



Parks, Culture, and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Chair Wheeler called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Chair Aram Wheeler, Vice Chair Laurie Davies, Bill Fosbre, Michelle Gipson

Commissioners Absent: Hilary Dykstra, Gary Larson, Annette Roth

3. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Wheeler read the land acknowledgment.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Approval of the Agenda

Vice Chair Davies motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Gipson seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of June 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Davies motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Gipson seconded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

One (1) written public comment was received.

6. Business Items

A. Regional Athletic Complex Updates

Sean Finney, Recreation Supervisor

Recreation Supervisor Finney provided programmatic and revenue updates for the Regional Athletic Complex.

B. 2025 Work Plan Update

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

Senior Parks Planner Wilson presented updates to the 2025 Work Plan.

C. 2026 Budget Requests

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

Senior Parks Planner Wilson reviewed the department's 2026 budget requests.

D. September Parks Board Tour

Jenny Wilson, Senior Parks Planner

Senior Parks Planner Wilson solicited Commissioner feedback for the September parks tour.

7. Reports

A. Commissioners

Vice Chair Davies shared excitement for the newly resurfaced tennis courts at Rainier Vista Community Park. Commissioner Gipson shared appreciation for the summer event series.

B. Chair

No report.

C. Recreation Manager

Recreation Manager Falash presented the 2025 Quarter 2 Program Updates.

D. Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Senior Parks Planner Wilson provided the Parks Maintenance Supervisor report. Staff have performed the following since the last board meeting.

- Promoted a Maintenance Assistant to Journey Level, hired two Maintenance Assistants, and onboarded four seasonal staff.
- Contributed over 200 hours of support services for Lacey Fireworks Spectacular.
- Completed the following repairs and replacements
 - Replaced 2 large BBQs at Wonderwood Park picnic shelter
 - Mitigated 16 acts of graffiti
 - Replaced broken bollard at Wonderwood Park
 - Removed 3 rusted barbecues at Bush Park

- Repaired play toy at Avonlea Park
- Replaced broken basketball rim at Lakepointe Park
- Repaired gate latch post at Depot Park
- Completed the following improvements
 - Tilled Rainier Vista Community Park volleyball courts
 - Assisted contractor with field visits for Parks Asset Condition Assessment
 - Added more boulders to Wonderwood Park parking lot to prevent public from driving in unauthorized areas
 - Contracted re-surfacing of Rainier Vista Community Park tennis courts
 - Worked with the City of Lacey Transportation Division to mitigate parking issues at Long Lake Park reported by the Lacey Police Department
 - Cleared frontage fence-line at Greg Cuoio Park in anticipation of the park opening
 - Painted bathroom floors at the Regional Athletic Complex and Rainier Vista Community Park
 - Renovated soccer fields 2 and 3 at the Regional Athletic Complex
 - Applied binder material to pour in place rubber surface at the Depot Park playground
 - Groomed the synthetic fields at the Regional Athletic Complex
 - Pruned approximately a half mile of Sumac along the Woodland trail and Pacific Ave
 - Installed a bike rack at Depot Park

E. Senior Parks Planner

Senior Parks Planner Wilson reported:

- Commissioner Fosbre was reappointed by Mayor Ryder to another term on the Parks, Culture and Recreation Board.
- Staff are awaiting official results from Thurston County Auditor's Office relevant to Proposition 1, Lacey's proposed Metropolitan Parks District. The County's results should be certified August 19th. Preliminary results show that Proposition 1 did not receive the necessary Lacey voter support in the August 5, 2025 primary election. Staff completed extensive community outreach, including 27 presentations and attendance at five major community events.
- Staff are conducting a project supported by Hawks Prairie and Lacey Rotary Clubs to create trail maps for several Lacey Parks.
- During the Washington State Senior Games (WSSG) opening ceremony, a ribbon-cutting will be held at Rainier Vista Community Park to celebrate the completion of the tennis court resurfacing project, which included adding line overlays for pickleball. This project was funded in partnership with the Thurston County Pickleball Club and support from WSSG.

- The Woodland Creek Community Park bridge project contract was awarded to Hammersley Contracting. Construction will continue through October.
- Greg Cuoio Park construction is progressing. While the park remains closed to the public, a soft opening is expected this fall, with a grand opening celebration in spring 2026.
- The department has been awarded over \$720,000 for 2025-2027 from the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office to add 4 pickleball courts, safety netting, and ping pong to Rainier Vista Community Park and to replace the playground at Bush Park.

F. Director

Senior Parks Planner Wilson provided the Director's report. The Department celebrated *July is Parks and Recreation Month* with a social media campaign and presentation at the July 15 City Council Meeting.

8. Adjourn

Chair Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.