



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Forest Grove City Hall- Forest Room, 1924
Council Street

Joe Offer, Chairperson
Mallory Hiefield, Vice Chairperson

Tom Robinson
Mackenzie Johnston Carey
Glenn VanBlarcom
Lauren Miller
Ben Burns

Kylie Thompson
Linda Harrington, FGSD Liaison
Julian Garfias, Student Advisor
Mike Marshall, Council Liaison

Zoom Webinar:

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89866893885?pwd=I73XJ2oZkk5qdCDHuBcDHP65TsnlhH.1>
Meeting ID: 898 6689 3885
Passcode: 694314

A. Call to Order

1. Welcome guest(s)

B. Public Comment Time provided for anyone wishing to speak to the Commission. In the interest of time, please limit comments to two minutes.

C. Consent Agenda: Items under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will all be adopted with a single motion, without separate discussion. Councilors who wish to remove an item from the Consent Agenda may do so prior to the motion. Any item(s) removed will be discussed and acted upon following the approval of the remaining item(s).

1. Approve Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes for May 13, 2026.

D. Additions/Deletions

E. Discussion/Decision Items

1. 2026 remaining meeting schedule - September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9

F. Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces & Trails (PROST!) Master Plan Project Report (Cody Jeffers)

1. Virtual presentation by consultant

G. Council Liaison Report (Councilor Marshall)

H. School District Representative Report (Linda Harrington)

I. Student Advisor Report (Julian Garfias)

J. Commission Communications (Joe Offer)

1. Recap Parks Tour from June 10th
2. Recap Boards & Commissions Annual Dinner from June 18th
3. Recap Annual Awards and Annual Report from June 22nd
4. Police facility tour - next meeting

K. Staff Communications

1. Department Report (July & August)
2. Taxlot map

L. Announcement of Next Meeting

1. *Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 7:00am at the Police Department - 2102 Pacific Avenue (unless otherwise determined by vote of the Commission)

M. Adjournment

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Notice: The City of Forest Grove will make reasonable accommodations for participation in the meeting. Requests for assistance can be made by contacting the City Recorder's Office, 503-992-3235, mwoods@forestgrove-or.gov, at least 48-hours in advance of the meeting.



A place where families and businesses thrive.

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Forest Grove City Hall Forest Room, 1924 Council St.

<i>Minutes are unofficial until approved by the B/C.</i>

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by Joe Offer, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

ROLL CALL: Joe Offer, Chairperson; Mallory Hiefield, Vice-Chairperson; Tom Robinson; Lauren Miller; Ben Burns; Kylie Thompson; Mackenzie Johnston Carey; Glenn VanBlarcom

ABSENT: Peter Truax, FGSD Liaison; Julian Garfias, Student Advisor; Mike Marshall, Council Liaison

STAFF PRESENT: Anne Lane, Parks & Recreation Director; Cody Jeffers, Recreation Coordinator; Sherri Mead, Aquatics Supervisor; Tom Martin, Parks Supervisor; Melissa Williams, Administrative Specialist II

ABSENT: none

B. PUBLIC COMMENT: none

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. *Approve Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes of April 8, 2026.*

MOTION: Glenn VanBlarcom moved to approve minutes from April 8, 2026, meeting. Ben Burns seconded. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

D. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: none

E. DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:

1. Parks Tour – Joe will be sending out a poll for dates/locations/times for the next meeting. Locations planned, Lincoln Park, Kyle Park, Eastside Park, and Beal Pond.
2. Annual awards – June 22nd at City Council. Various suggestions were made for potential recipients. Kylie Thompson moved and Lauren Miller seconded, vote was 5-0 with one abstention by Mackenzie Johnston Carey to recognize the Forest Grove Community School and the Gales Creek Ward of the LDS Church for their volunteer work with our Parks division. Kylie Thompson asked about criteria for this

award and there isn't anything formalized in writing. Kylie will work with Joe to develop award guidelines for the committee to review at a future meeting.

