



MINUTES

Richland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Richland City Hall – Council Chambers

625 Swift Boulevard

Thursday, March 14, 2024 ~ 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Mason, Vice Chair Gutierrez, and Commissioners Arnquist, Heaton, and Lunstad were present.

Commissioners Cunningham, Buelt, Nune and Thallapally were absent.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 14, 2024, AGENDA:

Vice Chair Gutierrez moved to approve the March 14, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting agenda. Commissioner Lunstad seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:

- **February 8, 2024 Meeting**

Commissioner Lunstad moved to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting minutes as written. Vice Chair Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Council Liaison Kent presented the Council Liaison Report.

Subjects included the reappointment of Vice Chair Gutierrez to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

RECREATION REPORT:

Recreation Coordinator Gartside presented the Recreation Report.

Subjects included: March 16, 2024, Special Olympics of Washington Tri-Cities Polar Plunge and History of the Houses volunteer walk; March 23, 2024, Ready, Set, Hop! color walk and egg hunt and a week of fun activities in the park and community center.

PARKS AND FACILITIES REPORT:

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

Subjects included the announcement of the Parks and Public Facilities Director, Chris Waite, with a start date of April 29, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None. Public comments closed at 6:11 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

3. 2023 Park Partnership Program Project Completion Report:

Tri City Radio Control Modelers (TCRCM)

Vice President Castaneda and President Holland

Vice President Castaneda presented an overview of the TCRCM improvements made from the matching grants received from the 2023 Park Partnership Program.

Castaneda and Holland presented and engaged in a question-and-answer conversation with the commission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

4. Updated Application for the 2024 Park Partnership Program

Deputy City Manager Schiessl

Deputy City Manager Schiessl provided an update on the revised application for the 2024 Park Partnership Program. Schiessl explained that the program is intended to provide funding to applicants who make qualified improvements to the parks, and the revisions made will align the program with less complex volunteer projects.

Schiessl engaged in a question-and-answer conversation regarding the revised application with the commission.

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

5. Sturgeon Cove Playground Deputy City Manager Schiessl

Deputy City Manager presented the commission with a revised proposal to increase the size of the Sturgeon Cove Playground in Howard Amon Park. Schiessl explained that the revised project would result in the structure being slightly wider and longer than the existing structure. The originally scoped project was significantly smaller in all dimensions. The updated scope of work will include a shade structure near the playground with the approved donation from Zinsley.

Schiessl engaged in a question-and-answer presentation with the commission regarding the revised Sturgeon Cove Playground at Howard Amon Park.

Commissioner Heaton recommended that a new resolution supersede Richland City Council Resolution 2023-137, which will authorize an increased scope of improvements for the Sturgeon Cove Playground replacement project. Vice Chair Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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

Reviewed by: 
Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager

Approved by: 
Chair Mason, Richland Parks and Recreation Commission