



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**
Regular Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Zoom
May 5, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Fatt called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Board Member Colin McAllister (Excused)

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Bresnahan moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Crawford. The motion was carried (6-0).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Minutes from PARAB April 7, 2025

Vice Chair Bresnahan moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Johnson. The motion carried (6-0), with Chair Fatt abstaining from the vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please limit your comments to 3 minutes)

There was no public comment.

V. PRESENTATION (15 MINUTES)

1. Diane Fitzkee / Memorial Tree Request

Note for the record – Applicant Diane Fitzkee was not present for the presentation.

Chair Fatt shared that Applicant Fitzkee wants to plant a memorial tree for her friend, the late Nancy Joy Barrett, and that they have agreed to meet to discuss where to plant the tree.

VI. REPORTS (5 minutes)

1. Arborist Report

Parks and Recreation Director, Gillian Rossi, reported that 18 trees were planted at Library Park on April 4, 2025. Volunteers arrived to help plant the trees. The arborists will work on street tree pruning next. Director Rossi also announced the Fire Department's Chipper Day, slated to take place on Saturday, May 13, 2025 at the Ruxton and Capitol Hill area.

2. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB)

3. Council Liaison

Council Liaison, Natalie Johnson, reported that the property at 0 Beckers Lane along the creek was not rezoned as park, and it will remain open space. The Council voted not to rezone it, primarily to keep it safe for wildlife.

Vice Chair Bresnahan argued that two citizen advisory boards voted to rezone the property. He stated that he is surprised that the Council would vote against rezoning it to park and added that business owners in the area worry about what will happen to the area if it is not officially utilized.

Council Liaison Johnson agreed to raise the issue again in the future.

Council Liaison Johnson also commented that there is a widespread issue with dog waste not being properly picked up.

4. Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)

A. No approved minutes available

There was nothing to report regarding OSAC.

VII. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1. Director's Report

Director Rossi reported on the following:

- On Wednesday, the playground equipment will be delivered by a large crane. Park Avenue will be difficult to traverse. Therefore, there will be a detour route.
- Middle school students involved in the Concrete Couch Fab Lab, an after-school arts club, are refurbishing the Little Library in Schryver Park.
- Irrigation systems are being reactivated, and any identified leaks are being repaired in preparation for the season.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for new additional funding for Manizoo repairs

Director Rossi presented the estimates for repairs to the Manizoo playground. For each of the 18 sections, it will cost \$430. She requested that the board provide information on the number of sections it would be able to fund this year and noted that last year, PARAB approved \$900 for section three. She added that the other sections are less expensive because not as many tiles need to be replaced. There are two sections in need of repair right away. For this year, Director Rossi is asking PARAB to fund \$430 to repair section two, only.

Board Member Johnson moved to approve allocating \$430 to the city Parks and Recreation department to initiate repairs on section two of the Manizoo, which is located in Memorial Park. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Bresnahan. The motion was carried (6-0).

2. Renaming the Flats Overlook Park to Bear Brothers (Overlook) (Cultural) Park / Request to Council

There was a general consensus that the name should be Bear Brothers Park, not Bear Brothers Cultural Park.

Board Member Craig commented that the cultural premise of the two brothers is there, but the addition of the word "cultural" implies that more cultural art elements be present.

Chair Fatt suggested postponing the discussion.

3. Memorial Tree Application / Diane Fitzkee

There was a discussion regarding possible locations for the memorial tree, in which PARAB considered Wheeler Park and Soda Springs Park. It was determined that Chair Fatt and Vice Chair Bresnahan would inspect potential locations for the tree.

4. Ideas to identify existing and future Memorial Trees

There was a brief discussion about labeling memorial trees, in which it was determined that the city would continue with the use of a plaque or rock.

Chair Fatt stated that she will do some investigating into the number and placement of the existing memorial trees, as well as costs, and report back to PARAB.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. New Art Installations along Creekwalk, 0 Beckers Ln.

Vice Chair Bresnahan commented that without 0 Beckers Lane rezoned to park, the matter of installing art along the Creekwalk in the area is moot.

Director Rossi reported that Creative Alliance Manitou Springs (CRANE) quoted \$90 to reprint each of the art walk pieces that were vandalized. She added that they do not have a commitment from CRANE that they are willing to reprint the vandalized pieces.

The consensus was that PARAB is willing to fund the remaking of the vandalized pieces.

Vice Chair Bresnahan stated that he will reach out to Audrey Gray with CRANE to discuss the matter.

Board Member Grow suggested that the board write a letter of support to create a soft trail that connects lower Crystal Hills Boulevard to Bill Bauers Park.

Director Rossi shared that she is collecting opinions from the community on the creation of such a trail.

Board Member Grow agreed to write a letter of support on behalf of PARAB.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing left to discuss, Board Member Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Grow. The motion was carried (6-0).
The meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.