3. Annual report – June 22nd at City Council, Joe Offer will be presenting on behalf of the commission.

4. Boards & Commissions Annual Dinner – June 18th at McMenamins, 6:00pm – this includes a plus one guest if you wish.

F. PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACES & TRAILS (PROST!) MASTER PLAN PROJECT REPORT (CODY JEFFERS):

1. Four proposals were received. The review committee met May 12 and an intent to award notification was sent May 13.

G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT (COUNCILOR MARSHALL): no report

H. SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT (PETER TRUAX): no report

I. STUDENT ADVISOR REPORT (JULIAN GARFIAS): no report

J. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (JOE OFFER, CHAIRPERSON): Reminder about the Pop-Up Bike Event this Saturday (May 16) at Kyle Park from 11am-3pm. There will be image boards, Mountain Bike Robbie, and Mina's Pancakes will be on site for this event.

K. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: Commission member asked about accounting of Fun For All Fund (FFAF), staff will work on providing some updates on awards in the future. Pickleball Tournament in August will be to benefit the Fun For All Fund and Cody Jeffers is looking for donations/sponsorships. It was suggested we connect with the library on how they receive donations. Commission members asked about non-profit status for the benefit of the FFAF.

L. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 7:00am in the Forest Room, City Hall, second floor, 1924 Council St., Forest Grove. **If the Commission schedules a parks tour for June, the regular scheduled meeting for June would be rescheduled** TBD

M. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:54am.

🌱 Celebrating Our Incredible Community Volunteers! 💚

The Forest Grove Parks & Recreation Commission would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to two outstanding community groups whose dedication and hard work have made a lasting impact on our parks and our community.

🍌 **Forest Grove Community School** was recognized for their tremendous efforts during the Thatcher Park Ivy Pull, helping restore and protect one of our beautiful community parks.

🌿 The Gales Creek Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was honored for their volunteer work during the Thatcher Park Tree Planting, helping grow a healthier, greener park for future generations to enjoy.

A couple of weeks ago, Forest Grove City Council and the Chairperson of the Parks & Recreation Commission, proudly recognized both groups for their exceptional service. Each group was presented with a certificate of appreciation, and their names have been added to the Forest Grove Parks & Recreation Volunteer Award Plaque, proudly displayed in the Community Auditorium. We were so happy to have representatives from both groups join us for the presentations too!

Volunteer efforts like these strengthen our parks, enrich our community, and inspire others to get involved. Thank you to everyone who donated their time, energy, and enthusiasm to make these projects a success!

Please join us in congratulating and thanking these amazing volunteers for their commitment to making Forest Grove an even better place to live, play, and connect. 💚 🌳



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT (JULY & AUGUST)

Parks & Recreation Director – Anne Lane

1. Eastside Park – Construction continues. Goal is to have the park open by early September.
2. PROST! Master Plan community outreach, facility assessments, and document review continues. Mission and vision for the department near completion.
3. Forest Grove Senior & Community Center – Centro Cultural notified City they will no longer run the facility effective December 31, 2026. Staff presenting options to Council on August 24th.
4. Purchased additional 4.97 acres adjacent to Kyle Park to expand park to 13.45 acres and purchased additional 14.76 acres nearby for a total of \$217,800 at foreclosure auction on July 16th. (Map attached)

