

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
October 16, 2025

- 1) **Meeting called to order** by Taylor Hildenbrand at 4:00 p.m. at the MAC, Parks and Recreation Administration, 2733 Marilyn Williams Drive, Edmond, Oklahoma. The agenda for this meeting was posted in City Hall on October 16, 2025, at 2:01 p.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members present: Taylor Hildenbrand, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Chris Anderson, Gena Money (in later), and Ashley Bradley. Edmond's Director of Public Art, Cinda Covell, was present. Parks and Recreation staff present: Brad Raney, Frank Hale, and Cheryl Tettleton.
Absent: Gary Bartley, Laura Robertson, Jerel Cowan, and Anthony Rose
- 2) **Introduction of New Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member.** Ashley Bradley was introduced, and she made a few comments about her personal history and her interests related to parks.
- 3) **Consideration of Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2025.** Chris Anderson motioned to approve the minutes; Earl London seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
AYES: Taylor Hildenbrand, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Chris Anderson, and Ashley Bradley
NAYS: None
- 4) **Discussion and Consideration of a Draft Agreement with PBAY SFM, LLC to Operate and Manage the Pelican Bay Aquatic Center.** Presented by Brad Raney. Except for one season, Sports Facilities Management (SFM) has operated and managed Pelican Bay since 2015. Their most recent five-year agreement expires this year, so an RFP was issued to allow other vendors an opportunity. Four responses were received, with two deemed as qualified. Of those, SFM was the lower cost option. They are knowledgeable and run a variety of sports facilities around the country. Pelican Bay has been very successful under their management. We pay them a monthly fee, 20% of any sponsorship sales, and 20% of any annual net operating income over and above \$150,000. At the mention of sponsorship sales, the recent asset valuation contract with Superlative was brought up by board members. Brad said Council approved the agreement at their most recent meeting, and that Park Tax will pay \$15,000 of the cost, with Water Resources, Fire, and the City Manager's office paying the rest. (Gena Money came in at 4:09 p.m.) Our portion of Pelican Bay's profits gets rolled back in maintaining the facility. Saundra Naifeh motioned to support the agreement; Rick Smith seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**
AYES: Taylor Hildenbrand, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Chris Anderson, Gena Money, and Ashley Bradley
NAYS: None
- 5) **Update and Discussion about the E.C. Hafer Park Pond Deck Pavilion.** Presented by Frank Hale. We have received schematic designs, and architect David Brewer is working on cost estimates. The design provides for two levels of deck, with an ADA-compliant ramp to connect them. Panels along the railings are anticipated to be made of a clear material. The cost estimates will impact whether the project can be completed now or phased with critical improvements first. The project was originally planned for purchase through the Park Tax reserves but we may try fund it through the CIP fund.

Taylor suspended the agenda order to allow early citizen comments due to a time consideration. Cinda Covell of Art Edmond informed the board that Edmond would be receiving, at no cost, one of fifty-one centennial commemoration Route 66 Shield art pieces. The pieces are made of steel and are 72" tall and 22" deep and are customized for each town that receives one. Multiple locations for placement of Edmond's shield were toured today. Fink Park is a top contender. They will take this to the Visit Edmond board for consideration on October 21 and then to City Council for approval.

Mike Scharrer participated in collecting signatures in the ballot initiative for purchasing what is now known as the Charles D. Lamb Nature Preserve and expressed concern about a lack of progress and updates. Taylor said the item would be discussed in the Updates section and suggested he hold comments until then.

- 6) **Discussion and Consideration to Select a Board Member to Serve as a Non-voting Liaison to the KickingBird Golf Advisory Board.** Taylor Hildenbrand has been serving as the interim liaison. New board member Ashley Bradley expressed an interest and willingness to take on this role. Saundra Naifeh nominated Ashley to serve as the new liaison; Chris Anderson seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**

AYES: Taylor Hildenbrand, Saundra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Chris Anderson, Gena Money, and Ashley Bradley

NAYS: None

- 7) **Updates and Discussion of Parks & Recreation Activity Reports and Projects, including:**
Presented by Brad Raney and Frank Hale.

