



**CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**
Regular Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Zoom
June 2, 2025

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Fatt called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Chair Danu Fatt
Board Member David Crawford
Board Member Anthony Lane
Board Member Rebecca Wood
Alternate Board Member Candace Craig

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Tim Bresnahan (Excused)
Board Member Christina Grow (Excused)
Board Member Colin McAllister (Not Excused)
Alternate Board Member Jan Johnson (Excused)

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve the agenda with an amendment to include a discussion of the funding of new art in Fields Park to be placed under Section G, Old Business. The motion was seconded by Board Member Crawford. The motion was carried (4-0).

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Minutes from PARAB May 5, 2025

Board Member Crawford moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lane. The motion was carried (4-0).

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please limit your comments to 3 minutes)

Executive Director Audrey Gray of Creative Alliance Manitou Springs (CRANE) reported that the Manizoo tile repairs have been progressing slowly due to rain.

E. REPORTS (5 minutes)

1. Arborist Report

As the Manitou Springs Parks Department still has not secured a permanent arborist, Parks and Recreation Director Gillian Rossi provided the arborist report. She stated that the neighborhood chipping project will begin on June 3, 2025.

2. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB)

a. Pickleball / Tennis Court (Alternate Board Member Johnson)

Since Alternate Board Member Johnson was not in attendance, PARAB did not discuss this item.

Chair Fatt asked whether the interim arborist, Aaron Reynard, had any trees that could be used for memorial trees. Director Rossi agreed to investigate.

Chair Fatt reported that the turf in Soda Springs Park is yellow and inquired about the possibility of reseeding or revitalizing it. Director Rossi reported that Timberline Landscaping is aware of the problem and agreed to send Chair Fatt an update.

3. Council Liaison

Council Liaison Johnson was not in attendance, so there was no discussion.

4. Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)

There were no approved minutes from OSAC.

F. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1. Director's Report

Director Rossi reported that the fence for Soda Springs Park, is now informally scheduled for delivery on June 13, 2025.

The Hiawatha Gardens group requested to present at PARAB's next meeting in July. However, that is the day of PARAB's budget meeting. Director Rossi stated that she would check with the group to see if they would agree to present in August, instead.

Director Rossi inquired whether PARAB is interested in taking the failed 0 Beckers Lane rezoning back to the Council for reconsideration. Director Rossi explained that rezoning the property as a "park" would mean that it could be repurposed for such things as a playground or a paved recreational court. Keeping the property designated as "open space" would still allow it to be cleaned up, provided with bench seating, and sprinkled with artwork. Attending PARAB members expressed satisfaction in leaving it as open space for now, provided that the space is eventually cleaned up and formalized for human enjoyment.

Chair Fatt relayed the idea from Alternate Board Member Johnson of having cigarette dispensers attached to the garbage receptacles in the park, as stray butts have been

sighted. Director Rossi reiterated that there is no smoking allowed in any of Manitou's parks. The topic is not necessarily closed; however, she expressed concern that installing dispensers might send a message that conflicts with the official park rules and cater to rule-breakers.

There was a discussion about adding pickleball lines on the remaining tennis court. Board Members Lane, Wood, and Alternate Craig were all opposed to the hybridized court because tennis players would likely feel pressure from pickleball players to vacate their court early. Board Member Crawford and Chair Fatt did not have strong opinions. At the request of Board Member Wood, Director Rossi agreed to bring cost information to the next regular meeting.

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Memorial Tree proposed planting at Soda Springs Park Update

Chair Fatt reported speaking with Mia Requesens, Landscape Architect at Hord Coplan Macht, concerning the placement of the memorial tree and decided on Soda Springs Park. If the city arborist has no more available trees, then Chair Fatt suggested an Early Glow Ohio Buckeye tree. The location for the proposed memorial tree is number 5 on the map of Soda Springs Park in the agenda packet, page 7. All members of PARAB were satisfied with the proposed location.

2. Letter of Support for Building New Trail Along Open Space/Bill Bauers Park Access

Board Member Grow wrote the support letter on behalf of PARAB, included in the agenda packet, pages 8 to 9. The board expressed its satisfaction with the letter and the consensus was to have Board Member Grow submit it to Council. Director Rossi shared that the City Council will conduct a work session concerning this new trail on June 10 and suggested that a representative from PARAB attend this session. Chair Fatt offered to ask Board Member Grow to represent PARAB at the session.

3. Request for Funding of Art Displays in Fields Park

Executive Director Gray reported that CRANE will cover the costs of replacing the front sides of the Fields Park art displays that were vandalized. She requested \$1,958 to pay for the artwork on the reverse sides of six double-sided displays. The request was not limited to the artwork that was vandalized.

Board Member Crawford made a motion to allocate \$1,958 for the printing of artwork on the reverse sides of the displays. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lane. The motion carried (4-0).

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Install New Plaque for Raul Maynez at The Fountain of Youth / Mansions Park

In 2001, Raul Maynez (now deceased), who worked for Manitou Springs, dedicated a Fountain of Youth in honor of Colorado children who lost their lives. The original dedication plaque has long since disappeared. In 2015, his daughter requested a replacement; however, this was never accomplished. Chair Fatt advocated replacing the plaque and posed a question for Executive Director Gray of CRANE about remaking and securing it more permanently. She replied that it would not be expensive to remake the plaque. Chair Fatt and Executive Director Gray agreed to meet to discuss the matter further.

I. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Schedule Special July Budget Session

Chair Fatt proposed to hold the budget meeting on July 7, 2025. Those PARAB members in attendance agreed to this date and a start time of 5:30 PM.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fatt moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lane. The motion was carried (4-0).
The meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

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