



**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING AGENDA**

City Hall – Council Chambers  
865 SE Barrington Drive, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

**10:00 AM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

**Position and Board Member**

Position 1 – vacant  
Position 2 – Denise Marion  
Position 3 – Natalia Talo  
Position 4 – Eric Dipzinski  
Position 5 – Tom Jones  
Position 6 – Kim Ford  
Position 7 – Vicki Biggs  
Student Representative – Calleigh Boyer  
Ex Officio Councilmember Eric Marshall

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2025**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

During this time, citizens may comment on subjects of interest not on the agenda. To ensure comments are recorded properly, state your name clearly. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes to ensure maximum participation during the 15-minute timeframe allotted for this item. Public Comment may also be submitted online at <https://www.oakharbor.gov/publiccomment> at least two (2) business days in advance of an advisory board meeting.

- Brit Kraner re: Advisory Committee Appointments/Nepotism Clauses

**5. DISCUSSION/ACTION/PRESENTATION/REPORT ITEMS**

- a. Reappoint Calleigh Boyer as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Student Representative to serve September 2025 – August 2026.
- b. Establish Meeting Schedule for 2026.
- c. Elect Commission Chair for 2026.
- d. Elect Commission Vice-Chair for 2026.
- e. Property and Equipment – Yearly Inventory Review.
- f. Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) Update.
- g. Subcommittee Updates.
- h. Parks and Recreation Department Updates.

**6. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**7. DETERMINATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**8. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: MARCH 9, 2026**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Meetings will be recorded and published to [www.youtube.com/c/CityofOakHarbor](http://www.youtube.com/c/CityofOakHarbor). The City of Oak Harbor is committed to providing meeting access to the widest possible audience, regardless of technology or ability. If accommodation is required, please call (360) 279-4500 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

December 8, 2025

# Minutes

(without attachments)



**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 8, 2025 -- 10:00 a.m.**

This hybrid meeting was hosted from City Hall Council Chambers. The YouTube video counter is in parentheses ( ) next to each item.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: (:22)** Chair Stucky called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

<b>Position and Board Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>		
Position 1 – Carrie Stucky, Chair	In person✓	Online	Absent
Position 2 – Denise Marion	In person	Online✓	Absent
Position 3 – Natalia Talo	In person✓	Online	Absent
Position 4 – Eric Dipzinski, Vice-Chair	In person✓	Online.	Absent
Position 5 – Tom Jones	In person✓	Online	Absent
Position 6 – Kim Ford	In person✓	Online	Absent
Position 7 – Vicki Biggs	In person✓	Online	Absent
Student Representative – Calleigh Boyer	In person✓	Online	Absent
Ex-Officio Councilmember Eric Marshall	In person	Online✓	Absent

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** Parks & Recreation Director Brian Smith (online), Parks Supervisor Brandon Cable, Deputy City Administrator/Finance Director David Goldman, Videographer Tim Shelley, Jr., and Records Management Analyst Kim Perrine

**2. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION MEMBER NATALIA TALO – POSITION 3: (1:07)** Chair Stucky introduced the newest member to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission – Natalia Talo. Welcome aboard.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: (1:20)**

**MOTION:** Vice-Chair Dipzinski moved to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Biggs. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2025 MINUTES: (1:38)**

**MOTION:** Vice-Chair Dipzinski moved to approve the November 10, 2025 minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Biggs. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: (2:03)**

There were 11 public comments received online:

- a. Charles Niedzialkowski re: Sumner Park Conversion to Pickleball Courts
- b. Howard Strickland re: Sumner Park Tennis Courts
- c. Faustino Gutierrez re: Tennis Courts at Sumner Park
- d. Aleksandr Litvachuk re: Regatta Tennis Court
- e. Michael Stilwell re: Regatta Park Courts
- f. Kathleen Slocum re: Tennis Court Conversion to Pickleball Courts
- g. Robin Parks re: Tennis Courts at Sumner Park
- h. Horace Mells re: Tennis Courts in Sumner Park
- i. Maria Strickland re: Pickleball and Tennis Courts – Greater Access & Maintenance
- j. Philip Nakano re: Proposed Sumner (Regatta) Park Tennis Courts Conversion to Pickleball
- k. Gwen Rhines re: Sumner Tennis Courts

There were three public comments made at the meeting:

- a. Maria Strickland submitted an online comment but wanted to speak in person as well. The commission agreed to let her speak. She mentioned that at the previous meeting Brian Smith (Parks Director) and Darin Cook (Whidbey Pickleball Assoc.) stated their preference for pickleball courts wasn't Sumner Park, and she'd like Parks to restripe the tennis court at Sumner Park that has pickleball striping on it making the court unplayable.
- b. Kevin Jorgenson is both a tennis and pickleball player. He stated there are more options for pickleball than tennis in Oak Harbor and mentioned that the tennis courts at the OHHS cannot be used during school hours.
- c. Alex (no last name provided) stated that some information in a Whidbey article on this topic is not true. The court on Regatta is not playable with pickleball lines on the tennis court. He mentioned that the Castilian Hills HOA has offered their court on Harrier Circle to the City for pickleball.

