



Parks & Recreation Commission

AGENDA

Thursday, October 25, 2018, 6:00 pm
Kennewick City Hall Council Chambers



- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome
- 2. HONORS & RECOGNITIONS - None**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** October 25, 2018
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** July 26, 2018
- 5. VISITORS**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Zintel Canyon Trail
 - b. Commission Youth Membership
 - c. Park Mitigation Spending
- 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Community Center Transition Update
 - b. Playground of Dreams Update
- 8. POLL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

The next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting is November 29, 2018.

To assure disabled persons the opportunity to participate in or benefit from City services, please provide twenty-four (24) hour advance notice for additional arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs.



**Parks & Recreation Commission
MINUTES**
Thursday, July 26, 2018, 6:00 pm
Kennewick City Hall Council Chambers



1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ken Hahn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Emily Estes-Cross led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners, City Council Liaison, and Staff Present:

Commissioner Ken Hahn	Terry Walsh Terry Walsh, Executive Director of Employee & Community Relations
Commissioner Jack Anderson	
Commissioner Dean Aeling	Emily Estes-Cross, Parks, Recreation and Economic Dev. Director
Commissioner Greg Falk	Greg Duffy, Deputy Director Parks, Recreation and Facilities
City Council Liaison Bill McKay	Linda Spier, Recorder

Excused: Commissioner Linda Britain

Excused: Commissioner Ty Fischer

Resigned: Commissioner Mark Reed effective July 16, 2018

2. HONORS & RECOGNITION – None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Aeling moved, seconded by Commissioner Falk to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Aeling moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the minutes of June 14, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

5. VISITORS

Jeff Wiens, 39165, Conway Court, Kennewick. Jeff discussed challenges and opportunities of Zintel Canyon.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Conveyance Discussion Invite: August 2, 10a-noon at Clover Island Inn.

Staff reported on the City of Kennewick and TRIDEC Community Meeting to be held on August 2 at Clover Island regarding the Columbia Rivershore conveyance. Guest speakers include U.S. Congressman Dan Newhouse; Don Britain, Mayor City of Kennewick; David Reeploeg, VP Federal Programs, TRIDEC; and Brad Fisher former Mayor City of Kennewick.

- b. Park Audit Results – Greg Duffy, Deputy Director Parks, Recreation and Facilities reported on audits and provided a summary of performance standards focused on cleanliness, safety, and structural/functional conditions (cleanliness rating 71%, overall rating 79%).
- c. National Night Out –The event is Tuesday August 7, 5-7:30p. Linda will send out a reminder to Commissioners.
- d. Holiday Parade Float – Emily reported that a signup will be available for building the float and to be in the parade.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Community Center Transition Strategy – Emily reported on the Pie, Coffee & Conversation Social at the Community on Friday, July 20th. The social was a success and staff received input from community center patrons.
- b. Playground of Dreams Picket Removal – The Tri-City Young Marines will be removing pickets August 4th at 8:00 am. Over 100 picket claim forms have been submitted online.

8. POLL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF

Notable events

- Sunset at Southridge - 1st, 3rd & 5th Fridays June - August
- Tri-Conf and 1st Thursday – August 2 Community Center
- All CommUNITY Picnic – September 21
- Harvest Bazaar – October 20
- Holiday Parade – December 1
- Yard of the Season – Quarterly – Commissioner Hahn attended City Council meeting on July 17 and presented the Yard of the Season recipients certificates
- Joint Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting –September 27, Richland Community Center
- Sponsor Partner Events:
 - Best of Summer Fest – September 8
 - RiverFest Tri-Cities – September 8
- Parks Comp Plan Update – Fall 2018

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm

Linda Spier,
Recorder

PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE ZINTEL CANYON TRAIL INTO A CITY PARK





The Zintel Canyon Trail (also known as the Spirit of America Trail, the Freedom Trail and the Zintel Canyon Greenway) is 1.25 miles long and runs through the City Of Kennewick from near the Waste Management facility at 27th Ave. and S. Ely Street to 7th Ave. and S. Vancouver Street.

A wooden signpost stands in a grassy area. The sign is grey with black lettering. In the background, there are bare trees and a paved path. A blue bench is visible on the path.

**SPIRIT OF
AMERICA TRAIL**
**IN MEMORY OF THOSE
WHO SACRIFICED TO
MAKE AMERICA GREAT**

KENNEWICK PARKS & RECREATION



**ZINTEL CANYON
GREENWAY**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INTERAGENCY
COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION
WASHINGTON WILDLIFE & RECREATION PROGRAM**

There is water flowing through “the canyon” from three sources:

1. Surplus/overflow irrigation flow from the Canyon Lakes area enters at the south end of the canyon.
2. The KID canal near their headquarters at about 21st Ave. overflows through a pipe into the canyon creek.
3. There is a year-round spring at about 12th Ave. that emerges from the bottom of the canyon keeping a constant flow to the lower end.

