



**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
Thursday, March 25, 2021, 6:00 pm  
Virtual ZOOM Meeting



**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Commissioner Chair Ken Hahn called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Recorder Tomasino completed a roll call.
- b. Brandon Lange led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners, City Council Liaison, and Staff Present:

Commission Chair Ken Hahn	Emily Estes-Cross, Parks & Recreation Director
Commission Vice Chair Linda Stroben	Greg Duffy, Parks & Facilities Deputy Director
Commissioner Dean Aeling	Ian Dezember, Parks & Facilities Manager
Commissioner Robb Heston	Drew Tomasino, Recorder
Jim Millbauer, City Council Liaison	Brandon Lange, Recreation, Facility & Marketing Supervisor
Commissioner Jack Anderson – Excused	Haley Taricani, Events and Marketing Coordinator
Commissioner Ty Fischer – Excused	

**2. HONORS & RECOGNITION – None**

It was noted Commissioners Aeling and Fischer were reappointed to the Commission by Council.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Stroben moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Heston, the motion carried unanimously.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Aeling made a motion to approve the February 25, 2021 regular meeting minutes. With a second from Commissioner Stroben, the motion carried unanimously.

- 5. VISITORS** –This meeting, held online through Zoom, had no visitors in attendance. Isabelle Mickelson, newly appointed Parks and Recreation Commissioner, was in attendance as a guest. Isabelle will take her seat at the April Commission meeting.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

Rental and Special Event Fee Update - Events and Marketing Coordinator Haley Taricani provided an overview of fees being reviewed in 2021, and potential recommendations for changes that could take effect with the 2022 fee schedule.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Park Hills Park Status - Parks and Recreation Director Emily Estes-Cross provided an overview of the history of Park Hills Park, a private park the City has been maintaining since a neighborhood volunteer committee that had entered into an agreement with the City to maintain and improve it dissolved in 2005. A letter was sent to neighbors outlining public

engagement opportunities, including a link to a survey to provide their input on park use, and the [Go2Kennewick.com/ParkHillsPark](http://Go2Kennewick.com/ParkHillsPark) website address with the full outreach schedule and history of the park. The annual maintenance of the park has averaged around \$5,000, however the basketball court and playground replacement will cost roughly \$145,000 to \$190,000 to remain compliant. Funding for private park improvements have not been budgeted. The size of the park does not meet public park standards, and since it's located within proximity to three other facilities, it is not identified as a public park in the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan. Options include the neighbors establish a formal entity to enter into an agreement with the City to maintain and insure the park, or the park is decommissioned and property surplussed. The Commission will collect citizen input and make a recommendation at its June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. City Council will review the recommendation this summer.

## **6. POLL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF**

- Commission Chair Hahn –
  - Commended staff for the expedited cleanup following the Sunday fire at the decommissioned Columbia Park campground, and pathway cleanup efforts around Columbia Park.
  - Inquired about Arbor Day event. Staff will notify the Commission when a date is established.
- Commission Vice Chair Stroben –
  - No Comments
- Commissioner Aeling –
  - Looked at trees along Canal Drive. Recommends two different species to replace the existing trees.
- Commissioner Heston –
  - Thanked staff for the updates.
  - Reported Yelm Park is very busy.
- Councilman Millbauer –
  - Thanked staff for detailed report, and Isabelle for joining the Commission.
- Mr. Duffy –
  - Provided updates on Cascade Linear Park mitigation funded project, to be completed in June, and Keewaydin Park CDBG funded project, to take place this summer.
- Ms. Estes-Cross –
  - Extended gratitude to Mr. Dezember and Parks crews on Columbia Park fire response.
  - Reported Parks staff and KPD have identified no issues in the 5 parks with extended park hours.
- Ian Dezember –
  - Reported golf course range netting should be replaced by the end of April.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Drew Tomasino, Recorder