Parks Supervisor – Tom Martin

1. On June 30th, GEOregon (Geocachers Exploring Oregon) collected litter along a loop that included B Street Trail, Old Highway Loop Trail, and Highway 47. Fourteen people participated in the event, and together they collected 22 bags of trash. Jennifer Sabo organized the trash pickup event. Geocaching is an outdoor treasure-hunting activity in which participants use GPS-enabled devices to find hidden containers, called geocaches, placed by other players. CITO (Cache In, Trash Out) is a worldwide community initiative within Geocaching that encourages participants to improve parks, trails, and public spaces through activities such as litter cleanup, habitat restoration, and trail maintenance.
2. We had the WCSO Adults in Custody crew out on June 30th at Thatcher Park clearing ditch lines along Thatcher Rd/David Hill Rd. They also edged $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of sidewalk and trimmed hedges along the north side of the parking lot. The crew returned July 13th along Hwy 47 trimming trees, and string-trimming from Maple St. to Pacific Ave. on the trail that runs along the west side of the hwy.
3. Fire Fuel Mitigation along Gales Creek Rd was completed the week of July 6th.
4. The Parks Team along with Light & Power staff, removed a large, leaning tree in Bard Park on July 12th.
5. Long time Parks employee Scott Peters retired on July 16th. A celebration for Scott was held in

conjunction with Public Works at their new facility and it was well attended by staff and Scott's family. Scott's knowledge and dedication will certainly be missed.

6. On July 29th, Marble Tree Service removed some lower branches from a Lodgepole Pine and a giant Sequoia tree at Bard Park to help reduce interference with the sprinkler streams. They also removed some large dead branches on three Scots Pine trees. All branches were chipped, and debris was hauled away.

Aquatics Supervisor – Sherri Mead

1. We have hired four new lifeguards who recently came through our Lifeguard Certification Course. After completing several shadow shifts, they are up and running and doing great!
2. We have had some wonderful Free Community Swim events so far this summer with large attendance numbers. Chill with the Chief was held on July 8th and included some free frozen treats from our **Forest Grove Police Dept.** in our Spray Park in honor of National Freezer Pop Day and the free swim was sponsored by **Columbia River Motorsports**. Our annual Christmas in July event was again sponsored by community members **Kelly & Lance Daily** on the evening of July 23rd.

We have our final two free swim evening events on August 7th sponsored by **Forest Grove Ace Hardware** in conjunction with our free Park Flix event, and on August 27th, sponsored by the **Forest Grove Daybreak Rotary Club**.

THANK YOU to all of these great sponsors/partners for bringing some summer fun to the community. We love seeing all the smiles and knowing that these sponsored events offer experiences to some individuals and families who might not otherwise be able to visit the pool. What a gift that is for everyone involved!

3. Fall Registration opens on August 12th and we will go back to our Fall pool schedule beginning Monday, August 31st since FGSD classes start before Labor Day this school year.

Recreation Coordinator – Cody Jeffers

1. Camp Grove has introduced Monday Funday, a new weekly feature designed to enhance the camp experience through special guests, hands-on activities, and local field trips. Highlights have included a behind-the-scenes visit to Forest Grove Light & Power with bucket truck rides and transformer demonstrations, fire house tours, face painting, and parkour instruction, giving campers unique experiences while connecting them with community partners.
2. August is shaping up to be one of our busiest months of the summer, with Camp Grove seeing some of its highest participation of the season. Our annual **Park Flix** series is also underway, featuring free outdoor movies every Friday in August and is being sponsored by **Wauna Credit Union**. Another wonderful community partner bringing some summer fun to our local community and very much appreciated. The series kicks off in the Forest Grove Aquatic

Center “Back Yard” on August 7th with a free public swim followed by the movie. The remaining Park Flix Fridays then move to Lincoln Park for the rest of the month.

Administrative Specialist II – Melissa Williams

1. You might notice two new staff members on the Customer Service Cashier team if you visit our office at the Aquatic Center front desk. Please stop by to say hello and help us welcome Sydney Kelley and Marithza Garcia to the team. They have completed several shadow shifts with our existing staff and have started their own solo shifts as they continue to learn what we are all about at Parks & Recreation. We’re excited to have them, and they are proving to be great additions to our team.
2. Summer is in full swing for Parks & Recreation. As usual, there were some small pricing changes that went into effect on 7/1/26 that were approved by City Council through the fee schedule process. These changes are updated on the Parks & Recreation website and in the most recent Activity Guide. Pricing changes are typical each year on July 1.

