Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission

September 2026 Minutes - DRAFT

Monday, September 14, 2026

The Parks, Recreation + Tree (PRT) Commission met at the Powell Community Center on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Call To Order. Chair Nicole Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Review:

Approval of Minutes. The Minutes from the August 10, 2026, Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission Meeting were reviewed. Cindy motioned to approve the minutes, Chris seconded**. Minutes were approved 8-0.**

Review:

Positive Improvements:
Penn shared the list of all the maintenance items that were completed during the PCC close. Almost all tasks on the list were completed. Everything was completed within budget and despite being short-staffed. There have been suggestions to have only one week of closure, however, there would probably need to be additional short closures throughout the year. Katie suggested doing a social media posting with some quick stats to show what was accomplished during closure.

Water Works Park service project took place last weekend. This was a church group that had reached out for a service day.

Streamway Park complete re-paving of the trail was completed. It was on the CIP plan and came in under budget.

Rock Creek Trail on the west end was approved to re-pave and will be next.

Special presentation:
Jenna reviewed this past summer at MFAC. They hired 130-140 employees for the summer. Repairs and updates that were completed include splash pad floor, deck/drain repair, UV repairs, and shower valve rebuild. New this summer was Roeland Park participating in the Super Pool Pass. There was a decrease in membership & daily passes, decrease in costs, but increase in visits. Opportunities for next year -

need to be competitive in pay, increase recognition program, and want to do a junior lifeguard program. Special program highlights: Largest Swim Lesson, Under the Sea, and Pooch Swim had over 200 dogs in attendance!

Jenny reviewed this year's Summer Camp. Camp runs for 10 weeks, with 160 campers each week and 240 unique campers throughout the summer. Only 18% of campers are Mission residents. There was an increase in price this year and will probably have to increase again next year due to staff, field trips, and supply & demand. Existing and new program add-ons were really successful, including Camp Olympics, Mad Science Camp, Youth Tech Camp, Safe Sitter / Safe @ Home, and a new counselor in training program. They were able to keep expenses down despite rising field trip costs, transportation adjustments, and full-time staff helping out when counselors were gone. There is a cancellation policy that helps to keep camp full, all scholarships were funded, and returning camper demand is higher than ever before.

Sustainability Commission:
Nicole asked for someone to attend their meeting in October. Jacque volunteered to attend the October 5th meeting.

Discussion:

Maintenance Items:
Penn shared that he has an estimate to fix the Graphic Panel at Water Works Park due to being faded. **Katie** asked if this would be a regular fix and Penn responded that he hopes it is permanent.

Penn is interviewing maintenance technicians this week. There are several interviews scheduled for one full-time position. Existing staff filling in on an interim basis is going well.

Special Project + Subcommittee Updates
Tree Drive:
Lyndsey noted that she still has one yard sign for someone to take. Jacque had feedback that the sign says "pick up" instead of "order". **Chris** volunteered to store the signs after the drive. **Jacque** put posters in sign boards in Water Works and Broadmoor Parks.
Volunteers: Katie 9-10, Lyndsey 10-11, Jacque 11-12. Penn will reach out to the Sustainability Commission for more volunteers.

Nicole thanked everyone for anyone who has recorded for Mission anniversary and if you haven't yet, go record!

City Council Update:
Cheryl provided an update that they are very focused on the budget which will be voted on during the next meeting. Everyone submitting their budget puts in a lot of work and does a phenomenal job. Block development group will be at the meeting.

Jacque mentioned the Mission Beverly project had a good write-up in the Johnson County Post this week.

Spooky Walk is Friday, October 16th and they are looking for volunteers. Email Penn or Jenny if you are available. **Chris** mentioned that it is a great event and people should volunteer. Transportation will be the same. **Katie** recommends having some kind of band/music at the pickup.

Penn reminded members to nominate Championship Trees and Fall is a great time to get pictures. **Jacque** asked for suggestions on what could be put in the signboards to advertise. She will replace the tree drive poster with one for the championship tree. **Nicole** asked Penn for past advertisements that were used. **Katie** suggested a map of past trees and **Nicole** thought of making it a Google map linked to QR code. **Katie** mentioned the person who leads the Rushton bike bus and the kids could ride around to see them and/or nominate.

Nicole is hoping for the Tree ID update next month and get the list to approve next month.

Upcoming Notes and Meetings
Wed, Sep 16: 7PM | City Council Mtg
Fri, Sep 18: 6PM | Concert in the Park | Mohawk Park
Sat, Sep 26: 9AM | Tree Drive Pickup | PCC North Entrance
Sat, Sep 26: 5PM | Street Dance | Johnson Dr
Sat, Oct 3: 10AM | Floating Pumpkin Patch | PCC Pool
Wed, Oct 7: 6:30PM | Community Development Committee
Mon, Oct 12: 6PM | PRT Meeting

Adjournment:
Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting; **Sarah G** seconded the motion. **Motion passed 8-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Lyndsey Kratzberg, secretary pro tempore.