



MINUTES

Richland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 2021 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Zoom – Public Telephone Access: (206) 331-9723 or (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID No. 954 4214 3292

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Gutierrez, Vice Chair Buelt and Commissioners Andrews, Doran, Mason, Richards and Slougher were present. Commissioner Henry and Smith were absent. Also, in attendance were Parks and Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Parks and Recreation Manager Jackson and Council Liaison Kent.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 14, 2021 AGENDA:

Vice Chair Doran **moved** to approve the January 14, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting agenda. Commissioner Andrews **seconded** the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2020 MEETING MINUTES:

Vice Chair Doran **moved** to approve the October 8, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Chair Gutierrez **seconded** the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Council Liaison Kent presented the Council Liaison Report. Subjects included: Recreation and Library programming, opening of Duportail bridge, and COVID-19 update.

RECREATION REPORT:

Parks and Recreation Manager Jackson presented the Recreation Report. Subjects included: Fall Carnival "REVAMPED", Winter Wonderland, online virtual classes, recreation programming, Meals on Wheels update and online registration for community gardens.

PARKS AND FACILITIES REPORT:

Parks and Public Facilities Director, Schiessl

Subjects included: 2021 budget, recruiting for a Planning and Capital Projects manager, "No Boating Zone" at Leslie Groves, Fire Stations 75 & 73, riverfront lighting project and terminated agreement with Benton County Work Crew.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public Comment Card submitted by:

John Mosley, 3001 S Dawes Street, Kennewick

Is there a process to submit a name change to an existing park or to the ball field in the park?

Public comments ended at 6:29 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Election of 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Officers
Each year the Parks and Recreation Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair. The Park and Recreation Commission entertained nominations and elected officers for the year of 2021.

Commissioner Richards **moved** to nominate Jim Buelte as Vice Chair for the 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission. Commissioner Andrews **seconded** the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Buelte **moved** to nominate Maria Gutierrez as Chair for the 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission. Vice Chair Andrews **seconded** the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Chair – Maria Gutierrez
2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chair – James (Jim) Buelte

2. 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Goals

The Parks and Recreation Commission identifies annual goals that further the development and enhancement of the City of Richland Parks and Recreation facilities. The goals are measurable with specific performance objectives that can be monitored and tracked throughout the year.

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The Parks and Recreation Commission identifies annual goals that further the development and enhancement of the City of Richland Parks and Recreation facilities. The goals are measurable with specific performance objectives that can be monitored and tracked throughout the year.

The following are the goals and objectives established by the Parks and Recreation Commission:

P&RC Goal 1 – Work with staff in their effort to provide programs and recreational activities for Richland. (Strategic Leadership Plan Focus 3 & 5)

Objective 1 – As a result of Visit Tri Cities recommendations to expand Hanford Legacy Park, review and modify the Master Plan to meet the growing needs for multipurpose fields and continue to advocate field development to City Council.

Objective 2 –Offer input and support staff in revitalizing the Vita Parcours in Leslie Groves park to fit current recreation demands.

Objective 3 –Work with staff to develop a Master Plan for South Orchard Park

P&RC Goal 2 – Support staff in identifying and prioritizing unique natural habitat, ecologically sensitive areas, significant landforms, and appropriate native vegetation areas to protect as natural open spaces (Strategic Leadership Plan Focus 4)

Objective 1 – Partner with Friends of Badger Mountain to establish the long-term vision and Master Plan for the Little Badger Mountain trail system.

Objective 2 – Review the maintenance agreements of park partners such as Friends of Badger, et. Al.

P&RC 3 – Promote user friendliness and safety in Richland Parks and Recreation facilities by reviewing safety data and use of facilities. (Strategic Leadership Plan 6)

Objective 1 – Develop a survey or other methods to obtain public input regarding safety in Richland Parks, Trails, and Recreation Facilities.

Objective 2 –Coordinate with City agencies in establishing mitigated measures (e.g. speed, signage, and restrictions) for electronically assisted bikes and scooters on Richland Parks Trails.

Objective 3 – Review, revise, and update the following policy document:
City of Richland – Parks & Recreation Policy for Memorials, Gifts, Monuments, Statues, Works of Art, and Naming Procedure.

Motion was made by Commissioner Buelt to adopt the 2021 Parks and Recreation Goals. Vice Chair Doran **seconded** the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

3. Declaration of Approximately 3,000 Square Feet of City Owned Property as Surplus and Vacation of a Public Access Easement

The City of Richland owns a parcel on the south slope of Little Badger Mountain intended to provide access to a portion of the "Rivers to Ridges" trail. The original acquisition of the 43,633 square foot (1.002 acres) parcel included a small portion (approximately 3,000 square feet) of the top of Little Badger Mountain. The top of Little Badger Mountain in the vicinity of the City's parcel has developed into single-family houses in the Falconcrest plat and a portion of the City's parcel is now unusable because it lies in a pie shape between two houses' rear yards. The remainder of the parcel is suitable for the City's park and trail purposes.

Additionally, there is a public access easement recorded upon the private property adjacent to the City's parcel that was acquired at the time of subdivision platting to provide access to the "Rivers to Ridges Trail, but was recorded before the acquisition of the City's park property. The access easement similarly is not practical because it is located partially upon the flat portion of two houses' rear yards. This easement is no longer necessary and is recommended to be vacated. The remaining City parcel in this vicinity is suitable for the City's park and trail purposes.

A declaration of surplus is bound by the requirements of RMC 3.06 and requires Council passage of a resolution preceded by recommendations by both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Economic Development Committee. The City Council will host a public hearing on this item prior to consideration of a resolution.

Chair Gutierrez **moved** to recommend that the Richland City Council declare approximately 3,000 square feet of parcel number 102882070000069, within the plat of Reata Heights, consistent with the associated exhibit map, as surplus to the City pursuant to RMC 3.06. Vice Chair Doran **seconded** the motion. Motion approved 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Reviewed by: Joe Schiessl, Parks and Public Facilities Director

Approved by: Maria Gutierrez
Chair Maria Gutierrez, Richland Parks and Recreation Commission