



CLEARFIELD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday May 20, 2026

Executive Conference Room, 3rd floor 55
South State Street
Clearfield, Utah

PRESIDING: Chair Barbara Bloomfield

PRESENT: Commissioner Barbara Bloomfield, Commissioner Nancy Austin, Commissioner Connie Dooley, Commissioner Jason Linder, Commissioner Anthony DeMille, Commissioner Matthew Mangum, Commissioner Vern Phipps, Commissioner Samantha Hutchinson

ABSENT: Commissioner Thomas Mayer, Youth Commission Member Ashlyn Peterson

STAFF PRESENT: Councilmember Dakota Wurth, Administrative Assistant Liz Schwab, Community Services Deputy Director Curtis Dickson, Community Services Director Eric Howes, Recreation Manager Kristine Conley

VISITORS: Chair Barbara Bloomfield

Chair Barbara Bloomfield called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 15, 2026

Commissioner Mangum moved to approved of April 15, 2026, seconded by Commissioner DeMille.

RESULT: Passed [8 TO 0]

YES: Commissioner Bloomfield, Commissioner Austin, Commissioner Dooley, Commissioner Linder, Commissioner DeMille, Commissioner Mangum, Commissioner Phipps, Commissioner Hutchinson

NO:

ABSENT: Commissioner Thomas Mayer, Youth Commission Member Ashlyn Peterson

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD: No participants were present during the open comment period

PARK WATCH REPORT

Steed Park

- Members praised the success of the recent Steed Park community cleanup, noting an impressive turnout of residents— including participants from neighboring Clinton—who helped remove litter and debris.
- Commissioners observed a broken sprinkler on the south-east edge near the pond, which was carving a small stream into the soil. Staff indicated this issue has been documented.
- Discussion included concerns about duck habitat impact following the mowing of reeds earlier in the season. Several ducklings were displaced or lost due to early nesting tied to unusual weather patterns. Staff acknowledged the need for increased caution and timing considerations in future maintenance.
- A weir gate remnant and sections of old concrete ditching were identified as potential hazards; commissioners asked whether these could be removed or filled since they no longer serve a purpose.

- Additional notes included general appreciation for the park's appearance and the positive behavior of visitors during the cleanup event.

Rose Garden Park

- Commissioners shared that the Rose Garden looks better than it has in years, noting significant weed removal and improved usability of the grounds. It was described as looking like "a real park again," suitable for informal recreation.

Thornock Park

- Observations included that the concrete slab in the park has been poured, though surrounding ground remains uneven due to equipment traffic. Staff confirmed additional dirt and leveling work will follow.

Canal Trail (300 North to 650 North)

- The south side of the trail is experiencing significant weed encroachment, narrowing the pathway.
- Overhang from shrubs and plants on the north end is causing clearance issues for cyclists.
- Commissioners noted these issues are not yet severe but should be trimmed back soon.

Jacobson Park

- Grass is noticeably yellow due to limited watering, but commissioners agreed it is being maintained at an appropriate height for comfortable use.
- The volleyball net still needs to be installed; this was mentioned as a recurring concern.

Wilcox Farms Park Area (Private Property Adjacent to City)

- Commission members noted that the private subdivision includes a little-used pickleball court with lights (not yet wired). While not city-maintained, several commissioners remarked on how hidden it is and expressed curiosity about how frequently it might be used once activated.

Fisher Park

- A campaign sign was placed illegally across from Clearfield High at or near the skate park area. Commissioners discussed procedures for removal and proper handling, noting staff are collecting such signs and coordinating through the City Recorder's office.

Graffiti Concern – 450 North & 1000 East

- A graffiti tag previously reported at this intersection was confirmed to have already been removed by the time the commissioner rechecked the area.

General Notes

- Commissioners reiterated the need to seal wood structures, particularly a Bowery where paint or protective coating has deteriorated.
- Requests were made to paint concession stand doors at Steed Park and Fisher Park before the July 4 festivities.
- Staff highlighted improvements in the responsiveness of the parks team, supported by new hires with strong landscaping and arborist experience. Commissioners expressed

appreciation for the improved turnaround on documented maintenance issues.

