



MINUTES

**Richland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Richland City Hall – Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard
Thursday, December 14, 2023 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Buelt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Buelt and Commissioners Cunningham, Lunstad, Nune, and Thallapally were present.

Chair Mason and Commissioner Heaton were absent.

Also in attendance were Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Recreation Manager Piper, and Council Liaison Kent.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2023, AGENDA:

Commissioner Gutierrez moved to approve the December 14, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES:

- September 14, 2023 Meeting (Revised)
- November 9, 2023 Meeting
- November 9, 2023 Special Workshop

Commissioner Lunstad moved to approve the September 14, 2023 revised Meeting and November 9, 2023 Meeting and Special Workshop Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Council Liaison Kent presented the Council Liaison Report.

Subjects included: Hotel Motel Lodging Tax Committee distribution of 2024 funds. Some funded activities were Art in the Park, Columbia Basin BMX, Ultimate Frisbee tournament, and See3Slam.

RECREATION REPORT:

Recreation Manager Piper presented the Recreation Report.

Subjects included: Iron Man event set for September 2024, Winter Wonderland 2023 opening weekend, registration open and coaches needed for the 2023-2024 youth basketball season, and Thursday Tot Time.

PARKS AND FACILITIES REPORT:

Deputy City Manager Schiessl presented the Parks and Public Facilities Report.

Subjects included: Recruitment for the vacant Parks and Public Facilities Director position and adoption of the city's three-year Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dirk Peterson – 2107 Rainier Ave., Richland

Mr. Peterson, representing Tapteal Greenway, commented on the final project report, in which the Tapteal Greenway was granted through the 2020 Park Partnership Program. Mr. Peterson would like to present an update on the completed project to the commission at a future meeting.

Adam Fyall – 1827 Alder Ave., Richland

Mr. Fyall, President of Tapteal Greenway,

Mr. Fyall commented on the interest in the following agenda business items:

4. Summary of Benton Franklin Health District Presentation of End-of-Season Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms.
5. Tapteal Greenway Trail in the vicinities of Barker Ranch and Horn Rapids.

The Public Comment closed at 6:21 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

3. 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair Election

- Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager/ Chair Buelt

Discussion among the committee was had before nominations were announced for the 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

Chair Buelt nominated Samantha Mason for the 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Chair position.

Chair Buelt nominated Maria Gutierrez for the 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chair Position. Commissioner Lunstad seconded the motion.

Motion approved 7-0.

4. Summary of Benton Franklin Health District Presentation of End-of-Season Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms

- Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Schiessl summarized the Health District end-of-season Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms presentation and reports. Schiessl engaged in a question-and-answer conversation with the commission during the presentation.

No recommendation was needed for the business item; it is a discussion only.

5. Tapteal Greenway Trail in the Vicinities of Barker Ranch and Horn Rapids

- Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Schiessl provided background information on the Rivers to Ridges plan to the commission. The presentation and discussion focused on the Tapteal Trail along the Yakima River between the northern City Limit south to Alexander Farms along Barker Ranch and Horn Rapids.

Schiessl engaged in a question-and-answer conversation with the commission after the presentation.

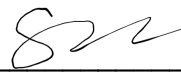
No recommendation was needed for the business item; it was discussion only.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Prepared by: 
Patty Roe, Parks and Public Facilities - Administrative Assistant II

Reviewed by: 
Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager

Approved by: 
Chair Samantha Mason, Richland Parks and Recreation Commission