

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council
Services, Safety & Parks Committee

6:30 PM
July 23, 2024

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Committee Members:

Tola Marts, Chair
Barbara de Michele
Russell Joe

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marts called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public spoke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of June 25, 2023. **CM Joe MOVED (DCP de Michele 2nd)** to approve the minutes as presented. **Motion PASSED 3-0.**

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **COM 0020 - Recreation Update**

After the staff presentation no members of the public spoke.

Committee comments included the following:

- The Committee thanked staff for their ongoing efforts.
- Committee members agreed that the biggest concern they hear from residents is that parks programs fill up too quickly.
- Committee members encouraged staff to reach out to diverse members of the community to look for opportunities to improve services.
- Committee members were pleased with the number of survey responses.
- Surveys guide decision making and inform efforts at continuous improvement.
- Parks is not only about programs, and the noted facility improvements were appreciated by the Committee.
- Committee encouraged staff to continue looking for smart, economical ways to make improvements.
- Committee members also thanked staff for the Senior Center programs.

b) **COM 0048 - Urban Forest Management Plan Update**

After the staff presentation, no members of the public spoke.

Committee comments included the following:

- The Committee thanked staff for an informative presentation.
- Committee urged staff to find low cost, economical ways to enhance the City's urban forest.
- Committee appreciated that the areas around creeks, specifically Issaquah Creek, are an areas of focus.

- Committee recommended having riparian environment and related tree canopy be an aspect considered in future land acquisitions.
- Committee urged staff to look into tree canopy as an equity issue.
- Committee members raised concerns about illegal tree removals and asked staff to educate the public about the hazards of doing so.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:18 PM.

Tola Marts, Chair

Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk