

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026, AT 4:15 PM AT SHOW LOW CITY HALL, IN THE DEUCE OF CLUBS CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT 180 NORTH 9TH STREET, SHOW LOW, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Dawn Hall called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairwoman Dawn Hall, Committee Member Becky Clark, Committee Member Joel Weeks, and Committee Member Mike Neagle.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Committee Member Jodi Whitehead.

COUNCIL LIASION: Vice Mayor Kakavas.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Anna Atencio, City Attorney; Justin Johnson, Deputy City Manager; Shane Hemesath, Public Works Director; Mikey Mariscal, Community Services Director; Rick Austin, Operations Manager; Shannon Adams, Grants Coordinator; Layne Rogers, Parks and Facilities Maintenance Supervisor; Terri Nikolaus, Recreation Supervisor; Becca Seely, Aquatics Pool Manager; Grace Payne, Communications Manager; and Rachael Hall, City Clerk.

GUESTS: None.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC :

None.

4. GRANTS UPDATE BY SHANNON ADAMS:

Ms. Adams reported that the Tim McKay Park project was underway and remained on schedule. The project was the City's primary current improvement project and was anticipated to be completed next year.

5. Parks and Facilities Maintenance Update

A. Report on Parks and Facilities Maintenance and Projects - City-Wide April 2026 through August 2026, and Report on Upcoming Activities

Mr. Hemesath provided an update on the Timothy McKay Memorial Park. He said landscaping improvements were underway, with paving and concrete pads completed the prior week. Landscaping and irrigation work was expected to begin the following week, with sod installation anticipated by mid-September. The project included approximately 2.5 acres of grass and approximately 16 shade trees, primarily globe willows. The center area was

being left largely open to evaluate how the space was utilized before adding additional trees and decorative landscaping. Parking lot lighting was expected to be wired and operational the following month. Three ramadas were expected to be delivered and installed along the park path. Future phases included a programmed water feature and a play mound with ropes, slides, boulders, and other features designed for younger children.

Mr. Hemesath said the large grass area in the center of the park would provide an open, relatively flat space that could accommodate special events. Staff explained that use of the area for events would require a special event process and permit and could potentially allow the area to be closed for an event. Restrooms at the existing facility had been remodeled, and approximately two-thirds of the building had been opened up and received new flooring. Staff noted that additional building code requirements would need to be addressed before the facility could be used for assemblies or similar events. Approximately 60 parking spaces were currently available, with additional space left undeveloped to allow for future parking expansion. Following the property exchange and demolition of the former labor systems building, plans included expanding parking, constructing a public restroom at the top of the hill, and improving trail access. Staff anticipated bidding the trail portion within the next month or two, with the restroom planned for a later phase. Staff had discussed the possibility of expanding parking near the VFW through a potential joint parking agreement. No formal proposal had yet been developed. The Timothy McKay Memorial Park trail was an eight-foot-wide, ADA-accessible, multi-use path. Staff indicated that motorized use would not be allowed per City Code and that signage could be added if necessary.

Mr. Austin provided updates on numerous Parks and Recreation projects and improvements:

- New pavilions had been ordered for City Park, the Splash Pad area, City Hall, and the Public Works facility.
- The Show Low Lake Ramada project had resumed after approximately nine months of inactivity. Materials had been ordered, and staff was coordinating with volunteers to begin construction.
- Approximately 40 new ADA-accessible picnic tables had been installed throughout various parks.
- New disc golf signage and exercise equipment for the City Park path were being developed and installed.
- Fencing was being installed around the large soccer fields at Nikolaus Park, with a four-foot-high green fence planned and new Musco lighting was being installed at the large field.
- Sixteen trees had been planted along the Deuce of Clubs to replace dead trees, along with memorial and Arbor Day trees.
- New basketball courts were expected to be completed during the first week of September. Existing courts and lighting had been removed, and new poles and lighting were being installed.
- New Christmas lighting was planned for City Park and the Meadow, including an expanded tunnel of lights extending from Clark Road

toward the Aquatic Center. The lights would include music synchronization.

