

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2026**

DATE OF MEETING: January 14, 2026
MEMBERS PRESENT: Nikki Pollock, Frana Milan, Marion Elliot (virtual), Charlie Smith,
OTHERS PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Case, City Manager Behrends-Cerniwey, Council Liasson Thompson (virtual), Cindy Mendoza & Jessa Miller, MIG, four members from the public
LOCATION: Council Conference Room and Virtually

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order at 5:35pm

MEETING MINUTES – Minutes from the November 12, 2025, meeting was approved.

CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – A question was asked about the West Ellensburg Park playground design and timeline.

NEW BUSINESS – Commission Elections – Commission members held elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions, Commissioner Pollock was nominated as Chair, Commissioner Milan was nominated as Vice Chair, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS — Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Sustainable Funding Plan – Staff from MIG reviewed the planning process & site recommendations, provided a summary of the proposed capital projects, and reviewed a priorities worksheet. The Commission and public provided their feedback on what the capital improvement project priority list should include. This list was broken down into tier 1 and tier 2 priorities, based on their level of importance. The commission and community both expressed the importance of the priority list reflecting the need to address aquatics, both short term and long term, and pursuing land acquisition for future park facilities. Creating accessible parks and thoughtful development within existing park facilities was also discussed.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reported the following: 1. Rotary Park has events scheduled 14 out of 15 weekends between March 27th-July 12th. 2. Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park experienced flooding in mid-December that will require some repair work. City staff will begin that work later this winter. 3. Free, drop-in open gym times will start January 18th at Morgan Middle School. 4. The roof & HVAC replacement project at the pool (flat roof) is complete. The natatorium roof has not experienced leaking since early September. 5. Staff will be performing work at the Rotary Park off leash area, replacing wood chips and filling in low spots where water collects.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.