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KEIZER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA

Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 6:00 PM
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
930 Chemawa Road NE
Keizer, Oregon

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. June 2026
- 3. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED PERSONS**
- 4. PARKS REPORTS**
 - a. Tanya Hamilton ~ Meadows | Hidden Creek
Gwen Carr ~ Claggett Creek | Chalmers-Jones
David Loudon ~ Ben Miller | Northridge
Jill Gust ~ Northview | Mike Whittam
Lisa Cejka ~ Palma Ciea | Sunset
All ~ Keizer Rapids Park
- 5. NEW/OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Parks Tour (a List of Previously Toured Parks is attached) ~ Choose the 2026 Parks to Visit
- 6. STAFF REPORT**
- 7. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**
- 8. MEMBER REPORTING TO COUNCIL: JILL GUST ON JULY 20TH - 6PM**

9. NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 11TH

10. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES KEIZER PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, June 9, 2026
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
930 Chemawa Road NE
Keizer, Oregon

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Matt Lawyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present:

Matt Lawyer, Chair
Lisa Cejka, Vice Chair
Gwen Carr
Michael Pantalone
Clay Rushton
David Loudon
Jill Gust

Youth Liaison Present:

Liam Stitt

Staff Present:

Robert Johnson, Parks Division Manager
Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder
Adam Brown, City Manager

Absent:

Tanya Hamilton
Bob Shackelford

Council Liaison Present:

Councilor Parsons

2. **APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

- a. **April 2026** Mike Pantalone moved for approval of the April 2026 Minutes. Lisa Cejka seconded. Motion unanimously passed as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Carr, Rushton, Loudon, Lawyer, and Gust in favor with Hamilton and Shackelford absent.

3. **APPEARANCE OF
INTERESTED
PERSONS** Lore Christopher, Keizer, requested that the neighborhood parks in various states of completion be kept open in the Parks Master Plan, address each of those parks, and work with the neighborhood associations. She suggested expanding the Parks Master Plan timeline and to have some general guidelines for uses in the neighborhood parks, such as having parks standards for gardens, hard surfaces for play structures, shading, security cameras, and address safety concerns. She requested that upgrades to the parks be done at one time to save costs.

Rachel Navarro, Keizer, had concern about Ben Miller Park regarding the parking. She appreciated the cameras that were installed today. Vehicles

were parking inside the park rather than on the street, creating safety concerns for children using the park.

Chair Lawyer suggested installing boulders. Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson noted that with the cameras up, they could review the recordings to better determine where the biggest issues were. Ms. Navarro felt that installing two-hour parking signs would be very helpful. Chair Lawyer asked for the Police Department to educate folks in the park as much as possible.

Chair Lawyer asked about using the school's parking after hours.

Rhonda Rich, President of West Keizer Neighborhood Association, expressed interest in hearing tonight's discussion about the Parks Master Plan discussion and hoped that the Parks Recreation and Advisory Board would hold its position on having the indoor activities facility would be in Area B where the dog park was, and then relocating the dog park in Keizer Rapids Park.

Ms. Rich requested having a map included for Keizer Rapids Park by showing where the indoor facility, dog park, and sports fields would be located when the Parks Master Plan was updated. She said that Willamette Manor Park needed updates to the surface and play structure. She suggested having Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) play structures and covered picnic areas in all of the parks. She offered to be involved with the Master Plan for all of the parks.

Carolyn Homan read some comments submitted by Ellen Marsh, Keizer. Comments included concern for cost and upkeep to maintain a pavilion, a large structure would negatively change the ambiance of the park, the loss of green space, enforcement of park hours, and there would be more noise and traffic.

4. PARKS REPORTS

- a. **Mike Pantalone ~ Country Glen and Willamette Manor** Mike Pantalone reported that Country Glen looked good, and Willamette Manor looked amazing.

Clay Rushton reported that Clearlake and Bair looked great.

Clay Rushton ~ Clearlake and Bair

Chair Matt Lawyer gave a huge shout-out to City Manager Adam Brown and Assistant City Manager Tim Wood for phase II of Ryan J. Hill to cover the base of the monument and install some nice kiosk signs and flags. He appreciated the four deer that he recently saw at Wallace House.

Bob Shackelford ~ Bob Newton and Keizer Little League

Liam Stitt reported that he attended the KeizerFEST at Keizer Rapids Park and had a very nice time, he ate, and went on some rides.

Chair Matt Lawyer ~ Ryan J. Hill and

Lisa Cejka shared that Trashy Tuesday would be held the following Tuesday

Wallace House at Keizer Rapids Park near the boat ramp and invited everyone to attend.

**All ~ Keizer
Rapids Park**

**5. NEW/OLD
BUSINESS**

- a. Map of Northridge Park ~ Access Points** Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson shared about the map of Northridge Park and the access points. The green was the land the City owns and red was the access points.

Mr. Johnson noted that the City doesn't have access to get to Waremart and there wasn't an access point off of Verda between a couple of houses that had a very steep drop to get down to the park. He noted that there were two parcels separated by a gap and swampy terrain.

City Manager Brown said that the advantage was that there could be access from the bridge up to Chemawa if the City could secure access easements over a couple properties.

Based upon past experience with Wallace House, it was known that one access was opened up and natural trails were built, homeless camps can develop because of the seclusion. It was noted that there were safety concerns for the livelihood of folks maneuvering and getting stuck in the spongy areas.

- b. New Policy for Committees, Boards, and Commissions to Apply for Grants** Chair Lawyer shared the new policy for Committees, Boards, and Commissions could apply for grants by making recommendations to the City Council.

