

## MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
JULY 21, 2025

HYBRID MEETING  
FLAGSTAFF AQUAPLEX  
AND [MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)  
1702 N. FOURTH STREET  
4:00 P.M.

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

### 2. Roll Call

*NOTE: One or more Commissioners may be in attendance through other technological means.*

Chair Stephen Parsons - Present

Commissioner Neil Frazier - Present

Vice Chair Austin Kerr - Present

Commissioner Autumn Layden-McLeod - Not Present

Commissioner Jill Christensen - Present

Commissioner Josh Stackhouse - Present

Commissioner Camile Diab - Present (virtual)

Councilmember Rep: Anthony Garcia - Present (virtual)

Staff Present: Rebecca Sayers, Amy Hagin, Tyrone Johnson, Haley Reynolds, Lori Reynolds

### 3. Land Acknowledgement

The Flagstaff Parks and Recreation Commission humbly acknowledges the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

### 4. Approval of June 16, 2025 Minutes

### 5. Public Comment

Chair Parsons called for public comment on any items not on the agenda. There were no comments or requests.

### 6. Discussion Items

#### A. Staff recap of the July 4th Drone Show Special Event

Amy Hagin shared with the commission details of this year's July 4th drone show event. The drone show operator arrived at the launch site, Coconino High School around 2:30 PM and the rest of the PROSE team arrived around 4 PM. PROSE staff worked with Flagstaff Unified School District (FUSD) to confirm things on the launch site, making final adjustments per the request of the drone vendor. Amy added that the PROSE team had a briefing with the police department at 7 PM to discuss the impact to patrolling traffic. Programming for the event was held at the Aquaplex and Hal Jensen Recreation Center. Jay Lively Activity Center also hosted viewers, but they were directed to walk further up on the mesa to be able to see the drone show.

Commissioners provided PROSE staff with general feedback from their own experiences at the drone show and some feedback they heard from other viewers within the community. Councilmember Garcia mentioned that there was a common question that he heard from viewers at his viewing area, the BMX park in Sunnyside, whether the music playing on the radio was meant to go with the drone show. Chair Parsons asked if PROSE staff were taking any feedback from the public on the show. Amy replied that while they have not solicited the community for feedback, they have seen the comments of many social media postings which have provided a fair amount of feedback on the event. She also addressed the comment on the event's audio and added that the

sound recording was meant to be heard live, through the radio. If it was not heard through the radio and a streaming device was used instead, there would be an audio delay.

For any future drone events, Amy said that there was still an after-action meeting to be held with the Flagstaff Police Department and Economic Vitality in August which would provide more feedback. She is also aware of the need to look into a park and ride component of the event for future years.

The commissioners shared their appreciation for the event and the ability of the PROSE team to pull off this new even with only a few months to prepare.

## **B. FY 25 - 26 Capital Project Review**

Amy Hagin provided the commission with an overview of projects that have been funded for this fiscal year and those that are currently in progress. She shared with the commission a breakdown of fiscal year projects on the television monitor in the conference room for the commission to view. The first item shown was the master plan project for PROSE. She said that as the master plan project progressed in development, there will be more interaction with the Parks and Recreation Commission, including focus groups and outreach within the community. For the time being, that project remains at the staff level as they navigate the process of requesting a proposal of solicitation for work on the master plan. She confirmed that this would be a brand-new master plan as the previous one completed was only for parks and recreation and did not include open spaces or events and marketing.

### **Carry Forward Items:**

- **Parks:**
  - Parking canopy for the park's fleet vehicles.
  - Sidewalk repair in Thorpe Park for ADA compliance.
- **Recreation:**
  - A specialty piece of fleet equipment for Jay Lively Activity Center, a new zamboni.
  - Carry forward for funding needed to cover July 4th events.
- **Events:**
  - Receiving a 40K transfer for special event equipment rentals from Emergency Management Program.
- **Open Space:**
  - Grant items being carried forward for their projects.

### **Newly Budgeted Items for FY26:**

- **Parks:**
  - Thorpe Park Annex - 100K has been spent on mitigation items needed. There are some funds left in the budget for this FY to cover remaining mitigation projects to be completed this year.
  - Bushmaster Park Sports Courts - completing new construction this year.
  - Heritage Park restroom project includes 250K that was a carry forward from the previous fiscal year. This project is currently in the design proposal process to determine what the cost will be to redesign the restrooms.
  - Phase two for the building that was the former public works yard. Amy shared that they have around 200K to put towards the facility and that they are looking into working with an indigenous contracted group, and the city's Indigenous Commission, that could help them identify how to use the money in support of the facility.
  - Cheshire Park expansion project - 1.5 million has been allocated for the future running track and multi-purpose field.
  - Highland Mesa Park
- **Recreation:**
  - Hal Jensen Recreation Center has a remaining 150K for design and installation of a new AC system. They are currently under contract for the design. Both the design and installation are expected to be completed this year.

## C. Update on Parks and Recreation Month Events at Recreation Centers

Tyrone Johnson, Recreation Manager, shared an update with the commission on the progress of various events happening at the recreation centers for July's Parks and Recreation Month.

- Touch-a-Truck at Coconino High School had 38 vehicles present with over 1200 people in participation. Tyrone mentioned that they had a great variety of vehicles present, and they hope to be able to expand the event next year and make it a signature July event.
- Aquaplex pool party consisted of various games, rock painting, face painting, and an all-abilities obstacle course in partnership with Special Olympics. The Aquaplex staff built raised garden beds that kids got to add their painted hand prints to. There were around 1500 in attendance.
- Summer Luau at Jay Lively Activity Center invited participants to show off their Hawaiian-themed clothing while hitting the ice to cool off. There was also a beginner hockey class for adults held at the rink.
- Upcoming Events:
  - Open house at the Joe C. Montoya Community and Senior Center on July 26, 2025 from 10am - 2pm. They will be sharing with the public an opportunity to sample, for free, some of the various classes that they offer during the week. Tyrone added that while there are classes that focus on seniors, the Center is a community space for everyone.
  - Build Together, Play Together at the Hal Jensen Recreation Center on July 26, 2025 from 8am - 2 pm. This event is in partnership with Home Depot, giving kids the opportunity to build things. Participants will also be able to partake in lawn games. A fire truck and food vendors will also be present.

## 7. Reports and Updates

### A. Council Representative Report, Council Representative Anthony Garcia

Councilmember Garcia shared that council is currently on a break right now and would resume during the last week of August. He did not have anything to share.

### B. PROSE Monthly Newsletter

A question was brought up in regard to the June 2025 newsletter, addressing the article on trash cleanup on McMillan Mesa and whether the trash pileup was caused by one person or multiple. Rebecca confirmed that it was a single campsite and was a byproduct of Flagstaff's unsheltered population. She further elaborated that while the City of Flagstaff does have a no camping ordinance, the issue continues to persist.

## 8. Informational items to and from Commissioners and Staff

Amy introduced new commissioner Camile Diab to the commission. Camile expressed excitement for joining and shared that she is an avid outdoors person and has been in Flagstaff since 2011. The commission acknowledged the departure of Autumn Layden-McLeod and thanked them for their time spent on the Parks and Recreation commission.

## 9. Agenda Items for next meeting

- Update on Bushmaster's sports courts project, providing updated drone footage of the project area.
- Recap of Parks and Recreation's five-year plan to share with new commissioners.
- Review of the new Regional Plan.

## 10. Adjournment

Chair Parsons moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 5:25 PM.