

# City of Olympia

*City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501*



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, October 21, 2021

6:00 PM

Register to attend:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_153PAk4USISLnP2](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_153PAk4USISLnP2)  
Phone and Online  
8HXMziA

## Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

**1.A ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 8 - Chair Maria Ruth, Vice Chair Brock Milliern, Committee member Brent Barnes, Committee member Barbara Benson, Committee member Kyle Guzlas, Committee member Kim Murillo, Committee member Tiffany Sandy and Committee member Alecia Johnson

**Absent:** 1 - Committee member Spence Cearns

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**The agenda was approved unanimously.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of September 16, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory  
Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

**The minutes were approved unanimously.**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Jacobs shared his thoughts about the importance of neighborhood parks within 1/2 mile and land acquisition importance.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1) Public meeting on October 28, 2021 will present the conceptual vision for the aquatic study.

2) Jennifer Gessley-Gayman gave an update on the sensory gardens. We did not receive the grant but are moving forward with the design at Decatur. Kettle View will be next. Also, SSPTP liked the idea of communication boards near playgrounds. They recommended a local artist with Down Syndrome that would be willing to work on the design.

3) Kyle Guzlas shared that the developer, Romano Capital, pulled out of the 10 acre development next to LBA Woods.

## 6. BUSINESS ITEMS

Public Hearing and Recommendation for Proposed Park Naming for 911  
Adams St SE - Rebecca Howard Park for Peace and Healing

**Attachments:** [Letter from Shawna Hawk regarding Rebecca Howard Pa](#)  
[Olympia Area Black Pioneers](#)  
[Rebecca Howard BlackPast Link](#)  
[Rebecca Howard Reflections Link](#)  
[Thurston Talk Article Link](#)  
[Wikipedia Link](#)

Paul Simmons presented background on the proposed park name. He opened the hearing up to the public at 6:33 p.m. Olivia Salazar de Breaux shared that she supports the name. Greg Griffith shared some history on Rebecca Howard and also supports the name. The hearing was closed at 6:39 p.m. The Committee discussed the proposed name and made a motion for the Chair to write a recommendation to recommend the name of Rebecca Howard Park for Peace and Healing. The motion mover was Barbara Benson and was seconded by Brock Milliern. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the City Council to approve the proposed name "Rebecca Howard Park for Peace and Healing" for the 911 Adams St SE park property.**

Yelm Highway Community Park Update

**Attachments:** [Engage Olympia Project Page](#)

Laura Keehan presented the proposal concept plan for the phase 1 Southern portion of the park and reviewed the survey results. PRAC members agreed to hold a special meeting on December 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom to hear a presentation from the Olympia School District and Berger Partnership on the District's response to PRAC's letter on school co location.

**No action; information only.**

Draft Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan Recommendation

**Attachments:** [Draft Plan on Engage Olympia](#)  
[Survey responses](#)  
[Compiled Email Comments](#)

Laura Keehan reviewed the public feedback received on the draft plan. PRAC provided input and ideas for revisions to the draft. There was a motion to authorize the Chair to write a letter recommending approval of the draft plan. The mover was Barbara Benson and Kyle Guzlas seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Recommend approval of the 2022 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan.**

**7. REPORTS**

OMPD: Barbara Benson provided an overview of the recent advisory committee meeting and letter.

**8. QUESTIONS OF STAFF AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**Upcoming**

**Accommodations**