



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

In-Person and Webex

Location: Government Center, 2001 S. State Street SLC, Utah 84190
September 11, 2024 | 11:30AM-1:00PM

In Attendance

Board Members: Chris Hill, Courtney Peterson, Connie Burgess, Jason Malczyk, Collin Dumke, Shauna Ayres, Lisa Dean, Robynn Masters, Jaren Cooper

Absent: Nate Salazar, John Warnas, Dan Schoenfeld

Staff: Chris Otto, Patrick Leary, Jerry Brewster, Julie Peck-Dabbling, Doranne Pittz, David Johnson, Danielle Calacino, Walt Gilmore, Callista Pearson, Brent Laulusa, Xochiatl Thomas, Isaac Higham

Citizen Participation: Steve Van Maren, Kristine Millerberg, Katie Balakir, Nancy

Call to Order

Chris Hill calls the meeting to order and for everyone present to introduce themselves.

Public Comments:

No public comments are made.

Business Item – Approval of August 2024 Minutes

Chris Hill calls for a motion or any discussion on the August 2024 meeting minutes. Connie Burgess motions to approve, Robynn Masters seconds, all approve.

The board decides to reschedule next month's meeting for Wednesday, October 16, due to schedule conflicts.

Board Chair Election

Chris Hill calls for board chair nominations. Connie nominates Chris Hill; Jason Malczyk seconds the nomination. The board unanimously approves the nomination, and Chris Hill officially becomes the board chair.

Getting to Know You

Doranne Pittz instructs the board members and staff on how to participate in an activity to get know each other better. Everyone physically in attendance participates in the activity and they go around answering questions they wrote down with their neighbors, then share some of their findings with the whole group.

Division Director's Report

Chris Otto shares some division wide updates with the board including:

- The My County Rec Pass program is up to 62,500 registered kids, and County Council approved the addition of 3- and 4-year-olds as part of the program. He says adult pass sales have seen an increase, and he believes they'll be able to continue running the program.

- They have had important budget meetings and have submitted their budget which will now be taken to the mayor by Robin. He gives a shout-out to the fiscal team for all their hard work on it.
- Highlights a new program the recreation section has started called '100 Days'. The goal is to look at how each center is run, what resources are used, and where they can standardize operations and save money. Doranne says the idea is based off FDR's 100 Days plan when he took office, and highlights the recreation section manager, Eliza, for leading the effort.
- The Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Committee, and how they're looking at restructuring that board to include trails, trail usage, and to minimize conflicts among the user groups. The board shows a lot of interest in the idea, and he reemphasizes that it is in the very early stages of consideration.

Board Business

Chris Hill tells everyone that the 'board business' agenda item was moved up because it's a time when board members can bring items to discuss that they might have heard from constituents or if they have questions for the Parks & Recreation staff; these items could then lead to further discussion and a potential vote on a future agenda.

- **Current Parking Issues at the SLC Sports Complex - Robynn Masters**
Robynn tells the board and staff she has noticed and has heard about other patrons' recent experiences regarding the parking at the SLC Sports Complex and that there seems to not be any available much of the time. She recognizes that this correlates with the University of Utah's fall semester starting and the limited student parking available on campus. She mentions that patrons risk the chance of getting parking tickets when they are forced to then park on the street because there aren't any spots in the lot, and that the front desk has told patrons there is nothing they can do. She wants to know how the situation can be addressed and also recognizes the separate issue of the parking lot being used for the university's football games, and how the center is now closed on those days.
Chris Otto tells Robynn that they decided to close the facility on home game days this year because the facility isn't making enough revenue to justify staying open, and of course, the parking and traffic on game days greatly interferes with the operations. Him and Doranne both say that they are trying it out this year to see the impact of closing on game days and says he has already heard some concerns about those closures.
Doranne addresses Robynn's concerns by agreeing there are many parking issues related to the University, and they have tried different methods at the center previously to help with the parking and none have been successful. Doranne also agrees that better signage or boards to educate constituents on which parking lot is for the center's patrons would be a good idea. She tells them that the county is currently not making any revenue from the University of Utah using the lot because the parking lot and center are owned by Salt Lake City, and Salt Lake County is who manages and operates the facility.
Collin Dumke suggests implementing timed parking for the center's stalls with a max of 2 hours. Doranne suggests that because the SLC Sports Complex has a very active patron population they could look into a parking volunteer program but tells Robynn they can discuss and brainstorm more ideas on how to remedy the situation outside of the meeting.

Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation 101 – FISCAL

Brent Laulusa, Associate Director of Administration and Finance, continues the Parks & Recreation 101 series by discussing the division's fiscal operations. He educates the board and staff on the budget basics of Salt Lake County and how they apply to the Parks & Recreation division. He highlights organizational structure, accounting structure, and briefly explains how appropriations are assigned.

Brent shows everyone the whole life cycle of their budget and accounting process by using fiscal year 2026 as an example. He says that the county's fiscal year runs on a calendar year from January through December and says at any given time they're working with three different years' budgets.

Lastly, Brent tells them about all the different funding sources Parks & Recreation operates from. The sources are divided between recreation centers, parks, trails, open space, and golf; with some receiving funding from multiple sources and others only from one source.

Section Update

Jerry Brewster gives updates for the Golf section by telling the board their rounds and revenue are still strong, and are \$90,000 over revenue compared to last year, and at 36,000 rounds above where they were last year. He says they are wrapping up some of their major projects and within the next 30 days they will be heading into their fall maintenance operations.

Patrick gives updates for the Parks section by reminding the board of the high school mountain bike races happening at the Butterfield Canyon trails. He also mentions that they have been talking with Mayor Silvestrini of Millcreek City about motorized vehicles on the east side of the valley and the problems they are seeing there.

Doranne Pittz gives updates for the Recreation section by telling the board that registration for youth winter sports opens on October 1 and they are experiencing their annual staffing dip at their pools and are encouraging patrons to check their recreation centers schedules.

Walt Gilmore gives updates for the Planning section by telling the board they will be publishing information for Jordan River recreation zone events that are planned for the next two months and taking place in the five cities the recreation zone fits within.

Callista Pearson gives updates for the Community Engagement section by telling the board that along with those Jordan River recreation zone events, they are also hosting informal pop-up events around the valley leading up to the public open houses. She mentions that the Salt Lake County website has officially transitioned to saltlakecounty.gov from slco.org, and if they experience issues while using the website they need to reload the page. Callista tells everyone that they will be putting up ZAP (Zoo, Arts, and Parks) renewal information at all the recreation centers and golf courses, and Wheeler Historic Farm's annual Pumpkin Days begins September 27 and runs through October 31.

Courtney Peterson quickly asks how other board members have reached out to other constituents to find out their opinions and concerns regarding Parks & Recreation, and the board and staff decide to discuss that in next month's meeting.

Adjourn

Robynn Masters motions to adjourn, Connie Burgess seconds, all approve.