

AGENDA
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 5:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92140715051>

Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 9921 4071 5051

- I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** October 2, 2024, November 6, 2024

- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - a. Parks, Recreation & Open Space Zoning**

- V. PARKS DIVISION UPDATE – Parks Manager Jennifer Haro**

- VI. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & COMMENTS**

- VII. ADJOURN**

Next Regular Meeting: Wed., February 5, 5:30pm

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, October 2, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Civic Center Community Rooms

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Vice Chair Stephanie Lile called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Commissioners Kim Anderson, Hanley Bonyngé and Stephen McDuffie were present. Commissioners Guy Magnus, Louise Tieman and Stace Gordon were excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the August 7, 2024, Parks Commission meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mary Manning, Lucinda Winguard, Saralee Broback, Kathy Hall, and Teresa Cassen from the Crescent Valley Alliance spoke regarding the Crescent Creek master plan and the native garden.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Sports Complex – Phase 1B management: The commissioners discussed the topic of allowing the new covered shelters at Phase 1B of the Gig Harbor Sports Complex be reservable or not. There was consensus that the shelters and stage should be reservable. The commissioners also heard a presentation from Anne Smith of South Sound Pickleball regarding scheduling of the new pickleball courts. Discussion of pickleball scheduling will be continued at a future meeting.

B. Peninsula Light Fields: Discussed different options for rental charges of the Peninsula Light Fields to local organizations.

Motion: Commissioner Lile moved to recommend a rate of \$20/hr./field for the rental of the Peninsula Light Fields (Bonyngé second). Motion passed 4-0.

C. Comprehensive Plan – Parks Element: The commissioners discussed the parks element of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

PARKS DIVISION UPDATES:

Parks Manager Jennifer Haro updated the commission about the Austin Estuary sculpture fix, PenMet discussions, the Conservation Area celebration/ChumFest on 11/23 and the Sports Complex Phase 1A public fundraising kickoff on 10/25.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Scott Keely
Public Works Assistant - Parks

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, November 6, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
Civic Center Community Rooms

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Chair Louise Tieman called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Commissioners Kim Anderson, Stephen McDuffie, Guy Magnus, and Stace Gordon were present. Commissioner Hanley Bonyngé joined virtually. Vice Chair Stephanie Lile was excused.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Zoning** – Commissioners reviewed and discussed the proposed new zoning use tables and for park spaces within city limits.

Motion: Move to recommend the adoption of the zoning use table regarding Parks.

(Tieman/Anderson)

Vote: Unanimously approved

There was also discussion on the development standards for the parks zone. There was consensus that the Parks Commission would like to eliminate minimum standards except for buildings, since each situation is unique.

- B. Peninsula Light Fields rental discussion – cont'd:** Discussed a discounted rental rate for longer reservations of the Peninsula Light Fields, specifically for the GHLL.

Motion: recommend a rental rate of \$15,000 for the entirety of the GHLL season each year

(McDuffie/Tieman)

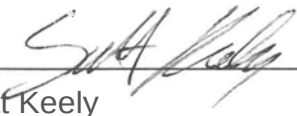
Vote: Unanimously approved

- C. Pickleball discussion – cont'd:** Tabled for a future meeting

PARKS DIVISION UPDATES:

Parks Manager Jennifer Haro updated the commission about the progress of the Skansie Netshed repair project, proposed parks budget, as well as the walking trails inside of the Txʷaalqəł Conservation land.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.



Scott Keely

Public Works Assistant - Parks



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks Commission

FROM: Jennifer Haro, Parks Manager

DATE: December 2, 2024

SUBJECT: Draft Parks Code

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Zoning

The draft parks code has been updated since the last discussion at the November meeting. Setbacks for many park amenities have been deleted, however, staff feels it is necessary to have appropriate setbacks for buildings. Setbacks from residential properties and streets should be considered for gathering places or amenities that could be noisy.

Chapter 17.42

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DISTRICT (Park)

Sections:

17.42.010	Intent and definitions.
17.42.020	Permitted uses.
17.42.030	Conditional uses.
17.42.040	Site plan.
17.42.050	Minimum development standards.
17.42.060	Maximum height of structures.
17.42.070	Parking and loading facilities.
17.42.080	Signs.
17.42.090	Performance standards.
17.42.100	Hours of operation.

