



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, November 7th, 2025 – 7:00am
651 10th Avenue, Room 101C

Meeting ID: 297 955 010 887

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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. Presentation – KPI Dashboard – Benjamin Alexander
8. Staff Reports
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Scheduling of Meetings – Tentatively Friday, December 5th, 2025
12. Adjournment

Our Mission: Provide services, experiences, and spaces that promote community, health, and wellbeing for all.

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: Jema.Moody@Greeleygov.com at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting date.

GREELEY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES – October 3rd, 2025.

1. ROLL CALL

The Greeley Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met Friday, October 3rd, 2025, at 7:00am at the Greeley Recreation Center. Board members joining Greg McIntosh, Beth Kleiber, Rand Morgan, Kirsten Daniel, Sharon Wright, Ben Christiansen, and Savanna Bennett. City Council Liaison Deb DeBoutez. Guest presenter, Sandra Albro with Davey resource group
Staff joining: Diana Frick (Director of Culture Parks & Recreation), Benjamin Alexander (Business Manager), Eric Bloomer (Parks Division Manager), Justin Scharton (Natural Areas & Trails Division Manager), Daniel Lawrence (Recreation Division Manager), Shiloh Hatcher (Forestry Manager), Jema Moody (Administrative Assistant III), and Greta Steinmetz (Office Manager).

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Sharon Wright made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Beth Kleiber, and passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Savannah Bennett made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, which was seconded by Deb DeBoutez and passed unanimously.

4. CITIZEN INPUT – Greg McIntosh brought up how much positive feedback he has had with how nice our parks have been this year. Delta Park has had an amazing transformation and the diversity of the people there and the activity of bringing that community together is amazing.

5. BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS – Art Commission, Sharon Wright talked about the dry run for the projection art display at the Meeker House. Continue to find artists to display their work. Rodarte Center is getting a new basketball court and will be having an artist paint it. Approval of the design will go to Art Commission for vote. The Water treatment Plant had 52 submissions, and it has been narrowed down to 4 artists. Vandalism was discussed on the arch way at 8th and 9th street, looking to possibly move the art.

6. Urban Forest strategic Plan (UFSP) – Sandra Albro presented from the Davey Resource Group. Progress update on the UFSP, nearing its completion and are working towards community engagement, shared key findings and objectives.

Shilo Hatcher and Eric Bloomer answered questions about Share the Shade planting and the importance of the Urban Forest strategic Plan to receive the Canopy assessment and implement this plan once it passes City Council.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Eric Bloomer – Parks - Summary of the Vandalism at the Parks \$36,000 spent to date.
Restrooms close on October 15th even though shelter reservation ended September 1st. Fall projects include Archibeque Park, shelter lighting, Glenmere park new handrails to the steps and painting the shelter. Bittersweet concrete work and landscape by the playground.
Sherwood Park, landscape work were the basketball court was replaced. Peakview Park adding solar lights easier for PD to spot. Started winterizing.

Daniel Lawrence – Recreation – Outdoor pools and splash parks are closed. For the first time in 65 years we have backup pumps for all the pools so we do not have to wait to have a new pump delivered to be back up and running. The main gym at the Rec Center will be upgraded to LED. It is the last of the recreation facilities to be upgraded. Rodarte Center will have a planting Ceremony on October 18th. They have 14 community garden beds and will have more funding to add a micro forest. Ice Haus Programs have been featured in the news for figure skating athletes with Mountain View Skate Club. Greeley Bears youth hockey has had a very successful start to the season.

Diana Frick shared Comprehensive plan for Parks with City Council for future development by tracking and reporting the number of kids who could not participate due to capacity in spaces, not enough facility space. 641 kids to date between youth sports and aquatics could not participate. Have the KPI dashboard to be citizen facing to show how we impact the community.

Justin Scharton – NAT – Month of Grants and Partnership, Grants with Great Outdoors Colorado and State trails fund Colorado Parks and Wildlife to fund a project that will be used to upgrade the existing trailhead at Arroyos del Sol to have a large Shade shelter, council ring, toilets and parking lot. 1.75 million Grant from Generation Wild Grant for no/low-cost outdoor programs for youth and families will pay for a position to administer these programs in Natural Areas and Trails. Presented in Denver to Colorado Parks and Wildlife commission for the Northeast regional Partnership application for an initiative to increase outdoor recreation opportunities and conservation efforts.

8. OLD BUSINESS - None

9. NEW BUSINESS – January 2nd, move meeting to January 9th.

10. UPCOMING AGENDAS – Share KPI Dashboard

11. NEXT MEETING – The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 7th, 2025.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Greg McIntosh moved to adjourn the meeting 8:06 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg McIntosh, Chair

Diana Frick, Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation

Bittersweet Park Improvements

Bittersweet Park has long faced ongoing drainage and concrete challenges near the playground and shelters. This fall, Parks staff completed in-house drainage installation, followed by contracted replacement of all impacted concrete areas. The result is improved accessibility, drainage performance, and visitor safety.









Sherwood Park – Basketball Court Completion

The new basketball court at Sherwood Park is now complete! Landscaping repairs have also been finalized, bringing a fresh look and improved recreational opportunities to the neighborhood.



Glenmere Park – Restroom and Gazebo Refresh

The repainting project at Glenmere Park's restrooms and gazebo is nearing completion. Final touch-ups and cleanup are underway. Fabrication of new handrails is scheduled for November, with installation to follow as weather allows.

