



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2026 at 2:30 PM

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

Call to Order

The meeting of the Sandpoint Parks and Rec Commission was called to order at 2:30pm on Wednesday January 14, 2026, by Chairman Long in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Commissioner Eric Donenfeld
Commissioner Gwen Victorson
Vice Chair Jessica Janssen
Commissioner Josh Delucchi
Chair Taylor Long
Commissioner Tyler Wagner
Commissioner Heidi Bohall

Commissioner Lori Siemers- arrived after approval of the minutes; approximately 2:32pm

Commissioner Dan Tadic- arrived after approval of the minutes; approximately 2:32pm

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. December 10th, 2025, Draft Minutes for Approval

December 10th, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as presented by unanimous vote of commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner Wagner, Seconded by Commissioner Delucchi.

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

General Announcements/Comments

Director Jason Welker provided an update on recent Parks Division staffing changes and ongoing capital projects, including rehabilitation of the outdoor basketball courts, preliminary planning for a waterfront park at the end of the Euclid right-of-way, and an artistic surface treatment for the City Beach basketball court. Director Welker also noted an upcoming meeting with the mayor to discuss staffing needs to support the return of historically popular recreation programming.

2. JER User/Budget Update

Recreation Facilities Supervisor Ryan Wells provided an update on the James E. Russell Sports Center (JER). Mr. Wells reported significant growth in both attendance and revenue. Users on the CourtReserve platform have increased from 59 to 681, and JER membership has grown to approximately 240 members, with a goal of reaching 300. November was a record-setting month with \$17,600 in revenue, and January revenue totaled \$8,018 to date, indicating another strong month.

Mr. Wells also reported that a small pro shop will open soon, featuring equipment from JER sponsor, Selkirk Sport. Additionally, he is developing youth programming for the upcoming summer season, with scholarships available for participants. Mr. Wells noted that he is working to establish a method to track use of the indoor walking track, which is offered to the community at no cost.

Old/Unfinished Business

3. City Beach RV Park Site: Survey Results, Community Workshop Summary, and Commission Recommendation

Chairman Long opened the public comment period and outlined meeting decorum and time limits. Members of the public provided input on the future of the City Beach RV Park, expressing a range of views including support for retaining the RV park, concerns regarding financial assumptions and long-term operating costs, interest in alternative or mixed-use uses, traffic and safety considerations, and caution regarding nonbinding developer proposals.

Director Welker summarized the results of December 13th, 2025, community workshop and survey, noting strong participation and broad engagement. Staff also reviewed key financial and grant considerations, including the \$950,000 state RV grant, limitations on use of grant funds, projected revenues and expenses, the RV park's contribution to the Parks Capital Improvement Fund, and the potential loss of grant funding if forward progress is not demonstrated by May.

Commission discussion focused on balancing community preferences, financial certainty, grant timing constraints, long-term park planning goals, and the absence of a formal alternative funding proposal.

After discussion Commissioner Delucchi made a motion recommending to City Council that the City proceed with renovation of the City Beach RV Park utilizing currently secured funding, while directing staff to incorporate design or operational improvements that enhance public access and community benefit and to periodically reevaluate the site's long-term use as funding opportunities and community priorities evolve.

Motion made by Commissioner Delucchi, Seconded by Commissioner Victorson.
Voting Yea: Commissioner Donenfeld, Commissioner Victorson, Vice Chair Janssen, Commissioner Delucchi, Chair Long, Commissioner Bohall, Commissioner Siemers
Voting Nay: Commissioner Wagner
Abstaining: Commissioner Tadic

Following the vote, Commissioner Delucchi asked to add discussion of the Baldfoot Frisbee Golf Course to the February agenda. Mr. Welker approved and asked him to share his presentation material with the board clerk and chair for the February agenda packet.

New Business

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11pm.

I presided over the meeting and can confirm that minutes, prepared by the Board Clerk and City Staff Liaison, 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