17.42.010 Intent and definitions.

- A. The parks, recreation and open space district is intended to provide for the siting, maintenance and improvement of publicly owned parks, recreational facilities and open space and appropriate accessory uses.
- B. "Parks" are defined in GHMC 17.04.653 as land used for active and passive recreation including, but not limited to, local and regional parks, playgrounds, water access facilities and nonmechanical boat launches.
- C. "Recreation" is defined as an activity or experience for enjoyment, relaxation and physical well-being at a park or area specifically designated for public use.
- D. "Open space" is defined as a property that is left primarily in a natural state, but allows passive recreation use, such as hiking, walking and nature viewing.

17.42.020 Permitted uses.

Refer to Chapter [17.14](#) GHMC for uses permitted in the Park district.

17.42.030 Conditional uses.

Refer to Chapter [17.14](#) GHMC for uses conditionally permitted in the Park district.

17.42.040 Site plan.

The site plan review process established under Chapter [17.96](#) GHMC shall apply to new development within this district that adds over 2,000 square feet of impervious surface that do not have an adopted master plan. New park furnishings, such as picnic tables, benches, or garbage cans shall not require site review. Landscaping enhancements that do not add more than 2,000 square feet of impervious surface shall not require site review.

17.42.050 Minimum development standards.

In a Parks district, the minimum requirements are as follows:

Use	Lot Width	Front Yard	Rear Yard	Side Yard	Coverage
Admin. Facilities	None Specified	25	30	15	60% max
Maintenance Facilities and Storage	100	35	50	15	70% max
Waste Water Lift Stations	50	10	50	25	60% max

Use	Lot Width	Front Yard	Rear Yard	Side Yard	Coverage
Schools	None Specified	50	50	50	60% max
Trails	None Specified	-	-	-	25% max
Sport Courts*	100	25	50	50	60% max
Community Centers	100	50	100	50	60% max
Parks buildings (i.e. restrooms, picnic shelters, gazebos, pavilions)	None Specified	25	25	25	60% max
Park Furnishings (benches, picnic tables)	None specified	-	-	-	-
Playgrounds, bike tracks, skate parks, other park amenities	None specified	-	-	-	50% max

*New pickleball-specific courts and courts shared with pickleball must be a minimum of 400 feet from the nearest residence. Basketball and tennis courts must be a minimum of 100 feet from the nearest residence.

Any yard abutting a residential development shall be required to maintain a dense vegetated screen not less than 25 feet. (Ord. 706 § 1, 1996).

17.15.060 Maximum height of structures.

In a Parks district, all buildings and structures shall not exceed a height of 35 feet as provided for in GHMC [17.99.370\(D\)](#), except as restricted under Chapter [17.62](#) GHMC, Height Restriction Area, and except as provided under GHMC [17.99.390\(A\)\(3\)](#), [17.99.510\(A\)\(2\)](#) and [17.99.510\(B\)](#).

17.15.070 Parking and loading facilities.

In the Parks district, parking and loading on-site shall be provided in connection with any permitted or conditional use as specified in Chapter [17.72](#) GHMC, where applicable. For all other uses, required parking will be at the discretion of the public works director. In rear and side yards, a dense vegetative screen shall be provided between the parking area and any adjacent residence.

17.15.080 Signs.

In a Parks district, signs may be allowed in conjunction with any permitted use and special event and are subject to the provisions of Chapter [17.80](#) GHMC. Historical and interpretive signs, wayfinding signs, and park rules are allowed at the discretion of the parks manager.

17.15.090 Performance standards.

In a Parks district, the performance standards are as follows:

- A. *Exterior Mechanical Devices.* Air conditioners, heating, cooling and ventilating equipment, pumps and heaters and all other mechanical devices shall be screened.
- B. *Landscaping.* Landscaping is required and shall be installed in conformance with Chapter [17.78](#) GHMC and/or conditions of approval of discretionary applications required by this title. Such landscaping shall be maintained in a neat manner. In no event shall such landscaped areas be used for storage of materials or parking of vehicles.

