created and fundraising efforts are in full swing hoping to raise the nearly \$660,000 for the project. Additional goals for the facility would be to completely cover the courts.

Initial location proposed for the Pickleball facility was at Butte Park in the area directly south of the dog park. While this would be an ideal location to construct the pickleball courts, there are a few specific concerns.

- 1.) Restroom proximity is too far and would require the construction a restroom facility closer to the courts for an additional \$100,000.
- 2.) Noise pollution is a big concern to the nearby residents, and they have spoken vehemently against the facility being built at this location specifically due to the noise pollution.

To date, there are several alternate locations that have been explored, the following two locations are under consideration:

- 1.) Butte Park/Current Dog Park. This would require the dog park to be re-locate other side of where it currently sits, and new shelter would remain. Restrooms are in closer proximity eliminating the need to construct new restroom. There would be terrain issues to on the west side of the property and while there would be less noise pollution to near by residents, it still would exist.
- 2.) EOTEC. Area north of HERO Sportsplex. No need for sound mitigation, portable trail bathrooms onsite for HERO Sportsplex, plenty of parking

Hermiston Pickleball Club will be invited to attend one our next meetings to present their plans for the facility and fundraising efforts,

HERO SPORTSPLEX

Hermiston Youth Lacrosse (HYL) will be holding their first tournament at the HERO Sportsplex on March 30th. HYL will be handling the team registrations and most of aspects of the tournament. Parks and Recreation will offer onsite assistance with staff and will be handling the parking fees.

Treasure State Lacrosse is bringing youth summer camps in July and possible additional tournament.



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HERO SPORTSPLEX continued -

Parks and Recreation youth soccer program will be running at HERO Sportsplex this season.

HOLIDAY RECAP

Exceptional turnout for the holiday lighted parade and tree lighting celebration in downtown. Considering some adjustments to next year's event due to the high volume of people that turned out. Ideas being considered include placing entertainment stage at the north end of Festival Street and adjusting the parade route to include Gladys Ave heading east then down to Main Street headed west.

Pancakes with Santa was sold out again this year!

Youth basketball has set a new record with 485 participants this year, a 40% increase since 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- Jan 13 Youth Winter Bowling League, Desert Lanes Family Fun Center
- Jan 13 Youth Basketball League, Junior Basketball Clinics, Adult Basketball & Volleyball Leagues
- Jan 18 Discovering Digital Camera Settings, Harkenrider Senior Center
- Jan 19 Rec It Arena: Family Night & Teen Night, EOTEC
- Jan 20-21 Rec It Arena
- Feb 7 Toddler Takeover, Hermiston Community Center
- Feb 8 Parent-Tot Gymnastics & Level 1/2 Gymnastics, Hermiston Community Center
- Feb 9 Escape Rooms, EOTEC
- Feb 10 All Summer Swimm Lesson Registration, Hermiston Community Center
- Feb 16 Escape Rooms, EOTEC
- Mar 5 Creative Kids Arts & Crafts
- Mar 30 Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

Hermiston Family Aquatic Center 20th Anniversary this Summer!

REC PROJECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rec Projects Advisory Committee Meeting to immediately follow this Park and Rec Committee Meeting.

TRT Grant Application - Available: April 1 Deadline: May 31

Amount Recommendation:

2023: \$65,000 (Awarded \$72,338)

2022: \$40,000 (Awarded \$39,175)

2021: \$40,000 (Awarded \$27,575)

Application Review Date

2023: Tuesday, June 20

2022: Thursday, June 30

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ADJOURNED

- Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm
- Next meeting, March 14, 5:30pm