Commissioners Organizational Items

a. Post Event Discussion

Steed Park cleanup recap highlighted significant community engagement from residents across Clearfield and neighboring Clinton. Issues included early-season reed mowing impacting duck nesting areas and visibility of old infrastructure that may pose hazards. Staff will review concerns related to weir remnants and ditch safety.

b. Volunteer Opportunities

Commissioners were reminded of numerous volunteer needs for late June and July events. No July Commission meeting will be held to allow members to support Independence Day operations.

c. Review and Discuss Yard of the Week Contest

Updates included:

- Signs available for distribution.
- Judges will submit photos (front, left, right angles) and scoring.
- Winners may keep signs for the season.
- Adjustments to judging assignments were made for upcoming weeks.
- Staff provided clarification on accessing Google Docs and maps.

Communication Items

a. Staff Report

Kristine Conley provided a detailed update on Recreation Division operations, emphasizing current staffing challenges and the rapid growth of several recreation programs. She noted that the division has been managing ongoing staff rotations due to recent family additions and temporary absences, which has required team members to cover multiple roles and responsibilities to keep programs running smoothly. Despite these shortages, staff continue to support spring sports, which are currently operating at full capacity.

Kristine highlighted the strong start to summer program registrations, stating that interest is high across all offerings. She then focused on the significant growth in youth sports, especially soccer, which has now become Clearfield's largest recreation program. Participation has nearly doubled over recent seasons, and the program now serves almost 800 children in youth soccer alone, not including the expanding adult soccer leagues. She reported that fields are consistently full, and staff are working diligently to balance field usage with program needs, rentals, and maintenance schedules.

Kristine praised the efforts of Quinn, Taya, and Angie for their adaptability and commitment to managing this growth, noting that the team has received positive feedback regarding the quality of coaching, officiating, and the overall participant experience. She also reported that the recently implemented division-wide staff revamp, allowing full-time employees to support both recreation and arts programming more flexibly, has been a timely improvement that is helping offset staffing shortages and support program demand.

She concluded by previewing upcoming recreation events—including the July 2nd concert, the June 27th movie night, and the July 4th race—and shared the division's excitement for the

upcoming launch of fall flag football, beginning with the youngest age groups and designed to grow similarly to the soccer program.

b. Deputy Director's Report

Significant updates were provided regarding July 4 event planning:

- Search the City contest (week of June 22)
- Movie in the Park – *National Treasure* (June 27)
- Paint the Bridge (June 29) with red/white/blue theme
- Patriotic Concert (July 2 at Clearfield High)
- Pool Bash (July 3, filling quickly)
- July 4 morning 5K, parade, and evening festival

Construction and safety adjustments include amphitheater demolition targeted for completion before July 4. Events will involve close coordination with volunteers, JustServe, and community partners.

c. Director's Report

Updates included:

- Aquatic & Fitness Center staffing challenges, including resignation of a long-term staff member and ongoing recruitment for key roles.
- All Abilities Playground scheduled for July delivery with installation beginning mid-July and an estimated September completion.
- Basketball court redevelopment supported by a Jazz grant with a September target grand opening.
- Trail paving coordination underway with county and regional grants.
- Restroom and sidewalk improvements in design and prep stages.
- Capital Facilities Plan and impact fee updates in progress with consultants.

d. Council Liaison Minute

It was noted for the record that Council Liaison Dakota Wurth was ill and attended the meeting virtually. He did not provide a report or engage in discussion during this meeting.

e. Commissioners' Minute

No additional comments or reports were offered by the Commissioners during this portion of the meeting.

**** ADJOURN THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING ****

Commissioner DeMille moved to approve adjourning of the meeting at 8:15pm, seconded by Commissioner Dooley.

RESULT: Passed [8 TO 0]

YES: Commissioner Bloomfield, Commissioner Austin, Commissioner Dooley, Commissioner Linder, Commissioner DeMille, Commissioner Mangum, Commissioner Phipps, Commissioner Hutchinson NO:

ABSENT: Commissioner Mayer, Youth Commission Member Peterson

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Clearfield City Parks & Recreation Commission meeting held Wednesday, May 20, 2026.

/s/ Liz Schwab, Administrative Assistant