C. *Outdoor Storage of Materials.* The outdoor storage of materials, including but not limited to lumber, pipe, landscaping materials, sports equipment, or construction equipment for the duration of a project is permitted as an incidental or accessory activity of a permitted use or the principal feature of a conditional use. Such storage shall be screened by a wall, fence, landscaping or structure from surrounding properties and streets.

D. *Outdoor Lighting.* Outdoor lighting shall conform to the provisions of GHMC [17.99.350](#) and [17.99.460](#). Such lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground-mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from this requirement. Lighting for sports courts and fields shall be exempt from pole height requirements.

E. *Dumpsters.* Dumpsters shall be screened from view. Screening shall be complementary to building design and materials.

F. *Design.* All development in the Parks district should attempt to meet design and development standards contained in Chapter [17.99](#) GHMC, except when not practical for the preferred uses of the park.

17.15.100 Hours of operation.

Parks shall be open between the dawn and dusk, as defined in GHMC 9.24.005. Exceptions shall include

A. Lighted sports facilities, including pickleball courts and sports fields, shall be permitted to operate between the hours of 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM or as otherwise permitted by a lease of facility use permits

B. Events in park buildings shall be permitted to operate between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM, or as otherwise permitted by a lease or facility use agreement.

C. Jerisich Dock is open 24 hours a day to vessel operators who have paid for moorage

D. Special events held in parks shall be held to the hours specified in the special event permit authorization

The Gig Harbor Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1529, passed June 24, 2024.

PARKS COMMISSION

DECEMBER 2024

Parks Division Updates

Projects

Gig Harbor Sports Complex

Phase 1B – Phase 1B is continuing as scheduled, with progress on the pickleball and bocce courts, and installation of the playground equipment.

Skansie Netshed Rehabilitation

The exterior work is done. The interior moment frames that will shore up the Netshed have been constructed and delivered on-site, with installation expected to be completed by the end of November.

Other Park Updates

txʷaalqəł Conservation Area Celebration



A small ceremony was held on November 23, in conjunction with Chum Fest, to celebrate Phases 2 & 4 of the Conservation Area. Councilmember (now Mayor) Mary Barber gave a speech to recognize those that made the acquisition happen. She presented a certificate to Ali Querin of Great Peninsula Conservancy, who did the majority of the work on the phase 4 acquisition.

2025-2026 Budget – The budget was approved as presented for parks projects on November 25, after much discussion about possibly scaling down the commercial fishing homeport. It was approved with the full buildout. Projects recommended for funding include:

• Sports Complex Phase 1B	\$2 million
• Crescent Creek Restroom Remodel	\$190,000
• Crescent Creek Play Area resurfacing & sand pit	\$ 40,000
• Soundview Forest Tree maintenance	\$125,000
• Crescent Creek Master Plan	\$110,000
• Jerisich Dock redecking	\$ 66,000
• Finholm View Climb Structural repairs	\$ 30,000
• Adam Tallman Park -wetland review & trail imp.	\$ 50,000
• txʷaalqəl Conservation Area loop trail & signs	\$ 40,000
• Splash pad replumbing & rewiring	\$250,000
• Basketball court at Civic Center Skate Park	\$ 45,000
• Commercial Fishing Homeport	\$3.48 million
• Sports Complex Phase 1A	<u>\$2 million</u>
	\$8,426,000

Deferred projects include: Grandview Forest restroom relocation, Cushman Trail Connection to Harborview Drive, Crescent Creek Park Phase 1A, Gig Harbor Sports Complex Phase 2 & 3, Masonic Lodge remodel, Veteran's Memorial Park Phase 2 improvements, Wilkinson Farm Park Master Plan & Barn restoration, Shaw Park Analysis and Remediation, Cushman Trail Phase 5A pedestrian crossing engineering study, Love Lock art installation, 7601 Soundview House & Property planning.

Upcoming Special Events

December-

- 12/7 - Holiday Tree lighting ceremony at Skansie Park
- Weekends in December- Santa Village at Donkey Creek Park
- Holiday themed photo booths at Skansie Park and Bogue View Platform