



# Rifle Parks & Recreation

## Advisory Board

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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December 8, 2025

5:30 PM

202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

#### **5:30 PM - Regular Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Public Comment** \*(Maximum time permitted for Public Comment is 3 minutes per person)  
\*(Reserved for general comments or items on the agenda that are not a public hearing)
- 4. Consent Agenda**
  - 4.a.** Consider Minutes of the October 13, 2025, Regular PRAB Meeting
- 5. Presentation**
  - 5.a.** Birch Park Update
  - 5.b.** Feasibility Study Update
  - 5.c.** South Rifle Master Planning Update
- 6. Regular Agenda**
  - 6.a.** Consider the reappointment of Annie MacGregor to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
  - 6.b.** Consider the reappointment of John Douglas to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
  - 6.c.** Consider PRAB 2026 Meeting Dates
- 7. Administrative Reports**
- 8. Adjournment**

**ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT**

*The City of Rifle values full inclusion and access for all of our facilities, programs, activities and services. We are pleased to provide meaningful accommodations to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and reasonably provide translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. To request special assistance, call Parks & Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew at 970-665-6578 or email our ADA Team at ADAteam@rifleco.org. Please allow 48 hours for your requests to be met.*

*La Ciudad de Rifle valora la plena inclusión y acceso para todas nuestras instalaciones, programas, actividades y servicios. Nos complace proporcionar alojamientos significativos para cumplir con la Ley de Estados Unidos con Discapacidades (ADA) y proporcionar razonablemente traducciones, interpretaciones, modificaciones, adaptaciones, formatos alternativos, ayudas auxiliares y servicios. Para solicitar asistencia especial, llame al Director de Parques y Recreación Austin Rickstrew al 970-665-6478 o envíe un correo electrónico a el equipo ADA a ADAteam@rifleco.org. Por favor, permita 48 horas para que se atiendan sus solicitudes.*



**Agenda Item #4.a.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Consider Minutes of the October 13, 2025, Regular PRAB Meeting

**Presenter:**

Mary Stewart, Parks Administrative Assistant

**Item Description:**

Consider Minutes of October 13, 2025, Regular PRAB Meeting

**Recommended Action:**

Move to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2025, regular PRAB meeting.

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Background Information:**

N/A

**Executive Summary:**

Consider the minutes of the October 13, 2025, meeting.

**Notification Requirements:**

**Prepared By:**

Mary Stewart, Parks Administrative Assistant

**Attachments:**

1. Draft Meeting Minutes 10.13.2025

**Rifle Parks & Recreation Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Annie MacGregor.

**Roll Call.**

<b><u>Members Present</u></b>	<b><u>YES</u></b>	<b><u>NO</u></b>
Ken Blatter	X	
Kirsten Clancy	X	
Aaron Cumming	X	
John Douglas	X	
Annie MacGregor	X	
Betsey Seymour	X	
Jens Smith		X
Ari Philipson		X

**Staff Present:** Austin Rickstrew, Keith Gray, Matt Rowe, Mary Stewart

**Public Comment:**

- Betsey received a comment from a resident that they were “ecstatic” about the coming pickleball court.
- Aaron commented regarding the public fieldhouse meeting. Many comments made were from non-residents. He also suggested setting a time limit on comments for the next meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

Consider minutes of September 8, 2025, PRAB meeting. The minutes from September 8, 2025, PRAB meeting was approved. Aaron made the motion to accept, seconded by Ken. All approved.

**Regular Agenda**

**5.a. Pool and Recreation Fees/Participation 2025 Presentation**

- Austin started by saying it was requested at the last meeting to look at pool fees and recreation data, and the team looked at pool information and recreation programs.
- Matt started the presentation with the pool:
  - There are four sessions throughout the summer with different swim lesson types, Parent-Tot through Junior Lifeguard.
  - The lesson schedule was reviewed. Lessons have a \$60 registration fee.
  - The breakout of numbers for each swim lesson type was presented. The biggest numbers were for Level 1 with 248 participants and Level 2 with 266 participants. There was a total of 1,205 participants for all lessons.
  - There was also a waitlist of 133 participants for Level 1 and 116 participants for Level 2.
  - The total number of swim lesson fees received for the season was \$70,962, which included scholarships (2 participants received a 40% discount and 49 participants received a 60% discount.)

