



**MINUTES:**

*All minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting*

**Commission Work Session Agenda**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

January 29, 2025

Department of Ecology, 300 Desmond Dr SE, Lacey, WA 98503

**Commissioners:** Chair Sophia Danenberg, Vice Chair Laurie Connelly, Secretary Holly Williams, Scott Merriman, Michael Latimer, and Ali Raad

**Director:** Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission work session on January 29, 2025. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

You may participate remotely by listening and/or watching using the following link:

**Watch the meeting on TVW:**

<https://twv.org/watch/?eventID=2025011064>

You can find the agenda and presentations on our website:

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

**Public Comment:** This is a work session between staff and the Commission. The public is invited to attend, but no public comment will be taken. No decisions will be made by the Commission at the work session.

**Time:** Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

**9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Laurie Connelly Commission Vice Chair

- Call of the Roll
  - Chair Sophia Danenberg, Vice Chair Laurie Connelly, Secretary Holly Williams, Michael Latimer, Scott Merriman and Alfie Alvarado Ramos
    - Absent: Ali Raad
- Introduction of Staff
  - Director Diana Dupuis, Deputy Director Mike Sternback, Operations Director Jon Crimmins, Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz, Parks Development Director Heather Saunders, Administrative Services Director Laura Holmes, DEI Director Janette Chien, Communications Director Clare DeLong, Policy & Governmental Affairs Director Brian Considine, and Executive Assistant Becki Ellison
    - Assistant Attorney General Joe Panesko
- Changes to agenda
- Logistics

**9:04 a.m. MILLER PENINSULA PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE-** Lauren Bromley, Parks Planner

- This presentation will provide the Commission with an update on the process to develop a Classification and Management Plan (CAMP) and a Master Plan for Miller Peninsula State Park Property, along with an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

**9:33 a.m. LAKE SAMMAMISH PLANNING UPDATE-** Michael Hankinson, Planning Program Manager and Melinda Wolfman, Parks Planner

- This presentation will provide the Commission an overview of the planning efforts at Lake Sammamish State Park, which will result in an update to the park's Management Plan

**10:05 a.m. BREAK**

**10:30 a.m. DISCOUNT PASS PROGRAM UPDATE –** Keri Murphy, Visitor Services Manager, Ariel Ryon, Discount Passes and Permits Program Manager, and Clare DeLong, Communications Director.

- This presentation will give the Commission an update on the Discount Pass Program and considerations for improvements.

**10:56 a.m. CENTENNIAL ACCORD/TRIBAL RELATIONS–** Jeanne “JJ” McMinds, Tribal Relations Deputy

- This presentation will provide an overview to the Commission on our existing 2018 Centennial Accord Plan. This update will share our current progress and our next steps, which will include our intended Consultation with Tribes, prior to submitting an updated 2025 Centennial Accord Plan to GOIA.

**11:04 a.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Vice Chair Connelly: The Commission will enter executive session at 11:04 a.m. to discuss potential litigation and review the performance of a public employee with the Commission's assigned legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The Commission will be break for lunch at noon and continue after lunch. No action will be taken during the executive session. The Commission will adjourn after the conclusion of the executive session.*

**11:55 a.m. LUNCH**

**12:15 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vice Chair Connelly: *The Commission will continue executive session at 12:15 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and review the performance of a public employee with the Commission's assigned legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The Commission will be in executive session until 1:15 p.m. No action will be taken during the executive session. The Commission will adjourn after the conclusion of the executive session.*

**2:00 p.m.**

Vice Chair Connelly: *The Commission will continue executive session until 2:00 p.m.*

**1:56 p.m. ADJOURN**

Department of Ecology, 300 Desmond Dr SE, Lacey, WA 98503

**Commissioners:** Chair Sophia Danenberg, Vice Chair Laurie Connelly, Secretary Holly Williams, Michael Latimer, Scott Merriman, and Ali Raad

**Director:** Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission meeting in-person on January 30, 2025. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

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**Time:** Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

**Order of Presentation:** In general, each agenda item will include a presentation followed by Commission discussion and then public comment. The Commission makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda.

**In-Person Public Comment:**

We will be accepting in-person oral public comment at the meeting. If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff at the sign in table. The Chair will call you up to the front at the appropriate time.

**Virtual Public Comment:**

Virtual public comment will be accepted for our public meeting. To provide virtual comment you will need to be able to join the Attendee Web link from your computer (no phone option available). **Pre-registration is required.** To register email [commission@parks.wa.gov](mailto:commission@parks.wa.gov) by 5 pm on January 24. Please provide the name you will be logging in under, contact phone number as well as the agenda item or general topic you will be speaking on. You will receive an email by noon on January 27 with specific instructions around virtual testimony.

**Written Public Comment:**

Written public comment will be accepted for all agenda items until 5 p.m. on January 24 by email or mail. Any comments received after the cutoff will be given to the commission before its next meeting.

Email: [Commission@parks.wa.gov](mailto:Commission@parks.wa.gov)

Mail: WSPRC, Attn: Becki Ellison, PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504.

You can find the agenda, agenda items and presentations on our website.

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

The meeting minutes and recording will be loaded within one week after the meeting.

