

**TOWN OF TWISP  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022– 4:00pm  
Regular Meeting**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Schrock opened the meeting at 4:03 pm.

**Attendees:**

Commissioner Sarah Schrock  
Commissioner Sandy Liman  
Commissioner Steve Kern  
Commissioner Nick Hershenow  
Commissioner Jim Brennan  
Council Member Aaron Studen - Liaison to Parks & Recreation

**Additions/Deletions:**

N/A

**Public Comment Period:**

The following public comments were received in writing in reference to the Parks and Recreation Plan:

My name is Ryan Brennan and I have lived in the town and community of Twisp, Washington since April of 2010. I frequently walk from my home and use the trails and parks as well with enjoyment and a real sense of pleasure

I have been using the trail down near the Twisp Garden's Apartments for a while now and also used the town park as a place to cool off from the summer's heat by jumping in the river right near the confluence of the Methow and Twisp that has brought a lot of relief and lots of fun times with my new family dog Scout!!!

My comments are to all involved I support and encourage each and every person involved who is working on making more trails and accessibility in Twisp and also hopefully connecting a trail towards the Winthrop area as well and I also support anything that can make it easier for recreation and also pedestrian and bike traffic cause like I said I am a regular walker

Thanks again for letting me comment and give my thoughts on this.

Sincerely,

Ryan Brennan

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Hi. I am writing to input public comment about the new Parks and Rec plan specifically about the skatepark portion of the plan. I have been a resident and homeowner in Twisp since 2019 and have felt that Twisp needed a skatepark and was very surprised that one did not exist anywhere

in the valley. I have also contemplated spearheading action to make one a reality but so far have not found the time or resources to get that ball rolling. I believe that skateparks can provide a profound creative outlet for youth and adults alike. I believe they can be a physical outlet for those in the community that may not be interested in ski/bike/hike or ball sport activities that the valley already offers. I also believe they can create community for those looking for others with similar interests. I know that skateboarding and skateparks were all of those things for me growing up.

First, I would like to say that I would be highly interested in being a part of this process and volunteering my time and resources and possibly offering my opinions. As far as funding, I would like to help to figure out how that might be possible as well.

I do very much agree that Twisp Park would be the best location for a site like this. I think skateparks can be beautiful works of art and can be interesting for non-users to watch. I believe they should be focal points of public space and not pushed to an unseen corner of a park. Twisp Park also offers great access from the larger part of town, compared to the sports complex. Also, on a hot summer day Twisp Park offers great access to the river to cool off while at the skatepark. These are just things I personally dream of for a skatepark in Twisp.

This may also be on your radar but there are 2 great skatepark building companies here in the NW that make beautiful skateparks: Grindline <https://www.grindline.com/> and Dreamland <https://www.dreamlandskateparks.com/home/>

Wenatchee just had a skatepark built by grindline and you can see from both of their portfolios what kind of work they can offer.

Like I said, I would love to see this happen in our community and would also love to help in any way that I can to see that it happens.

Thank you,

Andy Brandstetter

### **Minutes:**

Commissioner Kern made a motion to approve meeting minutes from 3-7-22 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hershenow and passed unanimously.

### **Old/New Business:**

### **Discussion: Public Input Draft Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan:**

Commissioner Schrock opened the discussion to the members of the public that were in attendance to share their input on the plan.

Lori Northcott provided comment that she grew up in Twisp and currently lives on Airport Rd. across from the new Sports Complex. She said she used the facility prior to the upgrades and

thinks it's a wonderful facility. She feels that the complex and the trail plan is bigger than the Town of Twisp can manage and feels it should be more of a Valley wide undertaking. She has reviewed the plan and is disappointed that it only received 2 comments so far and she would like to see more youth engagement to see what they would like to see in the Methow Valley. She likes the pump track in Winthrop and feels that it doesn't get used as much as it could. She noted that the sports complex is not a great spot for a skate park. She supports a valley-wide Recreation District that would provide a permanent plan for funding these projects and would like to see more effort into creating one. She noted that these projects take long-term commitment that the Town doesn't or can't carry through on.

Ellen Aagaard provided the following comments. She was excited to see how much of the plan included trails. She also said that she knows that WSDOT has pedestrian funds available that could be used for trails but need to apply for funding. She said that she is happy to see the small trails, connectors, and she used to work on walking audits and feels that we need to do walking audits as part of creating the trails and plan for future trails. She also likes seeing the smaller gems like the trail from the Community Center up to May St. and feels it's a good way to connect the communities and neighborhoods. She suggested a walking audit, attending a Trails Conference to get advice and network, and looking into Safe Routes program.

Maja Stevie – provided comment about the community engagement.

The following comments were made in the Video Chat:

**Lori Northcott (to Everyone):** 4:43 PM: a stakeholder engagement matrix and plan would help that

**Ellen Aagaard (to Everyone):** 4:45 PM: Sometimes I think that you get more useful public comment on individual projects than overarching plans, and I wonder if you are feeling like you need more public comment before bringing this to council if there are some specific projects that you need more comment on?

**Ellen Aagaard (to Everyone):** 4:52 PM: And if you would find it helpful, I can spend some time looking at the new WSDOT Active Transportation plan to see which aspects of the Twisp Parks & Rec. plan might align with WSDOT funds available in the near term.

**Sarah Schrock \_Friends of the Pool (to Everyone):** 4:54 PM: sure, any help would be helpful

**Lori Northcott (to Everyone):** 5:10 PM: thanks for hearing me so completely

**Ellen Aagaard (to Everyone):** 5:12 PM: Thanks for letting us participate so fully in the discussion. Much appreciated. Looking forward to future discussions, about the projects contained in the plan!

**Lori Northcott (to Everyone):** 5:17 PM: signing off, thank you all very much for doing the work of planning and for listening!

Commissioner Schrock spoke about the possibility of forming a Recreation District and understanding the need for one in the valley, especially to help establish a new pool. She said that there is more work to be done but that it has been discussed on many levels to create one. She would like to see the town make an effort to look overlap funding for other projects such as parks and trails with other projects like Public Works projects such as streets/sidewalks. She asked Council Member Studen to help advocate for that.

Commissioner Hershenow would like to see more comments from the community including the youth at the school to gain more feedback. The Commission wasn't unanimous on whether to move it forward to the Council or wait and seek more comment, everyone was undecided. Commissioner Schrock felt that she's not sure that they would gain any more responses or that it would change.

Commissioner Brennan stated that he's read the plan and thinks it is wonderful. He thinks there needs to be a sign and picnic table at the park at the end of Riverside. He also noted that gaining more identity about the Parks and Rec commission is important and could be done through minor signage as places as they get improved/developed.

Commissioner Liman made a motion to send the updated Twisp Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan to Council for review. Commissioner Kern seconded the motion. The motion was passed with 4 votes and 1 abstention.

It was decided to hold another meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the meeting minutes and any changes made to the plan that would include the public comments and community input prior to sending to Council for review.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for 5/2/22 at 4:00pm.

**Adjournment:** Commissioner Schrock adjourned the meeting at 5:18 pm.

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Chair Sarah Schrock

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Secretary Amy Grennell