

Minutes



Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission



Meeting of July 23, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Okanagan Falls Recreation Centre,
Multipurpose Room,

1141 Cedar Street, Okanagan Falls, BC

Present: M. Taylor (RDOS, Director, Electoral Area "D")

Members: Bob Daly (Chair), Allison Symons (Vice Chair), Judy Garner, Barbara Shanks, Kelvin Hall, Rick Wilson, Kris Lee

Absent: Laura Adamson, Mark Beaulieu

Recording Secretary: Heather Lemieux (Recording Secretary)

Staff: None

Guests: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. Quorum Present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the the Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda of July 23, 2026 be adopted and all presentations and reports be received as presented.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES — June 25, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the Minutes for the Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission meeting of June 25, 2026 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. CORRESPONDENCE / DELEGATIONS

- 3.1 Off-leash Dog Park** — Correspondence — Complaint from delegation was received for the pace of consideration regarding the off-leash dog park proposal.

- 3.2 Beach Volleyball** — The commission requested more information from the delegates on June 29, 2026 about the beach volleyball proposal - including cost, measurements, maintenance requirements, and related costs.

To date, no new information has been received.

- 3.3 Keogan Sports Park** — Concerns received from two citizens on Thomas Place about locating net sports at the park.

4. RDOS STAFF REPORTS — Absent

None

5. COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

None

6. RDOS DIRECTOR'S REPORT — M. Taylor (RDOS, Director, Electoral Area "D")

- 6.1 Lions Park** — M. Taylor (RDOS, Director, Electoral Area "D") reported that the Pathway in Lions Park has been repaired and is complete.

Reported on the success of the project, despite many procedural and red-tape barriers.

7. BUSINESS ARISING

- 7.1 Spit & Lions Gardens Pond Condition** — Discussed the commission's concern regarding both the overgrown spit and around the pond in Lions gardens.

In March 2025, the commission suggested a possible volunteer project to weed the spit in consultation with gardeners so that the native plantings would not be disturbed.

The commission was told that RDOS Staff did not have time to consult with volunteers on this project and that it was too sensitive for volunteers, without supervision and input.

RDOS Staff reassured the commission that they would be maintaining the spit.

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the RDOS staff assess the condition of native plantings on the spit and around the perimeter of Lions Park pond, and to remove overgrown and unplanned non-native vegetation.

CARRIED

7.2 Fire Pit – Fire Chief Recommendations — Discussions were held at the June 25, 2026 Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission meeting regarding the suggestion from a community member to have fire pits on the beach.

B. Daly (Chair) contacted R. Stoltz (Okanagan Falls, Fire Chief) who stated that fire pits would be a good addition to the parks, and had no reservations about installing them.

M. Taylor (RDOS, Director, Electoral Area “D”) reported that the RDOS has several stored fire pits that are not being used at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT fire pits be installed on the beaches at Kenyon Park and Christie Park.

CARRIED

7.3 Kenyon House Deficiencies — Motion, March 26, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission respectfully requests an update on the status of the Kenyon House deficiencies and the resulting repairs.

CARRIED

7.4 Assessment of Kenyon & Keogan Parks Irrigation Systems — Motion, March 26, 2026 — Reports were submitted to the commission by M. Koch (RDOS, Managing Director of Community & Environmental Services).

The main points regarding irrigation are THAT:

- i. They are functional with regular repairs, but that showing their age;
- ii. Future planning for any changes will follow the *Okanagan Falls Parks Master Plan*; and that
- iii. No plans have been solidified for major replacements at this time.

ACTION — M. Koch (RDOS, Managing Director of Community & Environmental Services) to redistribute copies of irrigation assessment reports to the commission.

7.5 Recommendations to New Council — The commission discussed recommendations to new council regarding the care of parks. Refer to 9. *ADDENDUM: Recommendations Regarding Parks to the New Okanagan Falls City Council*.

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission submit the recommendations to council as an addendum to these meeting minutes, dated July 23, 2026.

CARRIED

7.6 Memorial Bench — *Regarding wrong memorial bench placed in Christie Park – this is in the process of being corrected by the RDOS Parks Department. The proper bench has been ordered but will not be available until late fall.*

RDOS Staff informed B. Daly (Chair) that the bench installed in error will be replaced with a proper bench in late fall.

Thank you extended to J. Shuttleworth (RDOS, Manager of Parks and Facilities) for quickly addressing this error.

The commission is pleased that a uniform theme of memorial benches is being maintained.

7.7 Resignations — B. Daly (Chair) resigned from the commission effective at the adjournment of the meeting, and thanked all members for their commitment and hard work on behalf of the community.

K. Hall also resigned effective at the adjournment of the meeting, and was thanked by the commission for his many years of service.

8. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved and Seconded THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

CARRIED

9. ADDENDUM: Recommendations Regarding Parks to the New Okanagan Falls City Council

With the short amount of time left before an election is called, it would be responsible of the Okanagan Falls Parks and Recreation Commission to offer recommendations from the many years of experience in working with the RDOS.

1. As it is likely that RDOS Parks will be managing parks and recreation for the new municipality until such time that the municipality is able to do so on its own, it is recommended that the municipality enter a contract with RDOS with prescribed services addressing maintenance, repair, replacement and capital projects, and other services provided by RDOS.

(There is a record of a planned maintenance systems from before the RDOS took over management of the Parks and Recreation).

2. In the agreement, it is recommended that RDOS Parks and Recreation staff be exclusively assigned to Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation services.
3. That an asset management plan be developed for fiscal responsibility in management and scheduled replacement of assets.
4. Make timely use of contractors in order to keep up with projects and repairs.

5. Ensure that projects are not held up by commitments to other RDOS Areas.
6. Ensure that long-term rental of facilities does not exclude rentals of the same facility when not in use (ex. Kenyon House and the private school).

NEXT MEETING – September 24, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. — Okanagan Falls Recreation Centre, Multipurpose Room

UPCOMING — Okanagan Falls Connects Event — Sunday, September 13, 2026

Attachments:

[RDOS Regional Connections](#)

[Parks and Recreation Commission Reference Documents](#)

[Commission Resource Page](#)

[By Area | RDOS Recreation Guide](#)

2026 Commission Timeline.pdf

Project Request Form - (Insert Proj. Title).doc

Allison Symons (Vice Chair), Okanagan Falls Parks & Recreation Commission – Electoral Area “D”



Heather Lemieux, Recording Secretary