- The day fees were reviewed. There was a \$3.00 special rate for July 3<sup>rd</sup> with 249 participants. Open Swim was the largest with over 11,000 people.
  - Kirstin asked about the use of showers. They are used by others that are not swimming, such as campers and climbers, which make up the largest part of the number of 97 people.
- Punch passes are very popular. 184 of the 20 punch passes were sold, totaling sales of \$23,000.
- Total revenue for swim lessons, open swim and punch passes was \$225,818.69. This did not include concessions.
- Swim lesson information for Glenwood and Battlement was reviewed. Glenwood does 45-minute classes, with 6 lessons for \$180. Battlement does 8 lessons for \$53. Battlement lesson times were inconsistent.
- There was an overview of rates across the western slope and whether they offered a resident discount.
  - Montrose, Avon, Grand Valley, Fruita, Glenwood Community Center, Silverthorne, and Ouray all offer a resident discount. All are part of a rec center except Ouray, which is a Hot Springs pool.
  - Delta, Snowmass, Aspen, Durango, Gunnison, Meeker, Palisade, Grand Junction, Eagle, Telluride, Hotchkiss, Salida, and Glenwood Hot Springs do not offer a resident discount.
- Most offer rates for different age ranges, and most are indoor pools.
- There are different definitions for residents (in city limits vs in tax district).
- Betsey mentioned that Battlement has business rates that offer significant discounts.
- Palisade and Grand Junction have a partnership that offers \$1 entry with a pass from the other town.
- Betsey asked how cost compares to revenue.
  - Austin stated that the goal is not to break even. Cost is subsidized with sales tax for Parks and Rec, not General Fund. This year we will spend about \$750,000. Pool fees do help pay pool employee salary.
  - Aaron asked if operational budget could be provided.
  - Kirsten asked where the \$10 entry fee came from. Austin stated that this came from looking at other pools and not trying to price people out. Annie clarified that the goal is to cover some of the operational costs.
  - Austin mentioned that fees have been raised twice since new pool was built.
- Betsey asked if we could extend the season for lessons.
  - Austin stated that this is based around school schedules for students and instructors.
  - Austin also commented that it would be hard to determine residency for day use, but that we could do it for lessons or passes through Civic Rec.
  - Matt stated that we do get a lot of out-of-town people for lessons and passes.
  - Aaron asked where scholarship came from. Austin stated that a discount is given, there is not a scholarship amount contributed.
  - Red Cross charges per lesson, up to 1,000. Cost is about \$150 to certify instructors.
- Matt gave a recreation breakdown of fees and participation.
  - Spring and Fall soccer are top programs for youth leagues, with t-ball and coach pitch behind that. There are waitlists.

- Adult leagues are almost all capped. Men's softball was added this year, and sand volleyball is being considered.
- As part of feasibility study, we looked at where participants come from. There were 39 from front range, and 35 from out of state.
- A comparison of fees to other rec departments was reviewed. Noted differences were that Meeker charges by the hours and adjusts based on instructor experience and certifications. Glenwood fees are higher, but they keep the jerseys. Austin added that where our fees are now, we are either making money or breaking even.
- Betsey asked what is needed from the board. Austin stated this just shows that being able to offer an indoor space would allow more kids to participate. Matt also brought up what we would be able to offer for Friday programs, which has been requested with kids not having school on Fridays.
- Austin also mentioned we are starting to get data back on the feasibility study, and we will look at how we can best serve kids and not turn them away.

### 5.b. Birch Park Update

- Austin shared that monthly updates will be provided through May.
- Keith presented the Birch Park update.
  - The first picture shows where Birch Avenue will extend into the park.
  - Irrigation lines will be installed soon along the new road.
    - The irrigation pond, trees and shrubs have been cleared out, and the pond will be expanded. We will use the irrigation pond along with the Rhoads property.
    - This installation will take place after October 15<sup>th</sup>, once the ditch water is turned off.
  - The parking lot has been graded. Paving will take place in early June and will include 37 parking spaces, including two ADA-accessible spots.
    - There will also be parking on Birch Avenue.
  - The grading at the pickleball courts is complete. The pouring of the post-tensioned concrete slab is waiting on weather. They will pour next week. In the spring, the surfacing will be done.
  - The surveying stakes are out.
  - Irrigation and electrical are being done.
  - City of Rifle staff have picked out 50 boulders for the retaining wall and throughout flower beds as decorative features and seating.
  - Annie asked if there have been any complaints. Austin stated there have not. There is little to no dust, and they are working quickly.
  - The pickleball courts, retaining wall and sidewalks are the next big steps.
  - The park will be done in May or June of next year.