## 6. PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. E-Bikes. (10:03) This was briefly discussed at the Athletic Facilities & Parklands subcommittee meeting. Vice-Chair Dipzinski said they discussed the following: challenges of how to regulate and enforce E-bike speed, try regulating via classes of e-bikes, add signage on Scenic Heights trail and detour bikes to Bayshore Drive at the trail head to a bike lane that would go to the park, educate people to use with judicious speed and be a polite trail user, add a flashing speed sign, and/or restrict class 3 bikes. Commissioner Marion would like to be part of the subcommittee discussing this item and suggested maybe the path could be widened. Vice-Chair Dipzinski stated we don't have the budget or enforcement measures for this, and signage will hopefully work short-term until we can get a grander plan in place. Chair Stucky suggested signage, working with Communications Officer Magi Aguilar on a graphic to be shared on the City website on community awareness to be a "good neighbor on the trails", and putting something in the Activity Guide. She also recommended continued discussions in the subcommittee meetings.

**MOTION:** Vice-Chair Dipzinski moved to recommend to City Council that they consider installation of safety signs and route E-bikes onto Bayshore Drive (bike lane) by Whidbey Island Bank trail head, seconded by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Holiday Lighting. (28:43) The City was asked to help with adding holiday lighting to the tree on Pioneer Way for the Santa Parade. This is a Main Street Association event and is in the right-of-way. What are the commission's thoughts about the City participating with things like this – helping with events the are not City organized. Should this be a paid service? This was briefly discussed in a subcommittee meeting because tasks like hanging lights, mowing lots for the carnival that are not City property, putting up ornaments, etc., do cost money for time, labor, and equipment. It was decided that this will be further discussed in the Parks & Playgrounds subcommittee.
- c. Kinnebrew Art Installations – Update. (36:19) The City received one proposal from Valdez Construction (\$30,600) for installing the Gate of Inspiration and 3 Totems. The Gate of Inspiration will be installed just inside the trailhead at Freund Marsh, and 3 Totems will be installed at Sumner Park. This work will go forward in 2026. This commission is just being updated since the pieces are being installed in parklands.

Vice-Chair Dipzinski asked about the Parks Master Plan and stated it's difficult to install art when we don't know the long-term vision for the parks. The Parks Master Plan RFP will be put out in the spring and then we'll get proposals back regarding costs, etc. If any adjustments need to be made to the budget, that will be done later in 2026.

- d. Metal Detectors Policy. (42:18) The City does not currently have a metal detector policy in place but should establish one. Parks Supervisor Cable shared with the commission a draft document. This will be brought to a subcommittee for further review and discussion of possible fees.
- e. Rec Center Feasibility Study - Update. (46:37) The City has met with BerryDunn for the feasibility study and is compiling the requested documents. Project team meetings have begun, and the kick-off will hopefully be

mid-January. The commission should keep this as a regular agenda item to receive updates. They will have steering committee meetings with this commission as well as public outreach meetings. BerryDunn is working with Communications Officer Aguilar regarding the community strategic plan.

f. Subcommittee Updates. (49:12)

- Parks & Playgrounds. No subcommittee meeting was held in November.
- Programs & Events. No subcommittee meeting was held in November.
- Facilities. Vice-Chair Dipzinski stated that E-Bikes and Pickleball/Tennis were discussed. Also discussed was the incident of someone who taped a pickleball court over the tennis court at Sumner Park which left a residue on the court. Chair Stucky asked if resolving the residue issue could be a priority for Parks since this has been brought up so many times.

g. Parks & Recreation Director Updates. (54:20) Parks & Rec Director Smith provided the following updates:

- The Center had a great holiday market over the weekend with great turnout and vendors were happy.
- Gifts of Connection is going well with great participation. The Wishlist is online in the Activity Guide and donated gifts need to be at The Center by Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to the OH School Board because during their budget meeting they highlighted the City's partnership with the OHSD.
- Thank you to all the commissioners and those that volunteer!!

Parks Supervisor Cable provided the following updates:

- Holiday Lights Tour – Thank you Chair Stucky for putting this together.
- The Holiday Lunch at The Center is December 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Reminder that Gifts of Connection donations are due December 15<sup>th</sup> – further details are available on the City's website.
- The Center will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup> but will serve lunches on Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The Activity Guide will be out next week.

