



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, May 2, 2025 – 7:00am

651 10th Avenue, Room 101C

Meeting ID: 235 834 488 93

Passcode: CD3GT39m

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Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Approval
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Citizen Input
6. Board Member Committee Reports: Art Commission
7. Staff Reports
8. Old Business
9. New Business
 - Culture, Parks, and Recreation 101
 - Capital Improvement Plan
 - Moving meeting from July 4, 2025, to July 11, 2025
10. Scheduling of Meetings – Tentatively Friday, June 6, 2025
11. Adjournment

Our Mission: To enhance our community through exceptional service and stewardship.

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:00 am. For information on how to place an item on the agenda, email: greta.steinmetz@greeleygov.com at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting date.

GREELEY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – April 4, 2025

1. ROLL CALL

The Greeley Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met on Friday, April 4, 2025, at 7:01 am at the Greeley Recreation Center. Board members present: Greg McIntosh, Rand Morgan, Sharon Wright, Monica Ramirez, Bethany Kleiber, Eric Parrish, Ben Christiansen, Savanna Bennett, and Kristen Daniel. City Council Liaison Deb DeBoutez. Staff joining: Diana Frick (Director), Jill Krantz (Deputy Director), Eric Bloomer (Parks), Jusitn Scharton (Natural Areas and Trails), Susan Murray (Planning and Capital Project Manager), and Brecklyn Everhart (Administrative Assistant II).

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS – Ben Christiansen, Savanna Bennett, and Kristen Daniel were introduced.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Rand Morgan made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Eric Parrish, and passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Bethany Kleiber made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, which was seconded by Rand Morgan, and passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC INPUT – Request for a way to make improvement comments to parks, like “Speak Up Greeley”.

6. BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS: ART COMMISSION – Sharon Wright mentioned there is no new items to report. Just received the pricing for the Delta Park art piece, waiting on Kim Snyder for final approval. The piece for Redtail Park will be going on a pedestal.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Diana Frick

- Thanked all the board members for their service and commitment.

Eric Bloomer

- Getting ready for the spring season.
- The Arbor Day Proclamation will be read on April 15th at the City Council Meeting
- The annual Arbor Day celebration will be held on April 26th at 9:00 am at Luther Park
- The week of April 21st the Giving Tree presentations will be held at the schools

Daniel Lawrence

- Transitioned to outdoor sports with 392 teams of various sports teams and 4044 adult and youth sport participants
- Phillips 66 will fund Youth Assistant funds for swimming and pool enhancements
- Outdoor pools will open in a couple of weeks
- July 21st is the Third Annual Family Field Day

Justin Scharton

- Campo Esperanza Natural Area volunteer planting event on May 2nd
- Prescribed burns are on the calendar for Signature Bluffs and Poudre Learning Center
- Finished repair project at the Duran section of the Poudre Trail
- The Poudre Ponds project is on-going

8. OLD BUSINESS –

2025 Goals and Objectives

- One focused item was community engagement with Parks and Recreation. Take questions and find out the answers
- Monthly email with dates of events
- Park tours

9. NEW BUSINESS –

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Sharon Wright made a motion to elect Greg McIntosh as the Chair and Rand Morgan as the Vice Chair, which was seconded by Bethany Kleiber, and passed unanimously.

Capital Improvement Projects

Diana Frick explained how the Capital Improvement Projects are budgeted. Having staff look at a more long-term view of all the Culture, Parks, and Recreation Capital assets. Figure out current versus future needs and share that with the community.

10. UPCOMING AGENDAS – Culture, Parks, and Recreation 101, Capital Improvement Projects

11. NEXT MEETING – The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 2, 2025.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Eric Parrish made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 am, which was seconded by Rand Morgan, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg McIntosh, Chair