- **A.C. Caplinger** – Final settlement of \$165K for trash export/soil import will be on the next Council agenda. The project is expected to be basically complete by December/January but will have to wait until spring to complete planting. Outfield sod is going in for some fields in the next few weeks.
- **Pelican Bay** – Many parts of the project are working simultaneously, and they are sticking to the established timeline. The budgeted amount was only for the base contract and didn't provide for any change orders. The plumbing is worse than planned and will need additional work. A budget adjustment will be on the next Council agenda to prepare for the expected change orders. The subcontractor is being very attentive to detail to be sure all leaks are found and addressed now.
- **Chitwood Park & Barnett Field** – Frank participated in the Walk & Roll to School Day for Ida Freeman to get additional ideas and feedback from kids and parents.
- **Westborough Park** – Working on color selection for playground equipment.
- **Mitch Park Master Plan** – Survey is currently open. They were at Tenttober to survey attendees. A link to the website will be sent to board members after this meeting.
- **Hafer Park Projects** – See Item 5 above.
- **Lamb Nature Preserve** – Design is at 65%. Required geotechnical boring is occurring soon for bridge location. A path needs to be cut for trucks to access this area, but efforts will be made to try to align this with the expected trail. We have been awarded the \$800K LWCF grant but must conduct an archaeological/cultural resource survey prior to receiving the funds. A budget amendment will be on an upcoming Council agenda to pay \$21K for the survey. Funds available from the temporary tax are about \$1.5 million, so the additional grant funds will be a significant boost. It does, however, require us to work on their timeline, which is slowing the project. It will likely be fall

of 2026 before construction can begin. Frank provides monthly updates to Edmond Land Conservancy (ELC). He has shown them an overview of trail layout. The intention is to align with the naturally beaten path that already exists. ELC agreed that it was worth the additional time required to receive the grant funds.

- **KickingBird Pickleball** – The structural engineer is requesting additional aluminum strapping. Outdoor courts are busy, and people appear to be parking where they are supposed to.
- **Edmond Trail Projects** – The Northwest Connector (Spring Creek to 2nd St) is expected to begin construction in January, overseen by ODOT. The city received an additional \$2 million in ODOT grant funding for this trail, which means the city's cost will be minimal.
- **Liaison Reports** –
 - Park Conservancy – Sandra noted there were two new appointees. She also said a lot of work is going on at Uncommon Ground.
 - Golf Advisory – Taylor said golf will be asking Council for a budget amendment to pay for some facility upgrades. They feel they have the funds, as revenue from golf rounds is 15% more than their budget estimation, and they also previously would teach about 500 rounds of instruction per year but are running at about 2,600 now.
 - Arcadia Lake – Rick was not at the last meeting, but Earl mentioned that lake is gearing up for the annual Storybook Forest event.
- **Board Strategic Planning** – Taylor has planned for a subcommittee or special board meeting on Wednesday, November 5 or Saturday, November 8 to develop new board goals. Members will be asked to submit their wish to participate and date preference to Cheryl and/or Taylor so any legally required public notice can be published/posted.

8) **Citizen Comments.** Mike Sharrer would like more updates about the Charles Lamb Nature Preserve to be posted – maybe in the Oklahoma Voice or Journal Record. NonDoc reporter Faithanna Olsson was in attendance and was introduced to Mr. Sharrer as a representative of the local press. Mr. Sharrer suggested a regular Parks newsletter be sent to interested individuals – something like what Urban Forestry provides. He also mentioned concern that ODOT management of the northwest connector trail would result in an over-designed project like the Rt. 66 trail they built.

9) **Comments from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair and Members.** None.

10) **Adjournment.** Rick Smith motioned for adjournment of the meeting at 5:12 p.m.; Gena Money seconded the motion. **Motion carried as follows:**

AYES: Taylor Hildenbrand, Sandra Naifeh, Earl London, Rick Smith, Chris Anderson, Gena Money, and Ashley Bradley

NAYS: None



Chair, Taylor Hildenbrand
or Vice Chair, Gary Bartley