**7. MEMBER COMMENTS:** (57:18)

- a. Vice-Chair Dipzinski indicated staff is working hard to improve and widen the paths at Freedom Park. Things are looking great and we're excited about getting the park open in 2026.
- b. Commissioner Marion spoke about the "pond" that has developed on the Scenic Heights trail, trash has decreased in the Freund Marsh area, and Marina Outfall sampling.
- c. Chair Stucky thanked City staff and the commissioners for their hard work this year.

**8. DETERMINATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** (1:01:16) Please forward any future agenda item ideas to Chair Stucky and Parks & Recreation Director Smith as soon as possible.

- a. Rec Center Feasibility Study – Update.
- b. UFMP Update.
- c. Fee structure for assisting with projects/events not organized by the City.
- d. Schedule a workshop in January to discuss commission priorities.
- e. Subcommittee Updates.
- f. Parks & Recreation Director Updates.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** (1:03:03) There being no further business, Chair Stucky adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Minutes taken by Records Management Analyst Kim Perrine.

# Public Comments

**Kim Perrine**

---

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2026 8:25 PM  
**To:** Julie Nester; Macalle Finkle; Sabrina Combs; Magi Aguilar; Brian Smith; Brandon Cable; Kim Perrine  
**Subject:** Online Form Submission #87714 for Public Comment Form

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Report](#)

## Public Comment Form

Full Name	Brit Kraner
Email	[REDACTED]
Are you a resident of the City of Oak Harbor?	Yes
Street Address	[REDACTED]
Agenda Item	Advisory Committee Appointments/ Nepotism Clauses
Public Comment	<p>Good evening Council and Mayor Wright,</p> <p>My name is Brit Kraner. I am an elected Commissioner for the North Whidbey Pool, Park, and Recreation District. The views expressed here are my own and do not represent NWPPRD. I feel compelled to speak out about how the January 20th meeting unfolded. I left that meeting deeply troubled—not just by the outcome, but by the process, the tone, and the message it sent to those who step forward to serve this community. I have worked with Ms. Carrie Stucky on multiple occasions regarding parks and recreation. She is, without exaggeration, a rare force. The passion, dedication, and persistence she brings to this work cannot be manufactured or bought. Volunteers like her are the backbone of our civic institutions, yet during your discussion, there was a palpable lack of appreciation for the time, labor, and heart she has poured into Oak Harbor. Ms. Stucky advocates fiercely for this community—especially for those who do not have a voice of their own—and for equitable access to recreational opportunities for all. That kind of advocacy should be celebrated, not scrutinized under a lens that diminishes its value. As a woman in leadership, even here on Whidbey Island, I am keenly aware of the unique challenges we face. This situation illustrates one of the most damaging among them. While</p>

Commissioner Stucky and Councilmember Stucky are married, the implication—spoken or unspoken—that her work is somehow invalidated or suspect because of that relationship is appalling. The Stucky family, collectively, is an asset to Oak Harbor. But it is critical that we recognize and respect their individual contributions on their own merit.

I agree with Councilmember Hizon that issues should be addressed before they become problems. However, Ms. Stucky has contributed to the City's efforts for years without incident. What emerged during the meeting sounded far less like a crisis and far more like concerns that should have been addressed through direct conversation in an appropriate forum. Instead, they were elevated publicly in a way that felt unnecessary and disproportionate.

I want the Council to understand this clearly: the way this situation played out did not make sense. Any perceived issues appeared rooted in her role as Chair of the Advisory Committee—not in her marriage to a sitting Councilmember. Conflating the two does a disservice to both the individual and the institution.

In my own professional experience working with Ms. Stucky, we ultimately found ourselves on opposite sides of an issue—and that is part of public service. What matters is how disagreements are handled. Throughout our work together, she never once spoke on behalf of City Council or Councilmember Stucky. She conducted herself with professionalism and integrity at all times, and I would not hesitate to work with her again for the betterment of our community.

Rather than accusations of nepotism, Ms. Stucky deserves gratitude. She exemplifies the Mission and Values of the City of Oak Harbor. The position in which City Council has placed her is, frankly, revolting.

Finally, I must address the parliamentary failure that occurred during the meeting. Even with the acknowledgment that a Parliamentarian is now in place, basic procedure was not followed. The individual presiding over the meeting should not be voting except in the event of a tie—regardless of whether that individual is Mayor Wright. Had proper procedure been followed, this matter would have been resolved, and the important work before you could have continued.

Instead, momentum was halted, teams were undermined, and trust was damaged. There is no shortage of vacancies on advisory committees. People are not lining up to serve. Why punish those who do? This decision did not just cause harm to one individual—it undercut your own Strategic Planning initiatives and sent a chilling message to future volunteers.

Respectfully,

Commissioner Brit Kraner

Please share this  
comment with:

City Council (CC), Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission  
(PRAC)

---

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

