



**Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting  
Minutes**

**January 12, 2026 5:30 PM  
Council Chambers  
400 N. Douty St.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Blackwell called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Absent:</b>
Parks and Recreation Commissioner Joseph Castaneda Parks and Recreation Commissioner Carolyn Hudgins Parks and Recreation Commissioner Gregory Kelley Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sheldon Blackwell Parks and Recreation Commissioner Santiago Rodriguez	Parks and Recreation Commissioner Judy Scott

**INVOCATION:**

*To be led by Commissioner Rodriguez.*

Commissioner Rodriguez led the invocation.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

Chair Blackwell led the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*This is the time for citizens to comment on subject matters not on the agenda and that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. This is also the public's opportunity to request an item from the Consent Calendar be pulled for discussion purposes or to comment on any item on the agenda. A maximum of three minutes is allowed for each speaker. Please begin your comments by stating your name and providing your city of residence.*

NONE

**COMMISSION REORGANIZATION – SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:**

Director Albert let the commission know it was time to nominate Chair and Vice-Chair and that the nomination would take effect immediately after approval.

Chair Kelley nominated Commissioner Scott as Chair.

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** PASSED  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** Joseph Castaneda  
**AYES:** Joseph Castaneda, Gregory Kelley, Caryolyn Hudgins, Sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

Chair Kelley nominated Commissioner Blackwell as Vice-Chair.

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** PASSED  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** Joseph Castaneda  
**AYES:** Joseph Castaneda, Gregory Kelley, Caryolyn Hudgins, Sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

Commissioner Scott was absent at the meeting. Therefore, Vice-Chair Blackwell continued to lead the meeting.

## CONSENT CALENDAR:

*Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a request is made and then the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar to be discussed and voted upon by a separate motion.*

### A. Approval of the October 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** Passed (UNANIMOUS)  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** Joseph Castaneda  
**AYES:** Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, Gregory Kelley, Sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

### B. Approval of the November 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** Passed (UNANIMOUS)  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** Joseph Castaneda  
**AYES:** Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, Gregory Kelley, sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

## DIVISION UPDATES:

Chair Blackwell allowed Marketing/Sponsorship updates be moved from A to C, as requested by Director Albert. The rest of the presentations remained in original order.

### A. Sports Complex Updates

Sports Coordinator Austin Payne presented the Sports Complex Updates.

- Monthly Tournament Updates
- Toys for Tots Toy Drive - December 12th
- Over 360 Toys Collected
- YAC Complex - mowing and over-seeding
- Adult League Spring Sign Ups Opened
- Upcoming tournament review

All questions were addressed by Sports Coordinator Austin Payne.

### B. Parks Updates

Parks Manager Levi Winebrenner provided the parks updates.

- Weed Abatement & Spraying
- Plunge repair and back fill
- Drinking Fountian replacements Measure H
- Serviced Industrial and 3rd St Buffers

- YAC Basin field renovation
- Amtrak Parking Lot
- Winter Wonderland Prep
- Helping Hands 2025 Recap - hours of service + 11 locations served

All questions were addressed by Parks Manager Winebrenner.

### C. Marketing/Sponsorship Updates

Recreation Coordinator Brittany Parreira provided the marketing updates and answered all questions.

- Storytime with Santa - over 100 attended
- Sponsor was Rosa Brothers Milk Co

### D. Events and Program Updates

Recreation Manager Adam Ramos provided the Events and Program Updates.

- Total Winter Wonderland staff: 53 employees
- Ice Rink Managers: Eddie Diaz, Carrie Miller and Yasmin Torres
- Recreation Leader III: Carmina Leyva and Denita Lloyd
- Winter Camp Updates: 85 students / 11 Scholarships provided
- Superhero Breakfast: 48 tickets sold
- Enchanted Princess Breakfast: 130 tickets sold
- Upcoming event plans
- Program Coordinator offer of employment scheduled
- Ice Rink drainage - addressed by Deputy Public Works Director Alvin Dias, Director Albert, and Parks Manager Levi Winebrenner.

Recreation Manager Adam Ramos addressed all other questions.

### E. Directors Updates

Director Albert Provided the Directors Updates.

- YAC Concession Building Project Updates
- Agreement with Hanford Youth Baseball Underway
- 10th Avenue Softball Fields - Costs being finalized to request an appropriation of funding
- Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) - Draft plan to be taken to Council for review and final adoption
- Possibly July 4th event at the Hanford Softball Complex or Civic Park

There was a lot of discussion and Director Albert addressed all questions.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### A. Update on the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Foundation

The Commission reached a consensus to table the item until the February 2026 meeting, so Commissioner Scott can be present for the update.

Commissioner Kelley made a motion to table the item until the February 2026 meeting.

Motion to table

**RESULT:** PASSED  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** Carolyn Hudgins  
**AYES:** Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, Gregory Kelley, Sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

## B. Introduction to the Draft Urban Forest Master Plan

Dudek Urban Forest Planner Kevin Cullinen presented an introduction to the Draft Urban Forest Master Plan.

Mr. Cullinen provided an overview of the draft plan for the Commission's review and collective discussion. During the review, necessary revisions were identified.

The Commission engaged in extensive discussion, and Mr. Cullinen responded to comments, concerns, and questions from the Commissioners.

## C. Tree Permit Request - 1821 Easy St

Parks Manager Levi Winebrenner presented the Tree Permit request. .

- The tree has recently begun to drop major branches.
- The tree is located between two homes and could negatively impact either home should a branch fall on either home.
- Tree appears to be in declining health, given its appearance compared to recent Street View photos
- Possible impacts if not approved
- Potential for self-pruning of branches and causing hazards
- Damage to one or both homes
- Recommendation to approve

Commissioner Kelley made a motion to remove and replace the tree.

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** Failed  
**MOVER:** Gregory Kelley  
**SECONDER:** None  
**AYES:** Gregory Kelley  
**NAYS:** Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodrigez

Commissioner Hudgins made a motion to table the tree permit request.

Motion to Approve

**RESULT:** Failed  
**MOVER:** Carolyn Hudgins  
**SECONDER:** None  
**AYES:** Carolyn Hudgins  
**NAYS:** Joseph Castaneda, Carolyn Hudgins, Sheldon Blackwell, Santiago Rodriguez

Following considerable discussion between the Commission and the Parks Division, the Commission reached a consensus to table the tree permit request until the February meeting pending receipt of an arborist's report and assessment.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

## ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Chair Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM.

