



MINUTES

Richland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Richland City Hall – Council Chambers

625 Swift Boulevard

Thursday, July 11, 2024 ~ 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Mason called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Mason, and Commissioners Cunningham, Lunstad, Gubba, and Watrous were present.

Vice Chair Gutierrez and Commissioners Buelt, Hodges, and Thallapally were absent.

Parks and Public Facilities Director Waite, Recreation Coordinator Davis, and Council Liaison Kent also attended.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 11, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA:

Commissioner Lunstad moved to approve the July 11, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting agenda. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES:

- **May 13, 2024 Special Meeting**
- **June 27, 2024 Workshop**

Commissioner Gubba moved to approve the presented Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and workshop minutes. Commissioner Lunstad seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Council Liaison Kent presented the Council Liaison Report.

Subjects included the annual presentation from the Fire and Police Department, which was presented at the June 25, 2024, City Council workshop, the 2025 City budget season, and a reminder that George Washington Way would be closed with alternate routes for the See3Slam event.

RECREATION REPORT:

Recreation Coordinator Davis presented the Recreation Report.

Subjects included a Cool Desert Nights update, the Outdoor Movie Series will run through the end of August, swim lessons added to evening sessions, and the Fire department assisted with mock training at George Prout Pool. Upcoming events include family Bingo, Pop-up Play Days, Richland Walks, STEAM Kids (Library), Art in the Park, and Rec N Roll.

PARKS AND FACILITIES REPORT:

Parks and Public Facilities Director Waite presented the Parks and Public Facilities Report.

Subjects included: completing the riverfront trail resurfacing at the Hains Levee, West Village Park, and resurfacing the pickleball court at Claybell Park. Waite thanked all city departments for keeping the parks safe and for all the upkeep involved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Molly Peterson, Richland Resident
Representing the Alphabet House Preservation

Peterson addressed the commission in support of the proposed renaming of the Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT).

David Harvey, Richland Resident
Harvey also addressed the commission in support of the proposed renaming of the Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT).

Emeron Costley, Richland Resident
Costley also addressed the commission in support of the proposed renaming of the Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT).

Doreen Bughi, Richland Resident
D. Bughi also addressed the commission in support of the proposed renaming of the Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT).

Richard Bughi, Richland Resident
R. Bughi also addressed the commission in support of the proposed renaming of the Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT).

Public Comment closed at 6:27 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

3. Benton County Mosquito Control District Steve Ingalls, Field Supervisor

Ingalls presented a brief introduction of the Benton County Mosquito Control District mission and an overview of the county's current mosquito control programs to the commission and public in attendance. Ingalls explained services to the City of Richland parks and programming to monitor mosquito populations and mosquito-borne diseases. A discussion and answers to questions from the commission followed the presentation.

4. Urban Greenbelt Trail (UGT) Naming Proposal Nancy Doran

Doran presented the commission with the history of naming the current City of Richland Parks and the history of the Alphabet Homes designed by Gustav Albin Pehrson, an architect of the U.S. State of Washington. The Alphabet Homes are WWII-era homes built in the 1940s/50s, and they follow 25 specific layouts. Doran also discussed the proposal of renaming the Urban Greenbelt Trail to G. Albin Pehrson Urban Greenbelt Trail with the commission.

A discussion and answers to questions from the commission followed the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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

Reviewed by: 
Chris Waite, Parks and Public Facilities Director

Approved by: 
Chair Mason, Richland Parks and Recreation Commission