



CITY OF YACHATS
PARK & COMMONS COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Civic Meeting Room 1, 441 Hwy 101 N. OR 97498
Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at 2:00 pm

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Roll Call**

Commission Members	P/A
Meg Simans	P
Ron Simans	P
George Giroux	P
Adam Altson	p
John Pravel	p
Dan Wright	P

Staff Members	
Bobbi Price, City Manager	Kimmie Jackson, Recorder
Rosa Marchand, Commons Coordinator	

- III. **Announcements** - None
- IV. **Public Comment** - None
- V. **Reports**
 - a. The Commons report outlines several key initiatives, with the installation of basketball hoops scheduled for the first week of August with having a temporary closure of the multipurpose room; the North end Commons project is advancing as designs for restroom renovations are being finalized in preparation for applying for permits and bids; a new sound system is being contracted, and plans are underway for a live music event on August 16; steps are being taken to organize the Commons as an emergency shelter. A budget for supplies has been approved, and updates to rental pricing will begin shortly.
- VI. **New Business**
 - a. [Scharen Design Studio's](#) Shelby and Chris reviewed the process and next steps, then opened the floor for discussion. The plan aims to create a visionary approach to key buildings and spaces, identify maintenance needs, optimize space utilization, and outline potential future capital improvements for areas including the Commons Building, City Hall, Commons Park, Sunset Park, the Library, and Little Log Church. The project commenced in November with meetings and an analysis of existing studies and buildings. Following the development of design concepts, a draft plan was presented in May, and it is now ready to be presented to the City Council later in the month. The process involved extensive community input through public surveys, meetings, and

consultations with an advisory group. The feedback collected helped shape the plan, which has received positive engagement from the community.

- b. [Wetlands Boardwalk signage project](#) - The subcommittee met to address the need for better maps at all six park entrances; the only current map is incomplete and primarily associated with the Yachats area, and noted the maps are currently being reprinted, with some minor corrections; it was pointed out that hikers at Beaver Creek using their phones to take pictures of maps instead of relying on paper, suggesting a potential shift away from traditional printed maps. Concerns were raised about the efficacy of QR codes, given the low access statistics for the current signs. The group agreed that while QR codes are a good idea, they shouldn't be the primary method for accessing trail information. Overall, the need for clear and accessible maps was emphasized as crucial for enhancing the visitor experience.
- c. [Noxious Weeds](#) - the need to identify invasive plant species and create a remediation schedule based on their flowering and seed timelines. Ron shared nine common invasive species, outlining effective eradication methods that avoid chemicals; noted that tactics vary; some species require long-term smothering, while others need careful seed management; it was pointed out that the old ordinance's July 1 deadline isn't suitable for all species, as some, like ivy, are best removed later in the summer; As the planning commission liaison, Loren Dickinsen expressed his commitment to getting more involved in the discussions moving forward. The need is to establish a practical approach to managing invasive species in the community. The Mayor advised that while the Department of Agriculture is an important source for weed lists, it should not be the sole authority, as other organizations like the Forest Service and BLM identify additional invasive species.
- d. [PCC Guidelines](#) -. The Chair opens the discussion by addressing the current situation of the Commission, emphasizing the impact of two resignations, particularly those from leadership roles, and highlighting the need for decisions moving forward.

Meg acknowledges Dan Sterling, who has been dealing with severe sciatica but is recovering well, and expresses gratitude for his contributions to the commission, as well as shares her positive experiences working alongside him and shares her health and happiness, stating her intention to continue as chair for a while to oversee the Wetlands project and facilitate a smooth transition within the group.

Leadership transition discussion shifts toward how the commission will restructure, specifically regarding the need to appoint a vice chair or co-chair to support the Chair moving forward.

Vice Chair Nominations: A discussion is underway regarding the nomination of a vice chair. Adam Altson expresses his willingness to take on the role but clarifies that he cannot fully assume the chair at this time. The commission confirms Adam as the vice chair after a brief discussion and approval.

Adjourn Parks & Commons Commission Meeting 4:04 pm

Minutes prepared by Kimmie Jackson, Recorder