



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2026 at 2:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

The Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 2:30pm on Wednesday, August 12th, 2026, in the City Hall Council Chambers by Chair Taylor Long.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Vice Chair Jessica Janssen
Commissioner Josh Delucchi
Chair Taylor Long
Commissioner Tyler Wagner
Commissioner Heidi Bohall
Commissioner Lori Siemers

STAFF

Ryan Wells, Recreation Facilities and Programming Supervisor
Colton Fulwiler, Parks Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
Jason Welker, Community Planning and Development Director

ABSENT

Commissioner Gwen Victorson
Commissioner Dan Tadic

Public Comment

Public comment focused on the deteriorating condition of downtown stormwater swales, including excessive weeds, lack of irrigation, and questions regarding maintenance responsibility and functionality. The city continues to seek a downtown-focused seasonal maintenance employee.

Discussion also included the possibility of community members assisting with weed removal or an "Adopt-a-Swale" program.

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. The minutes from the July 8th, 2026, meeting were approved unanimously by the commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner Delucchi, Seconded by Commissioner Wagner.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Janssen, Commissioner Delucchi, Chair Long, Commissioner Wagner, Commissioner Bohall, Commissioner Siemers

JER Update

2. Recreation Facility and Programming Supervisor Ryan Wells reported continued growth and activity at the James E. Russell Sports Center. The coed softball season concluded successfully with 11 teams, and youth tennis remains popular. Youth pickleball programming is planned for next summer.

JER generated more than \$7,000 during the first 10 days of August, excluding youth program revenue. Court Reserve membership has grown to approximately 1,035 users, including 192 youth members, with participants representing 158 zip codes.

Community garden plots are experiencing significant bindweed issues, which staff hopes to address in coordination with upcoming weed mitigation efforts.

Old/Unfinished Business

3. City Beach RV Park and Parking Lot Design - Update

Staff reported that the City Beach RV Park and parking lot project is advancing toward a 35% design level. A final Technical Advisory Committee meeting was scheduled for September 2 at 4:00 p.m. Following final committee feedback, the design will be presented to City Council for review before advancing to final design. The project goal remains completion of final design by October, bidding and construction beginning after the RV Park closes for the season, and reopening by Memorial Day 2027.

New Business

4. Bonner County Historical Society Presentation

Representatives of the Bonner County Historical Society shared preliminary plans for a potential approximately 2,600-square-foot museum expansion within its existing lease area. The proposed addition may include a meeting and educational space, improved visitor entrance, textile display and storage, and an enhanced outdoor learning area.

The project remains conceptual. The Commission expressed support for continued coordination and encouraged the Historical Society to return with more developed plans for future Commission input.

5. Doug Hawkins Sr. - US Flag Presentation

Doug Hawkins Sr. presented a proposal to donate a U.S. flag and flagpole installation in recognition of the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary. City Beach was discussed as a potential location due to its visibility, available open space, and proximity to Parks maintenance facilities. The Commission discussed possible locations, engineering requirements, maintenance responsibilities, lighting, and the City's height limitations.

The Commission voted to recommend that City Council accept Mr. Hawkins' gift for installation of a flag at City Beach. The motion passed, with one opposing vote based on concerns regarding the specific location.

Motion made by Commissioner Wagner, Seconded by Commissioner Bohall.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Janssen, Commissioner Delucchi, Commissioner Wagner, Commissioner Bohall, Commissioner Siemers

Voting Nay: Chair Long

General Announcements/Comments

BigBelly Trash Containers: Weekend service has been restored. Staff also unlocked City Beach dumpsters and added signage directing visitors to dumpster locations when containers are full.

City Beach Maintenance: Staff will explore off-season refurbishment of the City Beach sign and continue addressing graffiti under the overpass.

Euclid Avenue Pocket Park: The landscape architecture contract is expected to be finalized soon, with subcommittee work anticipated to begin in early September.

Parking Program Update: Downtown kiosks will be removed, while paid parking extensions will remain available by text or mobile app. Reusable kiosks will be relocated to City Beach, Memorial Field, and boat launch locations.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58pm.

I presided over the meeting and can confirm that minutes prepared by the Board Clerk were approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission during the regular meeting held on

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Taylor Long, Chair

Kami Omodt, Board Clerk

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