

Rogers Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
April 16th, 2024
Noon at Rogers City Hall
301 West Chestnut St.

ROLL CALL:

Amenda Fisher, Betty Evans, Greg Lindley, Ryan Neal, Paul O'Rourke

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Motion by Lindley to approve March minutes as presented, second by Neal. Approved.
Unanimous voice vote

PUBLIC FORUM:

Randy McCrory addressed the committee with several concerns and inquiries, including: an update on the designated smoking area at Railyard Live, the status of light replacements around Lake Atalanta, a malfunctioning trail counter at Frisco Plaza, enforcement of dog clean-up and leash laws, restroom opening and closing procedures, and leftover trash following the Bikes, Blues & BBQ event.

REPORTS:

Kara King:

- There will be a four-day closure on the Railyard Loop to allow for tunnel tie-in work. The closure will occur near Foerster Park and 8th Street, with limited access and no detour available.
- A contractor has been awarded for the FEMA repair work. This will involve trail work in various areas, resulting in some closures with limited detour options. Closure information will be posted on the City's website and social media channels.
- Ongoing projects include work on 13th Street and Poplar Street.
- No trail count data is available this month as staff is currently working through a new licensing agreement.

Quinton Harris:

- Remaining FEMA-related projects, including retaining walls, fencing, and NWP bids, were all submitted last week. Most of the work is expected to begin by the end of the month.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kara King & Shawn Grindstaff:

- Provided an update on native vegetation and planting efforts aimed at restoring acreage throughout city-managed areas.
- Updates are being made to the city's mapping system to more accurately reflect city-owned parks and trails. This includes the following areas:
 - Horsebarn Park, including the northern section
 - Cambridge Conservation Area
 - A new trailhead at 8th Street and Easy Street, to be developed alongside the new tunnel
 - Ajax Practice Fields, where recreational practices are occasionally held
- Pinnacle Open Space is being renamed Creekside Preserve as it moves into full development. A controlled burn is planned for this fall as part of the site's ongoing management.
- The Uptown Trails Connectivity Project has successfully created a well-connected trail network through Uptown. However, there are concerns that users are getting confused where the Railyard Loop connects with the Greenway. Staff will work with Community Development and the Greenway Alliance to establish clearer signage in this area and along the Railyard Loop to direct users along a preferred route.
- Plans are in place to install kiosk maps this year, with a broader signage project included in the 2026 budget.
- The RWU property has been added as a placeholder in the system as the City waits to determine the final use of that site.

ADJOURN:

Meeting was adjourned by O'Rourke at 12:24pm