



Minutes

The Parks Committee of the City of Bellevue, Idaho, met for a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 10:30 AM in the City of Bellevue Public Library, located at 117 E. Pine St, Bellevue, Idaho 83313.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fletcher called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.

ROLL CALL

Kristin Fletcher, Parks Committee Chair - Present

Tom Bergin, Committee Member – Present

Mark Sindell, Committee Member – Not Initially Present (arrived about 11:00 AM)

Staff Present: Carter Bullock, Committee Liaison, Planner

1. NOTICE OF AGENDA COMPLIANCE (PER IDAHO CODE §74-204): ACTION ITEM

MOTION: Committee Member Bergin moved that the notice for the February 18, 2026, meeting was completed in accordance with Idaho Code, Section §74-204, Chair Fletcher seconded, and the motion carried.

2. CALL FOR CONFLICT (AS OUTLINED IN IDAHO CODE §74-404): ACTION ITEM

Committee Member Bergin indicated the potential for a conflict due to his service on both the Committee and the Common Council. He conveyed that he may abstain from a motion if necessary to avoid any conflict.

3. COMMITTEE & LIAISON UPDATES

Carter Bullock, Committee Liaison, explained the presence of this section on the agenda and that the Council does updates as standard at the head of meetings. Chair Fletcher expressed support for regularly including this section.

Committee Member Bergin discussed the hole at O'Donnell Park which has been discussed previously and noted a lack of progress on repair/mitigation. **Action Item: Carter Bullock, Committee Liaison, committed to discussing next steps and progress with Shelly Shoemaker, City Clerk, and Casey McGehee, City Assets Manager.** Committee Member Bergin then expressed that he could potentially mark or delineate the hole.

Chair Fletcher indicated that she had collected a summary of the Parks Committee's previous work over the past seven years for Committee Member Sindell's reference.

Chair Fletcher went on to indicate that action items could be useful if highlighted in the minutes as standard practice. She stated that some action items from previous meetings had not been resurfaced.

Committee Member Bergin then highlighted the initial and ongoing work of the Bellevue Urban Renewal Agency (BURA) in hiring a consultant to undertake design work for "dead-end rights-of-way." He mentioned

Committee Member Sindell apologized for being late and inquired as to the current agenda item, as he had thoughts for 2026 Strategic Planning.

OLD BUSINESS: ACTION ITEMS

a. Park Improvement Recommendations Document for the Common Council: Tom Bergin

Committee Member Bergin indicated that he did not have much to add to previous discussions and reenumerated the overall task of consolidating previous Committee recommendations.

Chair Fletcher clarified that their original task was to recommend management and improvement projects for Bellevue's Memorial and O'Donnell Parks. She then proceeded to name these recommendations for the record. The maintenance list was:

- Address issues of grass being adjacent to tree trunks which leads to weed whacking damage.
- Develop an ecological weed control management program.
- Fix the gates at Memorial Park and evaluate the fencing.
- Fix the stage stairs.
- Fix the hole at O'Donnell Park.

The project list was:

- Rebuild and sign the handicap area on the north side of Memorial Park.
- Pave the parking area on the north side.
- Create designated, striped parking for O'Donnell Park on 8th Street and the southeast corner of Elm Street, as well as erecting warning signs and adding crosswalk paint.
- Add kiosks to each park with rules, hours, and other important information.
- Replacing trees at each park.

Committee Member Bergin added that Mr. McGehee had undertaken a tree report about a month previous for Memorial Park.

Committee Member Sindell advocated that a tree assessment be done for each park so that tree planting is not done "ad-hoc." He discussed that the trees currently at each park are deficient in fulfilling their respective roles.

Chair Fletcher reoriented the discussion toward memorial trees, which she stated could remove intention from park planting. The Committee discussed and appeared in agreement that any memorial tree program should conform with a larger tree planting plan.

Committee Member Sindell indicated a desire to have a recommendations and goals plan for each park. Mr. Bullock indicated that this could be discussed in the 2026 Strategic Planning section of the agenda and that the Committee could elect to create a Parks and Trails Master Plan or similar. Committee Member Sindell advocated for an abbreviated version of such a document. The Committee discussed how previous efforts, including recommendations and surveys, could form a basis for such.

The conversation shifted toward "Cowcatcher Park" and the Strahorn Subdivision's obligations as far as the landscaping there. Strahorn's larger deficiencies were explored. Chair Fletcher then brought to the Committee's attention a particular weed which has spread rapidly through the Slaughterhouse Subdivision area.

b. Approval of 2026 Parks Committee Meeting Calendar: Carter Bullock, Planner

(NOTE: This item was discussed prior to the preceding agenda item.) The Committee discussed the need for more meeting time and deliberated over a number of options. Eventually the Committee resolved to move all meetings to 10:00 AM and add two additional meetings: March 4 and April 29, on top of standard monthly third-Wednesday meetings.

MOTION: Committee Member Bergin moved to approve the Parks Committee calendar meeting with the addition of two new days – March 4 and April 29 – and change the start date to 10:00 AM, Committee Member Sindell seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Following the motion, Chair Fletcher informed Mr. Bullock and the Committee of a resolution which would affect the original creation of the Committee. Mr. Bullock was not confident about how the resolution should be acted upon. Committee Member Bergin provided context that the Council tabled this resolution so other Committee changes could be discussed. Committee Member Sindell advised that the resolution be held until trees can be returned to the Committee's scope. Chair Fletcher indicated that the Park and Tree Committee's former role had been directly involved with maintenance and was thus untenable.

c. Adoption of Bylaws & Election of Committee Chair: Carter Bullock, Planner

This agenda item was continued to the next meeting.

7. **WORK SESSIONS: ACTION ITEMS**

a. Parks Committee Scope, Name, and Purpose: Carter Bullock, Planner

This agenda item was continued to the next meeting.

b. 2026 Strategic Planning: Carter Bullock, Planner

This agenda item was continued to the next meeting.

8. **ADJOURNMENT: ACTION ITEM**

MOTION: At 12:10 PM Committee Member Sindell moved to adjourn the meeting, Committee Member Bergin seconded, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.



Kristin Fletcher, Parks Committee Chair



Carter Bullock, Parks Committee Staff Liaison