

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Frana Milan, Marion Elliot (virtual), Charlie Smith, Casey Mace Firebaugh (virtual), Ron Parga
OTHERS PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Case, Council Liaison Goodloe, 2 members of the public (virtual)
LOCATION: Council Conference Room and Virtually

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

MEETING MINUTES – Minutes from the January 14, 2026, meeting was approved.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL LIAISON NANCY GOODLOE

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Department Year in Review – Staff provided the Commission an overview of services, programs, and projects the department accomplished in 2025. A community member requested the removal of the tennis courts from the Mt. View Park master plan.

2026 Capital & Planning Projects – Staff provided the Commission with an update on the capital project development and planning scheduled for 2026. This list includes; installing a new playground at West Ellensburg Park; North Alder Street Park splash pad; replacement of the natatorium (sloped) roof at the Kittitas Valley Memorial Pool & Fitness Center; conclusion of the Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Sustainable Funding Plan; various outreach efforts to identify a path forward to address the need for an updated or new aquatic center.

UPCOMING MEETING ITEMS – Special meeting scheduled for February 25, 2026, at 5:30pm to review the draft plan of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Sustainable Funding Plan.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Park restrooms and gates will open for the season on Friday, March 20, 2026. 2. The off leas dog park will be closed February 19-20, 2026, for maintenance; scope of work includes some minor fence repair, removing and replacing park surfacing, and filling in the low spots where water tends to pool, especially in the winter and spring. 3. Flood repair work at Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park will begin in three weeks. Work will include woody debris removal and adding material in the areas where the flooding scoured out the trails. 4. City staff will be doing an analysis of downtown trees using Survey 123 to record tree condition and site suitability in order to put together a schedule for tree replacements. 5. Staff has been talking with fire prevention specialist from KVFR to explore ways to reduce fire danger at Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park. In the summer of 2024, there were a series of arson fires that took place in the park, fortunately there was minimal damage. 6. The city will be utilizing a new budget process for the 2027/28 biennial budget.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.