- Additional lighting and trees were planned along the Meadow Path, including globe willows and Red Blaze Maples. Funding had been secured to replace the deteriorated pavers at Festival Marketplace.
- A wheelchair-accessible swing had been ordered for Ponderosa Field, with consideration being given to installing an additional accessible swing in the future.
- Improvements at the Elks Lodge ballfield were nearing completion, with infield dirt and additional mowing remaining before the field could be used.
- The interior of the City Campus Gym was being painted, and plans included new wall padding and sound panels.
- Lighting improvements were underway at the Little League and tennis court parking areas, with conduit installation in progress.
- Additional lighting had been installed near the exercise equipment behind the Aquatic Center using motion-activated fixtures.
- City trails and parking lots had been crack sealed and slurry sealed, with remaining areas planned for completion the following year.
- The new restroom and pavilion associated with the downtown parking area had been completed and were being utilized in conjunction with Festival Marketplace activities and the farmers market.
- Landscaping and a new sign were planned for the cemetery entrance at Sixth Street and Adams Street.
- The former labor systems building had been demolished to allow for future restroom and parking improvements.
- Approximately 30 trees had been removed from City Park due to drought-related damage, with additional removals anticipated.
- Plans were progressing to place overhead power underground at City Park. Staff was awaiting electrical equipment, which was estimated to have a four- to six-month lead time. The project would also provide additional electrical capacity for future Christmas lighting and other park uses.
- Additional fencing was planned at the dog park and Senior Field.
- The gym ceiling was being improved by removing old soundproof tiles and installing and texturing drywall.

Mr. Hemesath reported that the rear addition of the rehabilitation of the Reidhead house continued to separate from the main structure. A bid had been issued to install piers and tie the structures back together, which was expected to use most of the current year's rehabilitation budget. Future work would include repairing exterior cracks, addressing the windows, and continuing moisture mitigation. Staff planned to eventually complete interior plaster, flooring, and painting work. The project was expected to remain several years away from completion due to the cost of the necessary repairs. Staff explained that the adobe structure required appropriate materials that allowed the building to breathe. The long-term goal was to relocate the

museum near the rehabilitation house and preserve the structure for tours and other limited uses. ADA accessibility remained a challenge for the building.

Mr. Austin reported that a new restroom was planned for the McCarty Park and that restrooms at Frontier Field were scheduled for remodeling, with an additional restroom planned for the opposite end of the field. The Adams Cabin floor had been replaced and stained, with trim and some kitchen work remaining. Landscaping at the City campus recreation building had been completed. A new electrical conduit had been installed to support lighting for trees along Main Street.

Mr. Hemesath reported that the Show Low Sports and Events Center had been presented to the City Council the prior evening. The project remained within the approximately \$56 million budget, and the Council had authorized staff to proceed to the final construction document phase. Final plans were expected to be completed over the following two months, with the possibility of beginning site work in late September or October. The project was anticipated to have approximately a 15-month construction period, with completion targeted for early 2028. The proposed facility would include meeting rooms, a full kitchen, restrooms, offices, concessions, seating areas, six courts, a championship court, bleachers, a walking track, workout facilities, turf areas, and a large event space. The event space was approximately 10,000 square feet and could accommodate approximately 540 people at round tables. Staff also discussed potential upgrades to interior finishes and other amenities, subject to available funding.

Vice Mayor Kakavas noted that the City had initially received a grant in 2008 to study the feasibility of an event center and expressed excitement that the current project incorporated both sports and event components. She noted that the facility could help attract youth tournaments, conventions, weddings, and other special events to the community.

Mr. Austin reviewed potential future projects, including play equipment at the Spillway, retaining walls near Senior Field, repairs and improvements to the outdoor volleyball courts, new gabion basket fencing, removal of lodgepole fencing, upgrades to Musco lighting, and other facility improvements. Board members were encouraged to provide suggestions for future projects.

