



Parks And Recreation Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.

851 South Eton - Conference Room

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Chair Heather Carmona; Board Members Susan Collins, Jessica Einstein, Anne Lipp; Alternate Board Member Narlu Castellano; Student Representative Sienna Weinberg

Absent: Board Member Sarah Kupczyk; Alternate Board Member Joseph Wrobel

Staff: Department of Public Services Director Zielinski; Recreation Coordinator Kirkwood,
Parks and Recreation Manager Laird, Parks and Recreation Foreman McNab

Guests: Rachel Bush OHM Advisor, Quentin Hyde OHM Advisor

III. Announcements, Introductions of Guests & Chair Comments

1. Public Safety Notice E-Motorcycles
2. Upcoming May events

IV. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda

Michael Dery commented regarding the portable toilet at Pembroke Park.

Elissa Cooper commented regarding issues with the booking process for the pickleball courts, the net heights of the courts at Crestview, and the audit process.

Jodi Astrein commented regarding issues with the booking process for the pickleball courts.

V. Approval of the Minutes – April 14, 2026

Motion by Lipp

Seconded by Einstein to approve the minutes as presented in the packet.

Motion carried, 5-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Collins, Einstein, Castellano, Carmona, Lipp

Nays: None

VI. Unfinished Business

None.

VII. New Business

1. Appointment of Parks & Recreation Board Chair

Nomination by Collins

Seconded by Lipp to appoint Heather Carmona as Chair of the Parks & Recreation Board.

Motion carried, 5-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Collins, Einstein, Castellano, Carmona, Lipp

Nays: None

2. Appointment of Parks & Recreation Board Vice Chairperson

Nomination by Collins

Seconded by Einstein to appoint Ann Lipp as Vice Chair of the Parks & Recreation Board.

Motion carried, 5-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Collins, Einstein, Castellano, Carmona, Lipp

Nays: None

VIII. Miscellaneous Communications

- 1. Crestview Sound-Dampening Curtain Installation Update**
- 2. Citywide Playground Improvements**
- 3. Professional Design Services OHM Update St. James Park & Kenning Park**

The communications were reviewed. Ms. Bush and Mr. Hyde presented the Professional Design Services OHM Update on St. James Park & Kenning Park and answered questions. The Board discussed the following regarding the communications:

- The success of the Crestview sound-dampening curtain was in part a testament to the Board's and staff's work.
- A ribbon cutting for Poppleton Park will be planned.
- The three St. James options largely differ in terms of the orientation of the softball field.
- Based on the votes from the public sessions, people were supportive of the third option

for Kenning and the third option for St. James.

- There has been general support for exercise equipment, and St. James seemed like it would be an appropriate location.
- In the St. James option B, there is no fence proposed on the western side. The City should directly reach out to affected residents for feedback before proceeding with a fence removal.
- Some felt Option B was a more chaotic option than Option A, though the enhanced ability to walk through the middle and the exercise equipment in the middle was valued. Some felt option B had a more clear delineation between open and active spaces.
- Comments from the softball users on the ball field orientations would be helpful.
- St. James' option A might be a better layout for Next users.
- Any option for St. James will require ample shade and seating.
- Instead of installing a shuffleboard-specific court, it might be better to install a court that allows a variety of games.
- Lincoln Well Park has fences with gates maintained by adjoining residents to allow those residents to access the park directly.
- Kenning has drainage issues that need to be addressed.
- Walking paths through Kenning would likely be well received.

Public Comment

Bridget Halseth supported maintaining the fence at St. James Park, opposed adding a permanent standalone restroom to St. James Park, and asked about bioswale maintenance.

Ina Brown supported St. James' option A, removing the fence along Edgewood, removing the fence along the rear of her house to allow her to install her own fence with a gate to the Park, the replacement of the lighting with downlights and low pathway lighting, the replacement of the current basketball backboard with something quieter, and opposed the shuffleboard court for option B.

Mr. Dery supported increased traffic calming on Grant Street if the usage of St. James Park increases after the updates.

IX. Reports from Staff

None.

X. Items for Next Meeting

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Clinise Kirkwood

Clinise Kirkwood, Recreation Coordinator



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist

APPROVED