Some years ago a major City project constructed a flood control system of pipes under 7th Ave. that takes canyon water to the Columbia River.

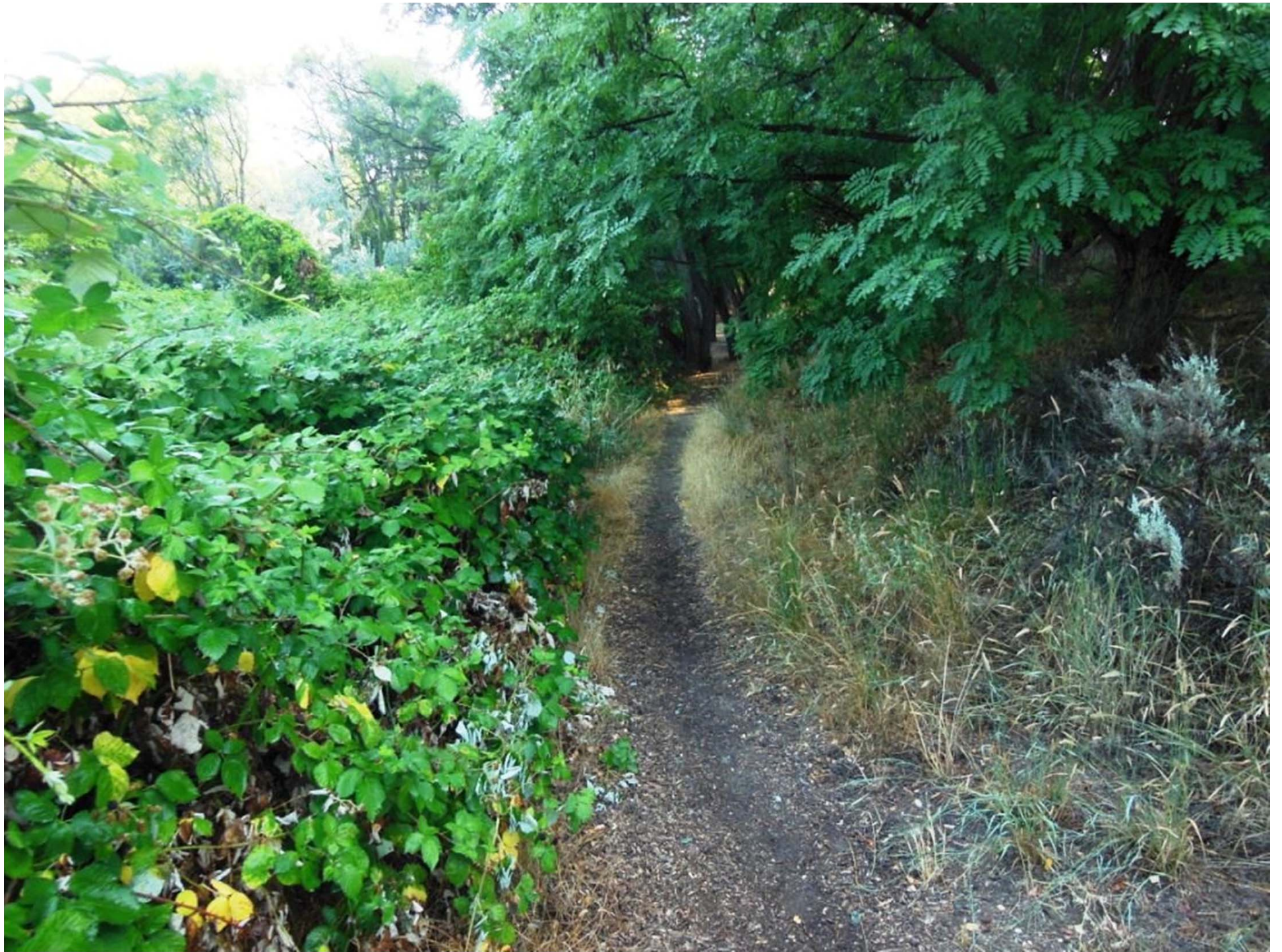


Problems:

1. Vegetation has created a jungle-type ecosphere which has encouraged population by wildlife, some of which are a nuisance such as skunks, coyotes, snakes, large rats, and beaver. (On the positive side, a family of horned owls resides in the canyon.)











2. Water flowing through the canyon overflows its stream banks, meanders over the main trail, and creates mud and swamp areas.