Brecklyn Everhart, Administrative Assistant II

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

STAFF REPORTS – May 2, 2025

Justin Scharton – Natural Areas & Trails

March 2025

	Month Total	Daily Avg (Month) Trend (prior month)	YTD Daily Avg Trend (prior year)
Sheep Draw @ McCloskey TH (installed May 2018; NEW counter with bike detection installed Aug 2023)	5027	162 ↑46.0%	113 ↑97.8%
Triple Creek Spur @ Mountain Vista TH (re-installed Aug 18, 2020)	3190	103 ↑50.9%	74 ↑0.7%
Poudre Trail @ Island Grove (installed Aug 2020)	2875	93 ↑33.6%	65 ↓33.4%
Poudre Trail @ Rover Run (new counter w/bike detection installed 3/6/24)	6414	207 ↑42.9%	150 ↑53.1%
Poudre Trail @ PLC (installed Aug 2020)	3503	113 ↑162.0%	61 ↑40.6%
Poudre Trail @ Poudre East (Kodak TH)	6310	204 ↑84.1%	123 ↑1.9%
Missile Site TH** (installed 3/22/24)	Waiting for data download	-- ↑---%	-- n/a
Missile Site Car/Bus# (installed 3/19/24)	1133	40 ↑51.7-	34 ↓16.9%

PRECRIBED FIRE

On April 7th, 40 trained wildland firefighters from 14 Colorado fire agencies attended the 2025 Northern Colorado Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (NOCO TREX) at the Poudre Learning Center (PLC) to culminate almost a year of training, planning, and coordination to put fire on the ground.

Fire is an important “ecological driver” in shortgrass prairie ecosystems that creates needed disturbances in the systems to provide habitat variation, clean out old vegetation, return nutrients to the soil, and spur new growth in the system. But fire was largely eliminated from these systems for the better part of the twentieth century. This has led to ecosystems already in decline to suffer further without this important component of the natural system.

2025 NOCO TREX Poudre Learning Center



April 07, 2025 07:00 to 17:00

Agencies that participated in the NOCO TREX program, hosted by Natural Areas & Trails.



Gabriela Sullivan, NAT's first certified Wildland Firefighter 2.

Knowing fire is needed is just the first step, getting it on the ground is much more difficult. NAT and Greeley Fire partnered with the Ember Alliance in the fall of 2024 to implement a grant-funded TRES project in Greeley. Through the fall and winter, multiple fire agencies planned, trained, and coordinated resources with the goal of scaling these components to make it easier to complete prescribed fire in Greeley. Burn plans were developed and approved, wildland fire certifications were obtained, and resources were coordinated in weekly calls ahead of the planned prescribed burn window.

If completing the planning and ensuring the right personnel and equipment resources are secured aren't daunting enough, best laid plans must then roll the dice with mother nature. Luckily for the NOCO TRES, all the stars aligned on April 7th and fire returned to the grassland around the PLC for the first time in over 30 years, with approximately 14 acres of grasslands burned during the prescribed fire.

The remaining days of the spring window passed without another day with good fire weather, so the team now looks to the fall for the next burn. Burn plans are already approved for Signature Bluffs Natural Area, and the TRES will focus on that site in the fall.



POUDRE PONDS REPAIR PROJECT



A crane places sheet pilings 16 feet deep in the southern riverbank of the Poudre River at Poudre Ponds, while crews follow behind to place 3-4 ft boulders above to construct the lower wall.

The river repair and protection project at Poudre Ponds continued in April. After a three-week work stoppage to redesign a component of the rock wall to provide additional structural stability, progress is again being made. Work of the bottom course of wall should be completed by early May, which the team is hoping ahead of runoff. Once the lower wall is completed, work will begin on the mid-ledge and the upper rock wall. The final step will be to re-pour the concrete trail and re-seed the area. The project is currently projected to be completed this summer, with more firm dates coming as the project proceeds past this phase.

MAINTENANCE

The NAT maintenance crew is ramping up spring efforts as the vegetation management season has started in April. After readying equipment and planning for the year, the crew began the season with the first full mow of the Poudre Trail in April. Interviews for seasonals are ongoing, and early herbicide application is being completed to stay ahead of weed pressure. Additionally, new irrigation systems at the NAT office and Campo Esparanza Natural Area are preparing the way for additional plantings this season in both locations.

OUTREACH

NAT and the PLC kicked off the first meeting of the Great Outdoors Colorado funded Generation Wild project in April. The goal of this phase of the project is to conduct planning and design that will flow into a second implementation phase in 2026. The Greeley project will focus on how to better connect kids in east Greeley to local nature.

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS | March 2025

Total number of posts	4
Total reach	27,714
Total comments/shares	25

STAFF KUDOS

Mike McGill and Rob Reeves were thanked by a disabled trail user whose bike broke down on the trail recently. Mike and Rob repaired the bike and got it operable again so the gentleman could get home, and he recognized Mike and Rob for going above and beyond.