### Administrative Reports

- Austin stated that there will be another public feasibility meeting in November.
  - We will start focusing on what the fieldhouse will look like.
  - The programming analysis will be reviewed. This can be shared at the next meeting.
- There are three board positions with terms ending this year.
- The next meeting is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was officially adjourned by Annie at 6:22 pm.

DRAFT



**Agenda Item #5.a.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Birch Park Update

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

Brich park constuction update

**Recommended Action:**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Background Information:**

N/A

**Executive Summary:**

Staff will provide the board with an update on the construction of Birch Park.

**Notification Requirements:**

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

1. Birch Park Pics

# Birch Park











**Agenda Item #5.b.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Feasibility Study Update

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

Feasibility study update.

**Recommended Action:**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Background Information:**

N/A

**Executive Summary:**

Staff will provide the board with an update on the feasibility study's progress.

**Notification Requirements:**

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

None



**Agenda Item #5.c.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

South Rifle Master Planning Update

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

South Rifle Master Planning Update

**Recommended Action:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Background Information:**

N/A

**Executive Summary:**

Staff will provide the board with an update on the South Rifle Master Planning.

**Notification Requirements:**

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

None



**Agenda Item #6.a.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Consider the reappointment of Annie MacGregor to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

Consider the reappointment of Annie MacGregor to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**Recommended Action:**

Move to approve the recommendation for reappointment of Annie MacGregor to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

Annie was appointed in 2022 for a three-year term. Annie is seeking to be reappointed for another 3-year term.

**Background Information:**

Staff has attached Annie's letter of intent for reappointment.

**Executive Summary:**

See attached letter of intent.

**Notification Requirements:**

N/A

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

1. Letter of Interest PRAB

**City of Rifle Parks and Recreation Department**

202 Railroad Avenue

Rifle, CO 81650

**RE: Intent to Continue Serving on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

10/30/2025

Dear Parks and Recreation Staff and City Council,

I am writing to express my desire to continue serving on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. It has been a privilege to contribute to the planning and enhancement of Rifle's parks, trails, and recreational programs. I value the opportunity to help advance projects that strengthen our community and improve quality of life for residents.

I would be honored to continue supporting the department's efforts and ongoing initiatives in the coming term. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Annie L MacGregor



**Agenda Item #6.b.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Consider the reappointment of John Douglas to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

Consider the reappointment of John Douglas to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**Recommended Action:**

Move to approve the recommendation for the reappointment of John Douglas to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

John was appointed to fill a vacant term and is now seeking a 3-year term.

**Background Information:**

Please see the attached letter of interest

**Executive Summary:**

N/A

**Notification Requirements:**

N/A

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

1. Re\_ Parks and Recreation Advisory Board seat

**From:** [John Douglas](#)  
**To:** [Mary Stewart](#); [Austin Rickstrew](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board seat  
**Date:** Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:50:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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## **Letter of Interest – Rifle Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

Dear PRAB Members,

I would like to express my interest in continuing to serve on the Rifle Parks and Rec Advisory Board. It's been a rewarding and educational experience to be part of the team that helps shape our parks, trails, and recreation programs that make Rifle such a great place to live.

I care deeply about our community and believe in the value of providing spaces and opportunities that bring people together. I would be grateful for the chance to continue contributing my time and ideas to support the department's goals and the needs of our residents.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to continue serving our community.

Sincerely,  
John Douglas



**Agenda Item #6.c.**

**Agenda Item Name:**

Consider PRAB 2026 Meeting Dates

**Presenter:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Description:**

Consider the dates for 2026 meetings

**Recommended Action:**

Move to approve the PRAB meeting dates for 2026

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Operational Impact:**

N/A

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Background Information:**

PRAB meetings are on the second Monday of every month.

**Executive Summary:**

N/A

**Notification Requirements:**

N/A

**Prepared By:**

Austin Rickstrew, Parks & Recreation Director

**Attachments:**

1. 2026 PRAB Meeting Dates

# **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

## **2026 Meeting Dates**

- Monday, January 12
- Monday, February 9
- Monday, March 9
- Monday, April 13
- Monday, May 11
- Monday, June 8
- Monday, July 13
- Monday, August 10
- Monday, September 14
- Monday, October 12
- Monday, November 9
- Monday, December 14