



## Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

### **Parks & Recreation**

Committee Members present: Jeff Kelso, Lydia Raath, Trista Hindman, Carlisle Harrison, Erica Juarez  
Also present were: Councilors Jackie Myers and Lori Davis; Mark Morgan, Asst City Manager; Hailey Gardner, Youth Advisory Committee Liaison; Brandon Artz, Parks and Recreation Director; Kasia Robbins, Recreation Coordinator and Kelly Schwirse, Recreation Admin

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 by Jeff Kelso

### **MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes from March meeting made by Carlisle Harrison, seconded by Lydia Raath.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Hailey Gardner, Youth Advisory Committee Liaison. Hailey is a junior at Hermiston High School

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments

### **REPORTS & BUSINESS**

#### **Hayfield Project**

*Presented by Mark Morgan, Assistant City Manager. See attached presentation.*

The Parks and Recreation committee will be recommending park amenities and improvements in the range of \$4.5 million to go into this development. PROS Plan Survey results are on Pages 31-33 and in the Appendices starting on page 71 (G1).

<https://www.hermiston.or.us/parksrec/page/hermiston-parks-recreation-and-open-spaces-master-plan>

#### **Hermiston Family Aquatic Center Price Increase**

*Presented by Brandon Artz. See attached presentation.*

- Proposed price increase to the family and individual splash passes and swim lessons (pages 8-9)
- Committee had significant discussion about raising prices, including the daily rate and private rentals.
- Jeff Kelso moved to adopt this increase as presented:  
Increase non-resident swim lesson rate to \$55; Increase daily admission rate by \$1.00/person; Increase private rental space by 10-15%
- Motion 2nd by Lydia. Raath, passed unanimously and will move to City Council for approval.

### **PARK UPDATES**

*Presented by Brandon Artz. See attached presentation.*

#### **Funland Playground**

- Farm City Fencing will be installing the fencing mid-May.
- No additional amenities will go into the park until the fence is up however signage will be added regarding "No Dogs" and park rules.
- Security cameras are functioning and providing the extra set of eyes on the park that is needed.

#### **Riverfront Park**

- Large Elm tree at Riverfront park suffered significant damage during a recent wind storm. Columbia Tree Care was called to assess the damage, it was recommended that the entire tree come down for public



**Parks & Recreation**

- safety as the walking trail runs directly under it
- Irrigation system is in however, there is a pump issue that will need to be addressed.
- Play structure installation will begin following the opening of the Aquatic Center.

**Cimmaron Terrace**

- 9.22 acres of mostly wetlands that has be acquired from the developer.
- Plans include a trail system around the wetland area with parking, playground, sport court and potential shelter area.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EVENTS RECAP**

Presented by Kasia Robbins

- Activity Guide is now available online. A single page of youth summer camps and activities will be distributed to all elementary schools.
- Easter Carnival: A “pay-to-play” event held two hours prior to the egg hunt. Eight different activities for kids to participate in. 1,450 tickets at \$1/ticket were sold during this two hour event.
- Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt: Approx 2,600 participants
- Kids Fishing Derby was well attended, we will be exploring options to make more fishing poles readily available for kids.
- Youth Soccer: 445 Participants, 48 teams and 96 volunteer coaches (Presentation Page 16)
- Funland Concession Stand: Makes average of \$110/day. Hours are 10:30am-4:30pm on Saturday and Sunday. Currently only serving prepackaged foods. Consistent good weather and introduction of hot food items will increase daily revenue.

**UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

- Let get crafty, two events May 17 and May 24
- Spring Bazaar, over 70 vendors inside and in the parking lot on May 14
- Art Festival, co-sponsor of this event on Main Street in Downtown Hermiston on May 14. Mya Hayden is working with the Downtown District with the Art Festival and additional upcoming events.
- Swim Lesson registration kicking off in May. Four different registration dates have been set to give equal opportunities to register for the time slots needed. First date: release of 50% of all summer time slots; Second date will release remaining 50% of all summer. Third date, Session 1/2; Fourth date Session ¾. Swim lesson capacity has been increased. Evening session increase translates to roughly 76 additional slots for kids
- Staffing: With programs increasing in size, the number of staff required has also risen. We are working hard on tracking how many staff we really need, what the cost to do that is and what is the cost recovery from these programs. Likely requiring significantly more staff to run our programs. Increased demand from other entities needing our assistance and contracting us out (such as the school district, head start etc.) to develop programs and building our partnerships are also adding to the need for more staff.
- Mya Hayden currently working with the Hermiston Downtown Association on their upcoming events such as Art Festival and Cork & Barrell coming up in June
- Summer Programming: Last year we received a \$200,000 OCF Grant used to offset our program registration fees by up to 50%. We have applied for the same grant again this year. Word should be received by the first of May if we were successful in receiving this grant. If so, we would once again reduce the prices of our registration fees by up to 50%
- Thank you to the Kiwanis Club for their help at the Recycle Day at EOTEC. Also, a thank you to the Rotary Club and Carlisle Harrison for putting on the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway, giving 1,600 trees away during a two hour period. Suggestions regarding moving the tree give away to EOTEC or Blue Mountain



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### *Parks & Recreation*

Community College to avoid vehicles backed up on Hwy 395.

- Splash Pad: A grant was received from Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation for \$12,000. We also have an agreement with Lamb Weston for \$50,000 towards a project. The last two years this has gone to Funland Park. This year it was proposed that the funds go toward the Splash Pad renovation. Additional grant applications have been put in, if we can reach \$90,000 we can redo all the concrete and add new features

### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Meeting adjourned 6:30 pm

The May 12th meeting will be a field trip out to the Hayfields project to see the site. Please meet in the turnout near 30580 Feedville Rd. <https://goo.gl/maps/ad3bYn3ZsHVnM38r8>

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