



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**
Regular Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Zoom
April 7, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Tim Bresnahan
Board Member David Crawford
Board Member Christina Grow
Board Member Anthony Lane
Board Member Colin McAllister
Board Member Rebecca Wood
Alternate Board Member Candace Craig
Alternate Board Member Jan Johnson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Board Chair Danu Fatt (Excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Bresnahan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Crawford moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member McAllister. The motion was carried (7-0).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Minutes from PARAB 03-03-2025 Regular Meeting.

Board Member Crawford moved to approve the minutes as presented or amended. The motion was seconded by Board Member McAllister. The motion was carried (7-0).

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please limit your comments to 3 minutes)

There was no public comment.

V. REPORTS (5 minutes)

1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB)

2. Council Liaison

Council Liaison Natalie Johnson had no reports to share. Council is currently just working out the financial aspects of the city.

3. Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)

- a. OSAC Approved Minutes 12-09-2024
- b. OSAC Approved Minutes 01-27-2025
- c. OSAC Approved Minutes 02-24-2025

There was no representation present for the Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC), which was on the agenda. No discussion.

VI. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1. Director's Report

- (See Director's Report attached in Meeting Packet)
- Parks and Recreation Director Rossi asked if PARAB would be interested in contributing money for t-shirts for the Adopt-a-Park volunteers. There are two reasons for these shirts: (a) as a thank you; (b) to keep volunteers safe with similar and bright-colored clothing.
 - a. Board Member Grow likes the slogan: "Repect Your Mother . . . Nature"
 - b. Board Member McAllister said that women's t-shirt cuts (fit) should also be made, not just boxy cuts that look good only on a man.
- There is still an issue with dog waste, especially at Fields Park. A couple of signs were added.
- A survey is going out concerning 0 Beckers Lane.
- Soda Springs Park phase 2 progress was ahead of schedule at the time of this meeting. May 23 is now the estimated date of completion.
- City Council voted on Soda Springs parking adjustment. See Director's Report.
- Manizoo damage was found to be more extensive than what was initially assumed. 5 of 18 sections need immediate repair. The theory is that the grout that was used was not outdoor approved, so it's disintegrating into a powder. Will be requesting PARAB to fund this.
- Parks and Recreation is hiring one more seasonal downtown beautification technician. The Arborist job search has also been reopened. There is a new cemetery care person, named Rachel. See Directors report for the rest.
- The Arbor Day Tree Planting event is on Friday, April 25 from 1:00–5:00 in Library Park. One Catalpa trees are included as those to be planted. The State Forest person will be there.
- Vice Chair Bresnahan and Board Member Johnson said Catalpa trees have

historically not worked out here, so this needs to be discussed with the arborist or state forester.

- Board Member Johnson warned that Library Park is a site that hosts lots of events (foot traffic, sledding, lounging, music, playing children).
- Board Member Grow advised putting trees up higher.
- Board Member Grow inquired about the vandalism to the sewer system at the Library.
 - Director Rossi said that the sewer and water infrastructure has been completed. Irrigation is next on the list. It will be running by the first week of May.
- Board Member Johnson recommended replacing the Silver Maples.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Funding request from CRANE for two art installations in new Beckers

- There is a funding request from CRANE for two 2-D art installations along 0 Beckers Lane creekwalk path. CRANE was not awarded any funding from ENT Federal Credit Union. Nor did ENT acknowledge the application.
- CRANE's Interim Executive Director, Audrey Gray, asked Tim to relay her request for funding from PARAB for two new installations at 0 Beckers Lane. Cost estimate for one installation with new posts is \$1,032.50 (sign, posts, labor, stipend, double-sided).
 - Board Member McAllister likes the idea of the art installations being double-sided.
 - Board Member Bresnahan said we already have \$3,000 from our Art in the Parks.
- CRANE will put out a call for art at the end of April / early May.
- Vice Chair Bresnahan moved to approve two new art installations along 0 Beckers Lane, double-sided, for \$2,065.00 from our Art in the Parks budget, pending rezoning and adoption. The motion was seconded by Board Member McAllister. The motion carried (7-0).

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. 0 Beckers property rezoning update

April 15 marks the scheduled date of the final approval by council for the 0 Beckers property rezoning.

2. Grant opportunity for Higginbotham Flats/Overlook Park

There is a grant opportunity for Higginbotham Flats/Overlook Park. There was no follow-up from anyone.

3. Disc golf expansion in Fields Park/0 Beckers

- The members discussed possible spaces for the disc golf expansion in Fields Park/0 Beckers.
 - o Board Member Grow asked if we might consider using the area south of Fountain Creek that will be connected to Dillon Motel property where there will eventually be a bridge. She wondered whether disc golf could be established where the connecting bridge over the creek will be.
 - Vice Chair Bresnahan thought Grow's idea was a good one.

4. Dog park ideas

- Vice Chair Bresnahan wondered if it is worth our while to continue the discussion of a possible dog park.
 - o Board Member Johnson thought we should continue to look for spaces that could accommodate a dog park.
 - o Board Member Craig said dog owners have used the soccer field because it's safe and grassy. That is obviously not allowed, but it shows a need, perhaps, for a soft and grassy spot for dogs to play in.
- Board Member Grow wanted to know what happened to the idea for a pump track behind the middle school.
 - o Vice Chair Bresnahan said he spoke with Evan Johnson (middle-school teacher) a long while ago about this. Vice Chair Bresnahan says he had encouraged Mr. Johnson to apply for a mini grant, but does not know if he ever followed through with it. Vice Chair Bresnahan agreed to check in with Mr. Johnson to see if this was ever accomplished and where things stand.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Board Member McAllister moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Bresnahan. The motion was carried (7-0).
The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.