



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024

4:30 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall

Aspen Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA

Commissioners Present:

Haygood, Fletcher, Wille, and Otto

Commissioners Absent:

Thompson, Panter, Piland, Robbins, and Kuntz

Staff Present:

Perlick, Cook, Gutierrez, Snyder, Guzman, Burton, Stokke, Meade, Brosius, Donovan, Heath, C. White, Nilo, Hull, and Tubberville

Guests:

None

Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Haygood called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) special meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. in Aspen Room at Vancouver City Hall and online via Microsoft Teams. Thompson, Panter, Piland, Robbins, and Kuntz were absent.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

PRAC approved the November 15, 2023, meeting minutes by consensus.

Item 3: Public Comment

None presented.

Item 4: Parks and Recreation Program Overview

Perlick led brief introductions for the new commissioners and announced

Members

Jayne Haygood

President

Angilo Fletcher

Vice President

Jeremy Robbins

Mathew Kuntz

Jenny Thompson

Stephen Wille

Kerry Otto

AJ Panter, VPS

Cale Piland, EPS

Vacant, Parks Foundation

**Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Services
Department**

P.O. Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668
360-487-8311

TTY: 711
cityofvancouver.us

To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:

Alicia Nilo | 360-487-8311 | TTY: 711 | parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us

the retirement of Park Development Services Manager, Julie Hannon.

Perlick gave an overview of the guiding policies, divisions and key projects, the role of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. The presentation outlined Council priorities, City values, community goals in the Comprehensive Plan, and best practices that guide the work of the department.

A breakdown was provided for the four divisions within Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS), including key projects in 2024, strategic planning goals, managing staff, team roles, facilities, assets, and additional oversight within each division. The divisions include:

- Parks Division – Acquire, develop, and maintain parks, trails, and natural areas.
- Recreation Division – Aquatics, sports, fitness, and social connections for all ages.
- Cultural Services Division – Special events, volunteering, community gardens and park permits.
- Administrative Division – Performance metrics, support, and communication for all divisions.

The presentation underlined the Commissioner role and PRAC duties, which include advising department staff, making recommendations to City Council, advocating for park and recreation issues among decision makers, connecting with community members and providing information about PRCS. Haygood recommended outreach and engagement with City Council as a successful way to support and educate.

An open discussion was held regarding ways to get involved. Haygood encouraged visiting parks, grand openings, and Community Centers, as well as sitting on strategic subcommittees to offer insights on a variety of community projects.

Improved communication was highlighted as a department focus of 2024. Haygood noted the effectiveness of community feedback and engagement as a means involving the community in the park development process. Wille remarked on the continued room for growth in communication between different departments throughout the City.

Commissioners were invited to share about themselves via prompts for open discussion. Commissioners shared about what inspired them to join PRAC and how they hope to improve the community through their role.

Staff gave brief introductions and background on their roles. New commissioners were encouraged to approach staff with any questions during the meet and greet.

Item 5: Director's Report

Perlick highlighted upcoming events:

- Waterfront Gateway Plaza Design Open House from 5-7pm on Thursday, February 1
- Raymond E. Shaffer Community Park Master Plan Open House from 10am-12pm on Saturday, February 3
- Online Survey for Community Feedback on Bagley Park (closes January 31)
- Family Valentine's Ball on February 9 and February 10
- MLK Day of Service has been rescheduled to February 17th due to inclement weather
- Washington Recreation and Parks Association conference is happening May 21-24

Haygood will be attending a VIC neighborhood community meeting on January 29.

Perlick announced that at the end of December, PRCS was honored with the inaugural Accessibility in Action Award for 2023.

Item 6: Chair Report

Haygood thanked PRCS staff for their efforts during the storm cleanup in mid-January.

Item 7: Open Discussion & New Business

None presented.

Item 8: Meet and Greet

PRAC Commissioners and PRCS Staff shared about their backgrounds and current involvement with the department.

Item 9: Vancouver Public School Report

None presented.

Item 10: Parks Foundation Report

None presented.

ADJOURNED

This meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.