Board Member Clark discussed the possibility of expanding the outdoor sand volleyball courts to accommodate tournaments. Staff agreed to investigate the feasibility of expanding the area. Board members also discussed the need for adequate lighting and restroom facilities if additional volleyball courts were developed.

The Committee expressed appreciation to Parks and Recreation staff for the significant amount of work completed throughout the City's parks and facilities and for the staff's creativity and dedication in developing new programs and improvements.

6. Community Services Department Projects and Events Update

A. Report on Events, Programs, and Projects, April 2026 through August 2026, and Upcoming Events

Ms. Payne provided an update on the City's Citizens Academy. She reported that the academy was scheduled to run from September 10 through October 8 and would consist of six Thursday sessions. The program was designed to educate residents about local government, including how the City was organized and how municipal services operated.

Ms. Payne reported that six participants had already registered for the upcoming academy. She stated that the program would conclude with a graduation recognition at a City Council meeting and noted that it continued to be a successful program with significant community reach.

Mr. Mariscal reported that planning had begun for the City's 75th anniversary celebration in 2028. At staff's request, he was gathering a small subcommittee from the group to begin developing ideas and planning the celebration. He explained that the committee would likely communicate primarily by email and meet a few times as needed. Vice Mayor Kakavas, Chairwoman Hall, and Board Member Clark volunteered to participate.

Mr. Mariscal also reported that a rodeo committee was needed and staff would be working with Main Street to begin planning future rodeo events and get a committee together. He noted that following the most recent rodeo, there had been increased interest from community members who wanted to volunteer and help with the event.

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Payne reported that rodeo attendance had increased significantly, from approximately 1,100 attendees the previous year to just over 3,000 attendees this year. Mr. Johnson commented that the event would likely continue to grow, and Mr. Mariscal noted that Main Street and his family were interested in helping expand the event.

Mr. Johnson reported that attendance at the Fourth of July Parade had increased from approximately 13,800 the previous year to approximately 15,000 this year.

Board Member Clark complimented the parade organizers and participants. She said the parade had exceeded her expectations, with numerous impressive floats. She complimented those involved in recruiting parade entries and said the parade had been phenomenal.

Chairwoman Hall noted that organizers had received so many parade entries that they had to stop accepting additional participants, while people were still interested in participating. She complimented the staff and volunteers for their work.

Vice Mayor Kakavas asked about the process for parade applications and entries. Ms. Seely explained that participants registered online through the City's activity registration system or in person at the Aquatic Center. The registration included questions regarding the dimensions of floats and vehicles, after which participants received the parade rules and requirements. She stated that staff sent regular email updates regarding the rules and other important information, with additional emails and text messages provided as the event approached.

Chairwoman Hall thanked staff for their work, stating that the parade had been absolutely amazing and complimenting the team for doing a great job.

B. Aquatics Update

Ms. Seely provided an update on Aquatic Center attendance and programming. She said the Aquatic Center attendance had increased compared to the previous year. In April, attendance increased from 3,224 in 2025 to 3,680 in 2026. May attendance increased from 5,264 to 5,500, and June attendance increased from 10,478 to 11,270. Chairwoman Hall commented that the attendance numbers represented a significant number of visitors.

Ms. Seely reported that swim lessons were now being offered monthly. The Aquatic Center had conducted a WSI class, resulting in 16 additional lifeguards qualified to teach swim lessons. The program had 48 swimmers in April and 135 swimmers in June; no May session was held due to school graduation.

A new swim team coach had been hired in May, and the summer swim team had 50 participants. The City hosted a swim meet in June with seven other communities and more than 150 swimmers competing. Silver City, New Mexico, had joined the competition, and Sedona and Scottsdale was expected to participate the following year.

The Aquatic Center had three pool rentals in April, three in May, and two in June. Ms. Seely explained that private rentals were not offered on Saturdays when the facility was already hosting events because staff were needed for those activities. Staff had also provided CPR training for Public Works employees in July and conducted emergency action plan and fire extinguisher training with Timber Mesa and the Aquatics staff.