Lighting Upgrades at Archibeque and Hazelton Parks

New lighting has been ordered for Archibeque Park's shelter and to replace vandalized fixtures at Hazelton Park. Installation is planned for November, improving visibility and safety in both parks as daylight hours are shortened.

Redtail Park – Construction Underway

Construction has officially begun at Redtail Park. Contractors are mobilizing and will be starting site preparation and grading. Winter months will focus on dirt work and foundational site prep, with installation of amenities and structures scheduled to begin in March. Progress updates will be shared with the Board as milestones are achieved.

Playground Safety Audits – Pheasant Run & Coyote Run

A certified third-party playground safety auditor is conducting compliance inspections at Pheasant Run and Coyote Run Playgrounds. These sites have been deferred on the Capital Replacement List for three consecutive years, and staff are increasingly concerned about equipment condition and safety. The upcoming audit and surface impact testing will determine whether the playgrounds can safely remain in service until replacements are funded, or if closure is necessary pending project approval.

Staff Reports - Recreation

Youth Assistance Grant Award



The City of Greeley’s Recreation Division has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Littler Youth Fund through Weld Community Foundation to support the City’s Youth Assistance Fund, which provides financial aid for children and teens who might otherwise be unable to participate in recreation programs. The funding will help more youth learn new sports, attend summer day camps, and join enrichment programs that build confidence and community connections.

The Youth Assistance Fund provides scholarships for Greeley residents and, when capacity allows, for youth from across Weld County. Each eligible participant can receive up to \$150 toward recreation programs, including sports, summer camps, and enrichment activities. The fund also supports seniors and participants in Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation programs. In 2025, the program awarded 629 scholarships, yet demand continues to exceed available resources. This new grant will help close that gap and keep recreation programs accessible to families throughout the community.

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

STAFF REPORTS – November 7, 2025

Justin Scharton – Natural Areas & Trails

Oct 2025 Counts

Counter Location	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)	4517	146 ↓20.5%	177 ↑32.4%
Triple Creek Spur @ Mountain Vista TH (re-installed Aug 18, 2020)	2550	82 ↓25.0%	109 ↓3.1%
Poudre Trail @ Island Grove (installed Aug 2020)	2471	80 ↓97.5%	149 ↓2.1%
Poudre Trail @ Rover Run (new counter w/bike detection installed 3/6/24)	5254	169 ↓26.0%	466 ↑249.0%
Poudre Trail @ PLC (installed Aug 2020)	3834	124 ↓31.5%	152 ↓25.2%
Poudre Trail @ Poudre East (Kodak TH)	6538	211 ↓23.2%	249 ↑3.4%
Missile Site TH (installed 3/22/24)	NA	NA	NA
Missile Site Car/Bus (installed 3/19/24)	607	20 ↓16.0%	19 ↓10.9%

RESTORATION

NAT staff are always looking for new management tools to aid in the restoration of the City’s natural areas. NAT uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to address non-native weeds in natural areas properties, using mechanical (e.g. mowing), chemical (e.g. herbicide), and biological (e.g. insects) to attack the non-native species. But non-native plants are typically invasive for a reason, many times using several survival strategies that require varied management strategies to fully eliminate populations.

A new tool in the biological component of NAT’s IPM program is a Canada thistle rust fungus, *Urophora cardui*. This plant-specific pathogenic fungus was likely introduced alongside the earliest infestations of Canada thistle in the 1600s. Research of this fungus for over a century has led to recent advancements in the effectiveness of application methods, leading to 45% - 100% kill rates in treatment plots. NAT partnered with the City of Westminster’s Open Space & Trails program to collect the rust fungus this summer and has treated several pilot plots in the NAT system. Staff will monitor for results in the coming growing seasons.



NAT staff uses biological methods for weed management in a wetland area.



A new equipment shelter is being constructed in the NAT yard.

FACILITIES

NAT has been at its current location in the Island Grove Regional Park for six years, and significant improvements have been made to the site in that time. After an expansion of the equipment yard in 2024 to meet increased space needs for new equipment, vehicles, and supplies, NAT focused on a creative structure solution to provide outdoor storage for supplies and tools and shelter for equipment out of the elements. The structure is comprised of two shipping containers that are fixed to pylons in the ground, then a roof structure is assembled on top of the containers. A customer that backed out of a sale of this structure allowed NAT to purchase for a 50% discount. The shelter will be completed in late 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

NAT continued its partnership with the Recreation division for the Child Watch program at the Family FunPlex, offering nature-based activities for children while their parents use the facility.

Staff were also part of the YES!Fest at LINC library, and the City Wellness fair, interacting with several hundred residents and City employees at the two events.

The NAT Outreach Intern, Skyler Culligan, has continued to hold “Know your Natural Areas” pop-up events at natural areas across the community. In October, a pop-up event was held at Josephine Jones Natural Area with other service providers in the community and connected with over 35 users during the morning event.



Kids in the Child Watch program at the FunPlex engage in one of the fun nature-based activities facilitated by NAT staff.



Social Media Stats | September 2025

Total views	18,299
Total reach	4,232
Total interactions	91

Top Social Media Content | Butterfly Migration

Interactions	Likes/shares	Comments
352	296	19

VOLUNTEERS

NAT has partnered with Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado, a statewide volunteer non-profit who leverage agencies’ capacity to lead volunteer outdoor stewardship projects in Colorado’s open spaces. NAT and VOC just hired a new northern Colorado Volunteer Coordinator, Abby McCarty. Abby brings years of volunteer management experience, and will lead volunteer projects in Greeley and the northern Colorado region. The Coordinator position is housed in the NAT office.