Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission

April 2026 Minutes - DRAFT

Monday, April 13, 2026

The Parks, Recreation + Tree (PRT) Commission met at Powell Community Center (PCC) on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chair Nicole Sullivan (Ward I) and Vice-Chair Sarah Emanuels (Ward III). Commission Members Katie Anderson (Ward I), Sarah Grittmann (Ward II), Dustin Wolfe (Ward I), Jacque Gameson (Ward IV), Lyndsey Kratzberg (Ward IV), Tia Mirocke (Ward III), Max Grisnik (Ward II), and Cindy Long (Ward IV).
Council Liaisons: Councilmember Sam Komosa
Staff: Penn Almoney, Parks and Recreation Director
Not in Attendance: Chris Schlenker (Ward III), Councilmember Cheryl Carpenter-Davis

Call To Order. Chair Nicole Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Review:

Approval of Minutes. The Minutes from the March 9, 2026, Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission Meeting were reviewed. **Katie A.** motioned to approve the minutes, **Sarah G.** seconded**. Minutes were approved 10-0**

Review:

Positive Improvements:
Sarah E. said the Bunny Egg-Stravaganza was great, so fun with friends, her dream come true. **Penn** share that there were 750 in attendance and 11,000 eggs stuffed. **Sam** confirmed the wonderful experience, pointing out the value of the staggered start so all ages got eggs and it cultivated a robust community event. **Penn** was proud to share that all hands were on deck with all full-timers being present at event. **Penn** expressed a thanks for all the commission members who helped stuff eggs.

Jacque proclaimed the most recent Mission Magazine edition is the best edition she has seen. **Dustin** provided good evidence of community members reading it by stating his friend sent pictures to him of the park update pages.

Penn updated commission members of the Tree Keepers training – T-Thu, Apr 28-30 Gorman Conservation Discovery Center – **Penn** informed members that the training is during the day and if there is interest, speak with him. **Penn** expressed his hopes that PCC will host a class this fall.

Sustainability Commission Liaison – **Lyndsey** has kindly volunteered to attend the May 4 meeting. **Nicole** notified the commission of her reaching out to the Sustainability commission to coordinate attendance going forward.

Nicole reminded the commission that she is presenting our finalized 2026 Priorities and Recommendations at City Council on May 20**. Nicole** plans to submit the document ahead of time and encouraged commission members to attend to show their support of the document.

Dustin reminded **Penn** to share that we have been awarded 24th consecutive year of Tree City USA Status and 5th consecutive year for growth award!

Discussion:

Maintenance Items:
Service Plaque – **Penn** announced the service plaque is finished and reminded members that it used to be on a podium at Beverly Park, but now it will be in the North Lobby at the PCC next to poster contest winners.

QR Code Signs – **Penn** showcased the completed Report-A-Concern or share ideas signs that will go up at all parks. Signs have a QR code that leads you straight to the city website. An announcement of new signage will be made on social media.

More Milkweed – As a part of the Mayor's monarch butterfly pledge, Taylor and the team will be planting more milkweed at Waterworks and Mohawk parks.

Katie pointed out a recent maintenance item is the light flickering and buzzing in the meeting room.

Sam reported that there is a play feature with a shape-matching section at Water Works playground that has 3 missing shape parts. **Penn** informed the commission that the parts are in their possession and the table should be fixed soon.

Special Project Subcommittee Meeting Updates:
Poster Contest – **Jacque** reported again that there is no update on the poster contest plans due to the poster not being returned yet.

Tree Ordinance – **Penn** updated the commission that he will be going before City Council on May 6 with the updated Tree Plan and Tree Ordinance sections 230 and 240 with edits from **Jacque, Sarah G., Chris**, and the legal team.

Tree Plaque updates – **Dustin** shared an enthusiastic thank you to **Jacque** for meeting with him and downloading all her wisdom to **Dustin's** brain. Historically, Tree ID plaques have been added and updated since 2017. **Jacque** shared with Dustin her "library" of ID plaque trees, which included updated paper maps of Broadmoor and Andersen Parks. **Dustin** instructed that we will need updated libraries of Mohawk, Water Works, Mission Market, and Legacy Parks. In a follow up to **Sarah G**.'s recommendation that these "libraries" be kept online for community members to view**, Dustin** agreed and informed that he and **Penn** have reached out to the TreeKeepers app to request a modification for tracking tree ID plaques. Mission Parks + Rec already uses TreeKeepers for tracking trees and maintenance. **Dustin** requested assistance from PRT members to survey trees that need a replacement ID or new ID. **Jacque** instructed members to look for trees that are 5+ years old and suggested starting in Broadmoor, Mohawk, or Water Works. The budget is large enough for about 10 new plaques.

Master Gardeners – **Penn** spoke with Markis Hill, who reported there are 4 Master Gardeners who are interested in our Mission Market project so that's a positive sign. Projects are usually approved with 1 or 2 interested Master Gardeners.

PRT @ Mission Market – **Penn** announced that Mission Market is being hosted at Broadmoor this season and is kicking off the first Thursday of June. **Penn** inquired if members still want to have a table at the market a couple of times. Members agreed with a resounding yes and requested there be specific talking points provided. It was suggested the display be welcoming, include kid-friendly activities, and present a call to action. **Lyndsey, Tia, and Sarah G**. stepped up to spearhead creative efforts.

Park Tours – **Penn** reminded members that during good weather months we host meetings at parks. It was decided that the next PRT Meeting on May 11 will be at Mohawk park.

Arbor Day Volunteers – **Penn** announced that Arbor Day for the Rushton second graders is scheduled for April 24 at 11:30am at Rushton/Water Works Park. This is Mission's official arbor day event, the mayor will be there to announce the proclamation, a gingko tree will be planted, medallions will be hung, Arbor Day Poster will be signed by all in attendance, and it is open to any members who would like to join.

Champ Tree Nominations – **Penn** reminded members to be on the lookout for championship trees worthy of nominating and remind your neighbors too! The tree needs to be on a Mission resident's property to be considered.

Lyndsey shared that she recently attended the Casual Animal think and drink event that was hosted by Nadina Galle, an author who focuses on using technology to bring nature into cities. **Lyndsey** shared the podcast (Internet of Nature) and book (The Nature of our Cities). She also informed that the next think and drink will be discussing the sea turtle at the KC Zoo.

Upcoming Notes and Meetings
Wed, Apr 15: 7pm – City Council Mtg
Fri, Apr 24: 11:30am – Arbor Day – Rushton Elementary
Sat, Apr 25: 8am – City Wide Clean up + Breakfast – PCC
Sat, May 2: 10am – OK! Kids Day – Free - PCC
Wed, May 6: 6:30pm – Community Dev Cmte
Mon, May 11: 6pm – PRT Meeting – Mohawk Park

Adjournment:
Sarah G.moved to adjourn the meeting; Katie seconded the motion. **Motion passed 10-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Sarah Emanuels, secretary pro tempore.