The Aquatic Center had hosted four school groups in April and 13 school groups in May. During the end-of-school-year field trips, the facility had been full nearly every day. Staff also worked with the White Mountain Apache Tribe Boys & Girls Club to provide water safety instruction and swim testing for children participating in summer programs.

Ms. Seely said in May, City lifeguards provided support for the Deuce's Wild Triathlon. The Aquatic Center also offered Tie-Dye Tuesdays and a Red, White and Blue Out event to kick off the Fourth of July, which had 175

participants. Diego also offered a Kids Fitness Adventure class at the Recreation Building, which had 16 participants.

Chairwoman Hall complimented the Aquatics staff and lifeguards, noting that they had been an excellent group, cared about the children, and were well-liked by the kids.

Vice Mayor Kakavas asked about the Capital Improvement Program timeline for a new aquatic center. Mr. Johnson stated that the current plan anticipated design funding of approximately \$1.5 million in Fiscal Year 2029 and approximately \$15 million for construction in Fiscal Year 2030. He stated that the current plan was to locate the new aquatic center near the future Sports and Events Center.

The Committee also commented favorably on the appearance of the new parking lot and the overall professional appearance of the community facilities along the Deuce of Clubs.

C. Recreation Update

Ms. Nikolaus provided an update on recent Recreation Division activities and programs. The Recreation Division partnered with Public Works to host a Touch-a-Truck event, which attracted more than 500 attendees. An Old Stuff Sale was also held with approximately 40 vendors and 1,000 attendees. Other activities included Kids' Night Out, the May Barbecue Throwdown and anniversary celebration, Food Truck Fridays, Go Fly a Kite Day, Rally in the Dark, a pickleball tournament, and the Memorial Day softball tournament.

Ms. Nikolaus said the at the Turn of a Card Community Center, a Mother's Day Tea was held and sold out, with proceeds benefiting Meals on Wheels. The Center also hosted National Senior Fitness Day. The after-school program concluded for the school year, and Zumba and Friday Fitness classes continued.

Ms. Nikolaus said in June, the Recreation Division hosted the Show Low Rodeo, including the Junior Rodeo and the Open Rodeo. Food Truck Fridays had slowed due to the number of other activities taking place. However, staff had worked with the food truck vendors to help them understand and obtain the appropriate permits.

Ms. Nikolaus said additional June activities included a Patriotic Popsicle Party at Frontier Park, Family Fishing Day, and the return of Youth Flag Football, which had more than 150 participants. The 28th season of Pee Wee T-ball had nearly 200 participants. Summer programming also included softball, club volleyball, women's programs, Zumba, and dance fitness. Other Recreation programs included dog obedience classes, basic babysitting classes, Fossil Fever classes, a Movie and Make-It Night, where children watched a movie and made their own pizzas in the new kitchen, and several adult craft classes.

Vice Mayor Kakavas complimented Ms. Nikolaus and the Recreation staff,

noting that their programming was very creative and that the staff had been doing a wonderful job.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Approval of Minutes from April 7, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBER WEEKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM ARIL 7, 2026; SECONDED BY CHAIRWOMAN HALL; PASSED 4 TO 0 WITH CHAIRWOMAN HALL, COMMITTEE MEMBER CLARK, COMMITTEE MEMBER WEEKS, AND COMMITTEE MEMBER NEAGLE VOTING IN FAVOR.

8. **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:**

Scheduling of meetings, which may be brought up at this time.

Chairwoman Hall said the next meeting would be held on October 27, 2026, at 4:15 p.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to be brought before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, **CHAIRWOMAN HALL ADJOURNED THE MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF AUGUST 12, 2026, AT 5:02 P.M.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Mikey Mariscal, Community Services
Director

Chairwoman Dawn Hall

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of Show Low held on August 12, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Mikey Mariscal, Community Services
Director