



## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**June 11, 2025 at 2:30 PM**

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

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### **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 2:30pm on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, by Vice Chair Gwen Victorson in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho.

### **Roll Call**

#### **PRESENT**

Eric Donenfeld  
Gwen Victorson  
Josh Delucchi  
Taylor Long  
Tyler Wagner  
Heidi Bohall  
Lori Siemers  
Dan Tadic

#### **ABSENT**

Cynthia Reopelle  
Jessica Janssen

### **Meeting Minutes Approval**

1. The April 9th, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as presented by unanimous vote of commissioners present.

Motion made by Long, Seconded by Delucchi.

Voting Yea: Donenfeld, Victorson, Delucchi, Long, Wagner, Bohall, Siemers, Tadic

### **New Business**

2. Introduction of New Commissioners

Newly appointed commissioners: Dan Tadic, Laurie Seemers, and Heidi Bohall introduced themselves followed by a brief introduction from existing commissioners.

3. Recreation Facilities Supervisor - Introduction & Facilities Update

Ryan Wells, newly hired, Recreation Facilities Supervisor, introduced himself to commissioners assembled. He made note that though a ribbon cutting has already taken place for the JER, which marked the soft opening of the facility, a full grand opening is in the planning stages for late summer. The event will take place once the final construction punch list is complete, and all programs and operation are in place. The date is TBA.

## **Altered Agenda Order**

Due to its importance, Vice Chair Victorson suggested the commission move Old Business Agenda item #6, Commission Chair - Elections – **Action Item**, to the next item of business after the introduction of Ryan Wells.

Motion made by Long, Seconded by Siemers.

Voting Yea: Donenfeld, Victorson, Delucchi, Long, Wagner, Bohall, Siemers, Tadic

## **Old Business**

### **6. Commission Chair - Elections - Action Item**

The Commission discussed the responsibilities and time commitment associated with the Chair position. A proposal was introduced to implement a rotating Chair model, allowing members to share leadership duties in four- to six-month intervals. Nominations were then opened. Commissioner Siemers nominated Commissioner Taylor Long, who accepted the nomination and committed to serving a term of four to six months, with the option to reassess continuation at that time. Commissioner Delucchi seconded the nomination. With no further nominations, Vice Chair Victorson called for a vote. The motion to elect Commissioner Long as Commission Chair passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Donenfeld, Victorson, Delucchi, Long, Wagner, Bohall, Siemers, Tadic

## **Back to New Business**

### **4. JER Special Meeting Attendant Survey Results - Next Steps - Staff Update**

CPD Director Welker shared survey results from the City Council Special Meeting/Workshop held at the JER on May 28th, 2025. Discussion followed. Results can be found via PDF on the City of Sandpoint [James E. Russell web page](#). The James E. Russell Sports Center Funding and Operations will also appear on the next regularly scheduled City Council Agenda for June 18, 2025, where staff will receive further direction from Council.

### **5. City Beach Hotel and Marina Discussion - Staff Update**

Director Welker provided an update on the Averill Hospitality City Beach hotel and marina discussion. Averill recently submitted completely new plans for their proposed beach hotel and parking area and will need to go back to the Planning and Zoning Committee for a revised conditional use permit. Averill Hospitality was directed to include any proposed modifications to areas outside their private property.

Vice Chair Victorson encouraged all commissioners to sign up for notifications on the city website for this and other City related news.

## **Old/Unfinished Business**

### **7. Remaining Parks CIP Project at Travers Park - Staff Update**

Director Welker provided a Travers Park and related project update. Remaining projects at the site include construction of a new picnic shelter funded by Sandpoint Rotary, Installation of safety nets for Travers Field 1 and 2, new batting cages, and enhancements to the East side of the skate park.

## **General Announcements/Comments**

### **8. FY25-26 Parks CIP Project Update**

Director Welker updated the commission on pending grants from Idaho State Parks and Rec. The City did not receive the Waterways Improvement Fund Grant for the City Beach boat launch and parking lot, but the City was encouraged to reapply during the next grant cycle. The City was awarded the Recreational Vehicle Fund Grant for the RV Park at City

Beach. Refurbishment of the City Beach RV Park will include a complete redesign and rebuild.

9. Commissioner Updates

Vic Chair Victorson encouraged new commissioners to review key planning documents: Parks & Recreation Master Plan, Little Sand Creek Watershed Recreation Management Plan and Parks CIP Plan noting the shift toward a more realistic 10-year CIP approach. Master Plans can be found on the [City Website](#):

Commissioners discussed best practice to suggest agenda items for future meetings. Agenda items can be suggested during Commissioner Round Table, if the item is supported by the majority of the commission, it can be worked into a future meeting. Commissioners unanimously requested that, "JER Recommendation to Council" and "ACHP Paint the Basketball courts," be added to the next agenda as action items.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

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

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Gwen Victorson, Vice Chair

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Kami Omodt, Board Clerk