- 9:01 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Sophia Danenberg, Commission Chair
- Flag Salute – Former WSPRC Commissioner Mark O. Brown
  - Call of the Roll
    - Chair Sophia Danenberg, Vice Chair Laurie Connelly, Secretary Holly Williams, Michael Latimer, Scott Merriman and Alfie Alvarado Ramos
      - Absent: Ali Raad
  - Introduction of Staff
    - Director Diana Dupuis, Deputy Director Mike Sternback, Operations Director Jon Crimmins, Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz, Parks Development Director Heather Saunders, Administrative Services Director Laura Holmes, DEI Director Janette Chien, Communications Director Clare DeLong, Policy & Governmental Affairs Director Brian Considine, and Executive Assistant Becki Ellison
      - Assistant Attorney General Joe Panesko
  - Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement
    - We respect and affirm tribal sovereignty and honor indigenous peoples whose traditional lands we occupy. The State Parks and Recreation Commission is committed to working with all Tribes to help preserve and restore a healthy natural environment for future generations.
  - Recognition of State, Tribal and Local Officials
    - Former Commission Mark O. Brown
  - Changes to the Agenda
    - We will move Item E-3 Legislative Update to when Brian Considine is back from legislative meetings.
      - Approval of the Agenda
        - **Motion** by Latimer to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Merriman. Approved unanimously as presented
  - Logistics
  - Approval of minutes of previous meetings
    - October 9,10, 2024 – Work Session/Commission Meeting, Clarkston
    - November 13, 2024 – Commission Meeting - Virtual
    - December 10,11, 2024 – Planning Meeting, Olympia
      - Change Scott Merriman to excused for the Cama Beach vote instead of absent.
        - **Motion** by Laurie Connelly to approve the minutes as amended. Second by Scott Merriman. Approved unanimously as amended.

**9:08 a.m. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – *general public comment and items on the agenda*

- Debi Maloney – Miller-Peninsula State Park
- Darlene Shanfeld – Miller-Peninsula State Park

**9:19 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *Items not on the agenda*

- In-person public comments only
  - Ellen Massey – Miller-Peninsula State Park
  - John Shaw – Westport
  - Mark O. Brown – Discover Pass
  - Sue K. Gilman – Miller-Peninsula State Park
  - Alicia Burki – WFSCME – Parks Local 1466

**9:33 a.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**9:47 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Real Estate – Michael Latimer
- Legislative - Holly Williams
- Budget – Scott Merriman
- Executive - Sophia Danenberg

**10:00 a.m. DIRECTOR REPORT**

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**10:10 a.m. REPORT**

Item E-2: Financial Update

This item reports to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on 1) 2023-25 biennium operating and capital budget expenditures, 2) Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account (PRSA) revenue, 3) Governor’s recently proposed Operating and Capital budgets.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ACTION:**

Report only, no action taken.

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**10:39 a.m. BREAK**

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**10:58 a.m. REPORT**

Item E-3: Legislative Update

This item provides the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an overview and update of the 2025 legislative session.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ACTION:**

Report only, no action taken.

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**11:18 a.m. RECOGNITION**

- Gold Stars
  - Service Pins – Chris Kennedy, 25 years state and parks service
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**11:30 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION**

Item E-1: 2025 Director’s Performance Agreement and 2024 Performance Evaluation

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to adopt the 2025 Director’s Performance Agreement which includes the 2024-2025 Commission Priorities. It also asks the Commission to document their conclusion that the Director performed satisfactorily in 2024, and that a meaningful evaluation process was used to reach this conclusion.

**REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:**

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Record their satisfaction with the Director’s 2024 performance, and that a meaningful evaluation process was used.
2. Adopt the 2025 Director’s Performance Agreement and 2025 Commission Priorities as presented in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ACTION:**

**Motion** by Scott Merriman to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Michael Latimer. **Approved unanimously as presented.**

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**11:33 p.m. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Election of Officers for 2025
  - **Motion** by Michael Latimer to approve the Executive Committee Officers. Second by Scott Merriman. Approved unanimously as presented.
- Transfer of the gavel to the 2025 Commission Chair
- Recognition of 2024 Commission Chair Sophia Danenberg.
- Commission Committee Assignments
  - **Executive Committee:**
    - Chair Laurie Connelly
    - Vice Chair Holly Williams
    - Secretary Ali Raad

- **Legislative:**
  - Scott Merriman
  - Sophia Danenberg
  - Holly Williams
- **Real Estate:**
  - Mike Latimer
  - Ali Raad
  - Scott Merriman
- **Budget:**
  - Sophia Danenberg
  - Laurie Connelly
  - Alfie Alvarado-Ramons
- **Liaison to the Parks Foundation:**
  - Ali Raad
    - **Motion** by Holly Williams to approve the Commission Committee assignments as presented. Second by Scott Merriman. Approved unanimously as presented.

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**11:40 a.m. LUNCH**

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**12:19 p.m. REPORT**

**Item E-4: Boating Program Update**

This item provides the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an overview of the Washington State Boating Program, which includes the federally funded Recreational Boating Safety and the Clean Vessel Act Grant programs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ACTION:**

Report only, no action taken.

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**12:56 p.m. REPORT**

**Item E-5: Winter Recreation Program Update**

This item provides the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an update on the Winter Recreation Program's 2024 non-motorized and snowmobile programs accomplishments and challenges.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ACTION:**



Report only, no action taken.

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**1:35 p.m. ADJOURN**

*Submitted by Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant*

*January 30, 2025*

A recording is retained by WSPRC as the formal record of meeting. The recording is accessible on the park's website approximately one week after the meeting - <https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

The services, programs, and activities of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact the commission assistant Becki Ellison at (360) 902-8502 or [becki.ellison@parks.wa.gov](mailto:becki.ellison@parks.wa.gov). Accommodation requests should be received at least five business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. Please provide 7-day notice for requests to receive information in an alternative format and for ASL/ESL interpretation requests.