- c. Parks Master Plan Revision** Chair Lawyer noted that since implementation of the Parks Services Fee, which was estimated to generate approximately \$500,000 annually, 43 action items have been completed. These accomplishments, documented in four pages of work, included hiring staff, replacing vehicles and lawnmowers, and constructing two turf fields at Keizer Rapids Park. He emphasized the importance of highlighting the significant amount of work and maintenance made possible through the fee.

Chair Lawyer shared that there was an unintentional meeting and quorum Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members having conversation about the Parks Master Plan. Chair Lawyer clarified that the earlier conversation was intended only as an opportunity to gauge interest in a broader future discussion regarding the Parks Master Plan. Chair Lawyer acknowledged that the discussion may have unintentionally caused Parks Board members to feel uncomfortable.

Chair Lawyer stated that no recommendation had been made beyond the recommendation adopted by the Parks Board in April and that no additional discussions occurred among board members, except for a conversation with the Vice Chair regarding whether to request a special meeting, which they agreed was unnecessary. Chair Lawyer emphasized that the purpose of the discussion was simply to acknowledge that conversation occurred and to understand interest in a potential future discussion, not to influence outcomes.

Chair Lawyer shared a proposal for additional information to the Keizer Rapids Parks Master Plan that was handed out during the meeting. He suggested that the Parks Board would need to agree about the Keizer Rapids Park accomplishments, and proposed having a robust community conversation to identify ongoing maintenance and operational needs of the parks, as well as potential future amenities in each of the parks. He recommended having a Joint Parks Board Task Force with City staff. He would like to resurrect the Parks Survey in the back of the handout to provide data.

The idea of the process was to understand the must-haves, nice-to-haves, and things not needed in the system. Then staff could return with a plan. He felt it was important to be very practical and thoughtful about setting an expectation of delivery and understand that the parks budget was still limited.

Jill Gust liked the wording of the proposal that Chair Lawyer produced.

Mike Pantalone thought the proposal was a great idea and the right way to go.

Lisa Cejka thought the proposal was great and would like to get community members to come to meetings to tell the Parks Board what they wanted.

Chair Lawyer asked Liam Stitt to be the youth liaison on the Task Force because he was very thoughtful and asked such great questions—and that it was super important to have youth participation.

Gwen Carr supported the proposal.

Liam Stitt really liked the idea.

There was a consensus of support for the proposal.

Rhonda Rich suggested putting comment boxes in the parks when the town halls were happening and really publicizing an outreach to receive wish lists.

Carolyn Homan felt that the neighborhood associations could help get the

word out about the surveys.

Councilor Parsons commented on going to the parks and talking with folks to get great survey participation

Mr. Johnson encouraged members to review the Parks Master Plan again to refamiliarize themselves with its contents should they choose to revisit the discussion.

Mr. Brown felt that the proposal was the right thing to do and take advantage of the Parks Master Plan being open.

Mike Pantalone moved to suspend the rules to take up the matter. Lisa Cejka seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Carr, Rushton, Loudon, Lawyer, and Gust in favor with Hamilton and Shackelford absent.

Lisa Cejka moved that the Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommend to the Keizer City Council, that the Parks Master Plan review other parks in the park system before having the City Council approve amendments to the current plan and establish the Joint Parks Task Force that may include City Manager Adam Brown, Mayor Cathy Clark, additional Council member, Parks Chair Matt Lawyer, Parks Vice Chair Lisa Cejka, Parks Board Member Tanya Hamilton, and Liaison Liam Stitt and adopt the plan for recommended discussion. Gwen Carr seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Cejka, Pantalone, Carr, Rushton, Loudon, Lawyer, and Gust in favor with Hamilton and Shackelford absent.

6. STAFF REPORT

Parks Division Manager Robert Johnson shared that they plan to install the shade sails this week, the splash pad fountain would be open soon and run Wednesday through Sunday when it's forecasted to be over 75 degrees, and an upcoming event would be in the Keizer Rapids Park. The weekend parks' reservations were really high. They were almost done with Bob Newton Park updates, and only surfacing was remaining. They had been planting trees as usual in case other trees don't make it.

7. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilor Parsons reported that the graffiti program at McNary High School had been discontinued. She indicated that neighborhood associations would assist with outreach, track graffiti locations, and communicate with community person regarding graffiti abatement.

Chair Lawyer shared how enjoyable the Soggy Day in the Park was and expressed appreciation for everyone who helped with the event.

Mr. Johnson noted that Public Works Day would be June 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Keizer Rapids Park.

8. MEMBER

Chair Lawyer or Lisa Cejka would report to Council on June 15th.

**REPORTING TO
COUNCIL: Clay
Rushton on June
15th at 6pm**

9. NEXT MEETING: It was noted that the next meeting would be on July 14th.
July 14th

10. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at: 7:52 p.m.

Minutes approved: _____

PARKS TOURS

2017: Country Glen, KLL, Mike Whittam, Claggett, Rickman & Skate Park

2018: KRP, Meadows and Hill

2019 was cancelled due to weather

2020 was cancelled due to Covid (Claggett, Northview, KLL & Bob Newton)

2021 Spring: Chalmers-Jones, Willamette Manor, Wallace House

2021 Fall: Claggett Creek, Northview, Palma Ciega

2022: Palma Ciega, Keizer Rapids, Bair Park

2023: Keizer Rapids Park, Ben Miller Family Park, Bob Newton Family Park

2024: Keizer Rapids Park, Ryan J. Hill Memorial Park, and Keizer Little League Park

2025: Keizer Rapids Park, Wallace House Park, and Bob Newton Family Park

2026: Northridge Park (per 04/14/2026 meeting)