



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Rebecca Dunn, Chair
Cat Evans, Vice Chair
Robert Coltin
Scott Dowis
Jessica Kallweit
Craig Kinnunen
Melissa Lindsay

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

5:00 PM

**Rueter-Hess Reservoir
9343 Double Angel Road
Parker, CO 80134**

Note: This meeting is open to the public. Three or more Council members may also attend this meeting, during which the items listed herein will be discussed. If you are unable to access any portion of these materials due to a disability as defined under Colorado House Bill 21-1110, please call us at 303-663-4440, email the Town's accessibility team at accessibility@CRgov.com or submit an accommodation request form at CRgov.com/A11yRequest.

TIMES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE AND MAY BE ADJUSTED DUE TO CHANGES TO THE AGENDA.

CALL TO ORDER

- Present** 5 - Chair Rebecca Dunn, Commissioner Scott Dowis, Honorary Member Cat Evans, Commissioner Jessica Kallweit, and Commissioner Craig Kinnunen
- Not Present** 2 - Commissioner Robert Coltin, and Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rebecca Dunn at approximately 5 p.m. Staff in attendance included Jeff Smullen, Brian Peterson, Jennifer Martin, Maia Yates and Marne Hansen. No additions, deletions or modifications to the agenda were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DURING THIS TIME, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION AND STAFF ON ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA. COMMENTS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN FOUR (4) MINUTES.

None.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER CRAIG KINNUNEN

Rebecca Dunn opened the meeting by welcoming newly appointed member Craig Kinnunen. Craig introduced himself by sharing that he moved to Colorado from Michigan in 1981 and has been a Castle Rock resident for the past nine years. He highlighted his active involvement as a volunteer with the Town's POST Partners Volunteer Program. Following his introduction, all other attendees provided brief introductions as well.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

[PRC 2025-012](#) Approval of the Minutes

Cat Evans motioned and Scott Dowis seconded the approval of the minutes as presented; the motion pass unanimously.

Yes: 3 - Chair Dunn, Commissioner Dowis, and Honorary Member Evans

Not Present: 3 - Commissioner Coltin, Commissioner Kallweit, and Commissioner Lindsay

RUETER-HESS TOUR

The Rueter-Hess Reservoir was originally developed by Parker Water and Sanitation, who then created a regional board to plan and guide recreational access while maintaining a peaceful and serene environment. This mandate restricts motorized boats and emphasizes natural amenities such as gravel parking areas, small picnic sites, and trails.

The board was supported by regional partners including the Town of Castle Rock, the Town of Parker, the City of Lone Tree, and Douglas County, all contributing funding. Management of the reservoir has since transitioned to Douglas County, though the Town of Castle Rock continues to contribute \$219,000 annually to support recreation, recognizing the value of nearby water access that offers residents a quiet and unique outdoor experience.

Enhancements at the reservoir have included the construction of a mini-incline near the dam, the addition of new trails and docks, basic infrastructure such as roads, pavilions and seating, along with the purchase of a safety boat. The boat is used both to monitor reservoir activity and for rescues when necessary, and it is staffed during peak times, particularly on weekends. As part of their visit, commission members and staff participated in a tour of the reservoir that included time on the safety boat.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Staff provided updates beginning with the Aug. 9 Summer Concert Series, which drew 2,222 attendees at 85% capacity, averaging 1,500 per concert this year and showing an upward trend compared to post-COVID, the busiest year on record. The Reptiles Under the Rock event in August was also a success. Upcoming events include a Cranberries tribute band for Tunes for Trails and the Summer Ball. Next weekend, Yachty Got Back will perform with the Denver Pops Orchestra at the Amphitheater, with over 1,250 attendees expected. The annual youth triathlon, Tri the Rock, is scheduled for Sept. 7 at Butterfield Crossing Park.

Summer camps concluded with 2,800 campers, generating \$700,000 in revenue, and over 2,000 on the waitlist.

The Sports Development Center groundbreaking is underway with Certificates of Occupancy issued, and the site development plan proceeding. Saunders, the contractor for the facility's development, has begun pre-construction work to move the project forward.

The Santa Fe Quarry Trail project received Town Council approval and work is expected to be completed this year.

Staff also plan to seek council approval in September for the master and management plans for Lost Canyon Ranch Open Space. Approval from the Douglas Land Conservancy Board of Directors, the easement holder, is anticipated soon. In addition, a trail construction contract will be presented in September, followed by roadway and parking contracts in October. The character of Lost Canyon Ranch Open Space will be similar to Rueter-Hess Reservoir, with a focus on a peaceful and natural setting, incorporating gravel parking lots, small picnic areas and trails.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:48 p.m.