

BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSIONERS
September 1, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Columbus, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on September 1, 2026, at 12 p.m. in the Columbus Community Building, Community Room, 2500 14 Street, Columbus, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Columbus Telegram on August 26, 2026, with a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the office of the city clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the mayor, members of the city council, and members of the Board of Parks Commissioners. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

1. **Statement of compliance with open meetings act.** Chair Brezenski announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available in the meeting room on the agenda table. Present were members, Jon Brezenski, Brad Hansen, Nick Larson, Tina Pelan, Bruce Schmidt, and Lynn Sjuts. Member Gary Puetz was absent and excused. Members Araceli Esquivel and Stacy Smith were absent. City staff members included Assistant City Clerk Linda Nickeson, Park and Recreation Director Sydney Mroczek, Director of General Services Betsy Eckhardt, Park Superintendent Tom Ek, and Golf Course Superintendent Eric Bice.
2. **Minutes of August 4, 2026, meeting.** The minutes were approved as presented with a motion by Sjuts and a second by Schmidt. Brezenski, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Schmidt, and Sjuts voted "Aye" and none voted "Nay". Esquivel, Puetz, and Smith were absent.
3. **Canned beer only permit for USSSA Cash Bash slow-pitch adult softball tournament at Gerrard Park, October 3, 2026.** The request for a canned beer only permit at Gerrard Park for October 3, 2026, was approved with a motion by Larson and a second by Sjuts. Brezenski, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Schmidt, and Sjuts voted "Aye" and none voted "Nay". Esquivel, Puetz, and Smith were absent.
4. **Park and Recreation Director report.** Mroczek reviewed the report noting that 137 new trees are scheduled to be delivered next week. She stated that the city will be offering each individual one free program a month this fall for every two paid and that work on the Loup River Bridge replica located on the west Pawnee Park trail will begin next Tuesday and is expected to be completed in five to six weeks.
5. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
: Linda Nickeson