



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Council Chambers - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

The Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3:07PM on Monday May 11, 2026, in the Council Room at City Hall by Chair Taylor Long.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Commissioner Gwen Victorson
Vice Chair Jessica Janssen
Commissioner Josh Delucchi
Chair Taylor Long
Commissioner Tyler Wagner
Commissioner Lori Siemers
Commissioner Dan Tadic

ABSENT

Commissioner Eric Donenfeld
Commissioner Heidi Bohall

Public Comment

Councilman Josh Torres and Shery Meekings representing the Downtown Business Association presented a concept for transforming the former Arlo's site near the Cedar Street Bridge into a public recreation and gathering space. Discussion included the possibility of the property owner, Jerry Dickers, donating the property to the City if presented with a well-developed plan and timeline.

Community Planning and Development Director, Jason Welker, noted the site would require substantial planning, environmental permitting, and funding due to shoreline conditions and infrastructure challenges. Mr. Welker indicated the proposal could be scheduled as a future agenda item for additional discussion during upcoming budget and planning processes.

Residents spoke in support of improvements to Lakeview Park and the playground area. Comments focused primarily on pedestrian safety, playground maintenance, lighting, seating, and additional family-friendly amenities. After discussion it was agreed park maintenance staff would review playground maintenance needs and potential pedestrian safety improvements were referred to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission for further evaluation.

Meeting Minutes Approval

1. March 11th, 2026, Draft minutes for Approval - Action Item

The minutes from the March 11, 2026, meeting were approved unanimously by commissioners present.

Motion made by Commissioner Tadic, Seconded by Commissioner Wagner
Voting Yea: Commissioner Victorson, Vice Chair Janssen, Commissioner Delucchi, Chair Long, Commissioner Wagner, Commissioner Siemers, Commissioner Tadic

Old/Unfinished Business

2. James E. Russell Sports Center Monthly Update

Recreation Facility Supervisor, Ryan Wells, provided an update on operations and programming at the James E. Russell Sports Center. Mr. Wells reported strong participation and membership growth through the Court Reserve platform, approaching 900 users and revenue continues to exceed expectations, including strong membership sales, retail sales and community room rentals.

3. Euclid ROW Pocket Park - Update

Mr. Welker provided an update on the Euclid right-of-way pocket park project. Two landscape architecture firms submitted proposals. After review, staff selected Place LA, a Spokane-based firm with experience designing similar passive park and open space projects in the region. Contract negotiations are underway.

New Business

4. Euclid ROW Pocket Park Technical Advisory Subcommittee

Mr. Welker requested formation of two advisory subcommittees to support upcoming projects: RV Park Advisory Subcommittee and Euclid Right-of-Way Pocket Park Subcommittee. Commissioners discussed and confirmed participants for each subcommittee. Motion was made to approve appointment of commissioners to the two subcommittee as follows: RV Park Subcommittee: Commissioners Delucchi, Bohall, and Victorson. Euclid Pocket Park Subcommittee: Commissioners Janssen, Tadic, and Long.

Motion made by Commissioner Wagner, Seconded by Commissioner Tadic.

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

5. Lakeview Park Playground

Staff noted that Lakeview Park remains identified in the Parks Capital Improvement Plan but has not yet advanced to design. No action was taken, but it was identified as a potential future budget consideration alongside other park priorities such as Euclid Park and Hickory Street Park.

General Announcements/Comments

Mr. Welker provided updates on the City Beach RV Park and parking lot design projects, including related funding strategies for upcoming park improvements. He also reported on the Great Northern Disc Golf Course and noted that an appraisal is currently underway in support of a potential property purchase proposal to City Council.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm

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

DRAFT