



City of Lakewood

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday October 22, 2024

City of Lakewood – Council Chambers

6000 Main Street SW Lakewood, WA 98499

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Telephone via Zoom: 253.215.8782 Participant ID: 920 3804 6123

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Present: Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi- Vice Chair, Alan Billingsley, Kate Read, Janet Spingath, Shelly Thiel, Anessa McLendon

Staff Present: Mary Dodsworth – Director, Nikki York – Office Assistant

Youth Council Liaisons: Alexandra Corona-Hernandez-absent, Nevaeh Tutt-absent, Zoe Clifford-present, Irie Hinkle-present

City Council Liaison Excused: Ryan Pearson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VITO IACOBAZZI MOVED TO ADOPT THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 SECONDED BY KATE READ NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND MPU.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

Playground Design and Planning for 2025: Daví de la Cruz asked the board to share how they define play. Board comments included, testing boundaries, tag, imagination, hide & seek, keep away, generational play, inside/outside, social or solitary, positive, fun, need to feel safe and exploratory i.e. bugs & leaves. Davi provided examples of historic play and discussed past playgrounds and challenges. The development of the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) helped expand playgrounds and advocated for standardization and safety. Although playgrounds may meet ADA accessibility guidelines it may not mean that it's inclusive. Recent trends in playgrounds

include opportunities for Adventure, Natural, Creative, Exploration, Water Spray Parks and Inclusive play. These all create more opportunities for socialization and generational play. Davi discussed the Inclusivity Checklist. The board discussed different playground options. Vito Iacobazzi mentioned that we don't have an endless pot of money so we should try to equalize play at regional parks and do the same with the neighborhood parks on a smaller scale. Shade, fencing and other amenities are just as important as the playground itself.

Directors Report:

Mary Dodsworth provided an update on the Partners for Parks Harvest Hoe Down fundraiser, Truck & Tractor Day, Forever Green Trails Conference, Tourism Board annual meeting, and staff member Elizabeth Schied's deployment for Emergency Management in North Carolina.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Kate Read asked about the possibility of moving the November Meeting a week earlier. Nikki York will send out a poll to see which date will work for most PRAB members.

Alan Billingsley shared the Partners for Parks presentation that was made at the Tacoma Rotary golf fundraiser for 150 people.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Room at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

ADJOURNMENT

Alan Billingsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Vito Iacobazzi seconded. MPU.



Jason Gerwen, Chair



Nikki York, Office Assistant