The next slides show the main trail in early 2018. Very large KID releases inundated the trail. The existing culvert was unable to handle the flow. The trail is impassable to fire, ambulance and police vehicles. We suggest a larger culvert, or a second parallel culvert, should be installed soon.







In August 2018 City workers filled around this culvert with pea gravel. This is a temporary fix since future heavy flows will wash it out again unless a second (or a larger) culvert is installed.

3. The City has little funding to remove overgrowth so this provides concealment and encourages vagrants and homeless people to frequent the trails and make encampments. Graffiti is abundant.

Police are often called for resultant people-problems in the canyon.

4. Many irresponsible people deposit litter along the trail and in the brush. Also, dog excrement is a common sight since there is no enforcement of clean-up rules.



5. Several fires have raged in the canyon in recent years. Likely they were started by vagrants or local youth.





Our “team” of runners/joggers has frequented the canyon most weekdays for about 10 years. We started picking up trash and trying to keep it clean. Then we received approval from the City as “volunteers” to do minor maintenance, such as cutting brush, smoothing trails and spreading crushed bark/wood chips.











But our work is restricted in terms of available hours and safety. For example there are many dead trees cluttering up areas next to the trails. There are many standing trees (dead and alive) that threaten people going near them. Our team does not feel we have authority to cut them down.











Vision

We foresee the Zintel Canyon Park as a pleasant, well maintained, large park in downtown Kennewick with play areas and with a shaded pedestrian trail traversing its length.

Zintel Springs provides a year-round stream flowing through the park. Water features could be constructed that would be a pleasant view for park visitors.

This park can be an attractive recreation area for many residents living near downtown Kennewick.

NYC has Central Park:



Ashland, OR:



Cour d'Alene:



Walla Walla:



Proposed Boundaries of the Park

We suggest the boundaries of the park be the surveyed east and west city property lines.

The north boundary would be the Waste Management property line.

The south boundary would be the canyon exit at 7th Ave.

Proposal

The following actions are broken into suggested phases to improve the park. It is understood that little funding may be available to accomplish these actions in the near term, so a slow, phased approach is recommended.

1. Remove all dead trees and branches that overhang the path. This is a safety issue since large dead trees and branches occasionally fall across the path.
2. Clear land adjacent to the main trail. Trees that provide shade to the trail and all live trees that are not Russian Olive should be saved.

3. Deepen the stream to prevent overflows.
4. Implement frequent mowing and trash removal by City park personnel.
5. Expand the parking lot and add a public bathroom at Vancouver Street. Grade, seed and irrigate the large flat area adjacent to the parking lot to provide a field area for play activities. Possibly add a gazebo and picnic tables. (Some of this is private land)
6. Add picnic tables and grass areas at 15th Street and at the south end of the park.

(These items are for future consideration)

7. Run underground power lines and install lighting along the path.
8. Install a City water line through the park and add drinking fountains.
9. Improve and enlarge the parking lot at the south end, near Waste Management.
10. Add video surveillance to reduce vandalism.
11. Create several ponds using the water that flows through the canyon.

Volunteer help from the public (events such as Sharefest and the Boy Scouts) can be mobilized. The Badger Mountain trail group is an example.

Support from local businesses should be solicited. Perhaps tree service companies and landscaping companies would donate manpower and equipment.

The PUD could be approached about running a power line adjacent to the trail.

The KID overflows water into the park, so they might be willing to support this effort.

Grant money might be obtained for some of this work. Example:

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office provides leadership, funding, and technical assistance to help build parks in Washington state.

VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY

This proposal will provide a nice, shaded park that will be attractive to local residents.

The community will be safer since vandals and homeless will be discouraged from using it.

1. Economic Value

Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.

Quality parks and recreation are one of the top three reasons that businesses cite in relocation decisions in a number of studies.

2. Health and Environmental Benefits

People go to parks to get healthy and stay fit.

Parks and recreation programs and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.

Parks are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

3. Social Importance

Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of the livability of communities.

Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.

An ongoing study by the Trust for Public Land shows that over the past decade, voter approval rates for bond measures to acquire parks and conserve open space exceeds 75%. Clearly, the majority of the public views parks as an essential priority for government spending.

Parks and recreation programs provide places for health and well-being that are accessible by persons of all ages and abilities, especially to those with disabilities.

In a 2007 survey of Fairfax County, VA, residents in 8 of 10 households rated a quality park system either very important or extremely important to their quality of life.

Research by the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods indicates that community involvement in neighborhood parks is associated with lower levels of crime and vandalism

Access to parks and recreation opportunities has been strongly linked to reductions in crime and to reduced juvenile delinquency.

Parks have a value to communities that transcend the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to every community.

