

KIRKLAND PARK BOARD
Minutes of Regular Meeting
March 25, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

The March 25, 2026 Park Board regular meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chair Jared Silvia.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Board Member Berenice Bortoni, Board member Anika Joshi, Board member Katherine Kearny, Board Member Denise Lindberg, Vice-Chair Juliana Born, Chair Jared Silvia

Members Absent: Board Member Amy Ambrosini, Board Member Paul Stull

Staff Present: Director Lynn Zwaagstra, Deputy Director John Lloyd, Parks Superintendent Jason Filan, Parks Planning & Development Manager Mariah Gill, Events & Services Manager Maryke Burgess, Interim Recreation Manager Jairid Hoehn, Interim Senior Management Analyst Juliana da Cruz, Administrative Assistant Emily Lima Welch

Recording Secretary: Administrative Assistant Emily Lima Welch

3. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 28, 2026 Park Board meeting minutes were approved as presented.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Kirkland Municipal Code (KMC) Updates

The Park Board received a follow-up presentation on the Kirkland Municipal Code (KMC) Section 11.80 'Park Rules' draft from Interim Senior Management Analyst Juliana da Cruz and provided feedback to staff.

The Board discussed draft sections 'Motorized Vehicles and Trail Use', 'Smoking in Parks Prohibited', 'Encroachment in Parks', 'False Alarm of Drowning', 'Interfering with Lifeguard Duties' and 'Exclusion from Parks' without any additions or changes to the proposed code.

The Board asked staff to revise several draft codes in order to more clearly define the intention or purpose for the code. In particular, they requested that draft section 'Practicing and Playing Games' should have a clearer emphasis on public safety and that draft section 'Tents and Structures in Parks' should have a clearer emphasis on preventing the holding or reservation of public areas and facilities for private use without a permit. The Board also asked staff to consider establishing standard open and close times to be effective at all park sites in the draft section 'Parks Hours' for consistency, rather than having separate rules for waterfront parks and other park sites.

Motion to recommend adoption of the code amendments to KMC 11.80 'Park Rules' with the changes as discussed.

Motion by Vice Chair Born, seconded by Board Member Joshi.

Motion passed with 6 in favor, none against, and 2 absent.

Interim Senior Management Analyst da Cruz noted that the draft KMC 11.80 'Park Board Rules' is currently scheduled for a first review with City Council on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. Board members should coordinate with Deputy Director Lloyd and Administrative Assistant Welch if they would like to participate in the discussion.

PARK BOARD RECESSED AT 7:50 PM
PARK BOARD RECONVENED AT 7:55 PM

b. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Ranking

The Park Board received a follow-up presentation on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project Ranking from Parks Planning & Development Manager Mariah Gill.

Manager Gill shared the results of the Board survey, noting that the top-voted project was for land acquisition and development in North Kirkland. During the discussion, the Board identified some confusion over the 'Crestwood Park Synthetic Turf Complex' item and removed it from their top choices list, leaving staff with 9 high-priority projects to consider during the budget cycle.

100% of Board members prioritized: North Kirkland Land Acquisition and Development

87.50% of Board members prioritized: City-School Gym Partnership (Kamiakin Middle School); NKCC Renovation/Expansion; Peter Kirk Park & Lee Johnson Field Improvements

75% of Board members prioritized: ADA Compliance and Upgrades; Critical Dock and Shoreline Infrastructure Repairs and Renovation; Park Restrooms Renovation/Replacement

62.50% of Board members prioritized: Indoor Aquatics & Recreation Facility Construction; Safety and Security Upgrades

In particular, the Board characterized their selections as *taking care of what we have, closing equity gaps, and improving accessibility and safety.*

Planning & Development Manager Gill reported that the next step is for staff to incorporate Board input to the prioritized project list to present to the City budget steering team in April 2026. Staff will then refine project sheets and cost estimates in preparation for the City's budget process beginning in June 2026. Review of the Capital Improvement Program will continue throughout the summer, and the City will conduct public hearings in Fall 2026 before City Council final review and formal adoption.

c. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Dashboard Overview

The Park Board received minor updates on other active items in the Capital Improvement Program from Parks Planning & Development Manager Gill.

Director Lynn Zwaagstra and Manager Gill provided an update on the Kraken project, noting that the Houghton Park & Play (HPP) will most likely need to be closed beginning May 2026 to allow for laydown space for Kraken construction, though an official date for work to begin is still to be set by the Kraken. The new community gardens will already be opened at Rose Hill Meadows at that time, however there will be a delay in access to the other amenities. New Peter

Kirk Park pickleball courts are expected to open in June 2026, the new Peter Kirk skatepark will not open until Spring 2027, and there are currently no plans for a relocation of the pump track.

Manager Gill also provided an update on the Crestwoods Park synthetic turf infield updates, noting that construction estimates came higher than budgeted, so the project is again out for proposals. The project is still scheduled for a Spring/Summer 2027 opening, though it may be delayed.

Chair Jared Silvia also noted that City Council recently approved the Marina Park Shoreline restoration for Summer 2027, which is expected to have significant impacts in the downtown area.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Correspondence

None

b. Park Board Member Reports

Vice Chair Born reported that she attended the Market Neighborhood Association and discussed e-bikes and the new pickleball courts at Peter Kirk Park. She also noted they had questions about the Houghton Park & Play closure.

Board Member Joshi reported that her last Board meeting will be May 2026 due to summer travel and graduation.

Board Member Denise Lindberg reported that she is looking forward to a Mother's Day recreation event at North Kirkland Community Center in May.

No further reports were presented.

c. Staff Updates and Information

Recreation Manager Maryke Burgess reported on several upcoming special events including the No Kings Free Speech Rally on Saturday, March 28 and Kiwanis Community Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5, 2026. Celebrate Kirkland Parade planning is well underway and is currently accepting volunteer applications and grand marshal nominations. Other notable items include a successful Spring/Summer registration week from Tuesday, March 17 through Thursday, March 19, and that Boat Launch passes go on sale on Wednesday April 1, 2026 for the 2026 season.

Interim Recreation Manager Jairid Hoehn reported that many camps have already met enrollment after registration week. He also noted that the Summer Job Fair is coming up this weekend on Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 10 AM at North Kirkland Community Center. Staff and Human Resources will be accepting applications and conducting interviews on-site.

No further reports were presented.

d. Comments from the Chair

Chair Silvia reported that he and Vice Chair Born attended a meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 with Mayor Kelli Curtis and Deputy Mayor Neal Black. He reported that their discussion was a continuation of where the Board and Council left off after their joint session and focused primarily on communication and Board engagement.

The Board requested that staff provide a list of our current channels and methods of communication and some statistics on what level of success those have. Events & Services Manager Burgess agreed to look into the request.

7. FUTURE AGENDA REVIEW

The Board reviewed the tentative agendas for the next three months.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Silvia adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM by unanimous consent.

Emily Lima Welch

Emily Lima Welch, Recording Secretary
Parks and Community Services

Jared S Silvia

Jared S Silvia (Apr 27, 2026 08:42:28 PDT)

Jared Silvia, Chair
Park Board

Park Board Minutes 2026-03-25

Final Audit Report

2026-04-27

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