



# CITY OF MELROSE

## PARK COMMISSION

### MINUTES • JANUARY 12, 2026

**RECEIVED**

By City Clerks Office at 3:51 pm, Feb 12, 2026

Mt. Hood Clubhouse

Regular Meeting

7:00 PM

100 Slayton Road, MA, Melrose 02176

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kelly Broderick		Absent	
Anne Ahern		Present	
James Donohue	Chair	Present	
John Mercer		Present	

Also present: Rob Carrillo, Richard Luff, Dean Scarito

## II. SIGNING OF WARRANTS

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes December 8, 2025

Motion: Approve the Minutes of December 8, 2025

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED [3 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	John Mercer
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Anne Ahern
<b>AYES:</b>	Anne Ahern, John Mercer, James Donohue,

## IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The chair would like to take the Pickleball Lines on the agenda out of order.

Motion: Open Public Participation

By: John Mercer, Second: Anne Ahern - motion carried.

Myron Dittmer, 93 Altamont Ave., spoke as President of the Mt Hood Park Association. He spoke to the 3 events that he would like to once again run in 2026. He thanked all that helped make the events so successful. The Senior Event in May was great, they have speakers, a lunch and then anyone that wants to go to the Tower can go. On July 4<sup>th</sup> they had probably the most people ever for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July concert. Finally they had the Christmas event on the last Sunday of Home for the Holidays. It was again very well attended.

Sagamore and the Park Dept were very supportive. This year they would like to

again run these 3 events and Myron is here to request the dates: May 12, July 4 and Dec 6.

Sagamore is on board with these events and has them reserved on their calendar. The PC thanks Myron for his continued efforts.

Nancy Clover, from Melrose, wants to bring up the need for a sign at the Mary Livermore Park. She has been to the Historical Commission and they have no budget for something like this. Nancy is requesting that the Park Dept find funding for a sign.

John M asked if the Historical Commission could design it. Nancy said they probably would not want to design it. John M asked Nancy if she would like to design it. Nancy said she would really like to. John asked what about a rock with a sign? John said he will talk to Ward Hamilton, and ask him for some ideas. John took Nancy’s contact info.

Nancy has been helping on an adopt-a-site map project. She wants to know if there are any other pictures that are needed. Rob will check with the senior tax worker who is designing it.

Motion: Close Public Participation  
By: John Mercer, Second: Anne Ahern - motion carried.

**V. MOUNT HOOD REPORT**

- 1. Report on Season Passes/Contracts/Charity/No Shows

No changes

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

- 2. Monthly Revenues

As of January, Sagamore has moved over to a whole new POS System called TenFore. They are still learning the system and will give the Park Dept access to the reports shortly.

December revenues were dictated by weather and the course was not open much. Sagamore was still up for the year.

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

3. Report on requests for rental of club house

Functions are being booked as we speak.

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

4. Marketing Plan

Sagamore is working on social media marketing a lot.

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

5. Course Maintenance & Staffing Log, Certifications

Reports submitted and on hand.

There is a picture in the packet of the MT Hood Welcome sign that was restored. It looks very nice.

The contractor that Sagamore had coming to check out 18 and 9 tee boxes has not made it out yet. He was also going to go over cart paths.

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

6. Building Maintenance Report

Nothing to report

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

7. Report on General Operation of Golf Course

a. Mesh Radio Transmitter Proposal

Paul Moore, 35 Laurel St., is coming before the PC to request to put a repeater type of antennae on the Mt hood Tower. There is a volunteer community driven group that use a device similar to a walkie. It is only capable of text messaging. The network reaches from Cohasset to Nashua to Worcester. It gets fuzzy up on the North Shore and having a repeater on the Tower would really be ideal for this group. It runs on a cordless phone frequency, it uses ISM bands and is solar powered.

John M recommends that this gets tabled until the Superintendent of Parks checks with IT and Legal to make sure this is something the city might want.

**RESULT: REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

## 8. 2026 Season Pass and Rates Discussion

Richard L commented that the 2 bottom lines(footnotes) on the rates spreadsheet are in error. Please cross them out. Richard continued, when they got to Mt Hood the rates and pass prices seemed to have no rhyme or reason. They have worked very hard to base the non resident rates on the market prices in the area. And from there they are shooting for a 15% discount off of the non resident rates to be the resident rates to carry throughout the rate structure. Last year the rates that don't make a lot of sense were the Sr Ind Weekday and Sr Family pass rates. The PC chose to charge \$1200 for the Sr Ind Weekday. This did not align with what Sagamore was trying to do, but, the PC preferred to go at a slower pace to bring up the Sr rates. Richard explained that it compounds the issue because this year to get to a 15% discount the cost would have to go up 30%. This is the reason why Sagamore has proposed a large increase for Sr Residents. Also, Sagamore does not feel that Non Resident Sr rate should be 15% discount off of the standard rate, so they lowered it to 7% off of the standard rate.

John M asked why there is any discount for a non resident? Richard responded that across the industry there are a lot of changes to how discounts are being offered. Richard does not disagree with John, but, it is up to the PC of course.

Anne A mentioned the recent override that passed and how she felt most seniors were not in favor of it and have financial challenges because of it. She would like this kept in mind. She reported that last year Gannon charged \$1400 for Resident Seniors for a weekday pass. She is fine with raising the non resident rates.

John M sees that they are creeping to where Sagamore wants to be and that eliminating Non Resident Senior rates helps that. Anne would suggest that the Resident Sr rate for a pass only increase to \$1400. That would be a \$200 increase and not a \$371 one.

Richard asked if it would mean they are getting rid of the Senior Non Resident daily rates too? The PC said yes.

Tammy Shovelton, Department Head of Veteran Affairs, has requested to give resident veterans some sort of discount. The PC and Sagamore agreed to give any resident veteran(regardless of age) the discount that a resident senior gets. This applies to a weekday pass or to the 9/18 hole daily rates.

Motion: To approve the daily rates, season pass rates and cart rates as proposed and amended pending Sagamore sending the PC a clean copy of all the rates. Amendments include eliminating Senior Non Resident Pass discounts and eliminating Senior Non Resident daily rate discounts. Also, the Resident Senior pass rate will be increased to \$1400, not the proposed \$1571. Senior Non Resident daily rate discounts will be eliminated. Any resident veteran, regardless of age, will pay the same rates as a Senior Resident.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED [3 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	John Mercer
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Anne Ahern
<b>AYES:</b>	Anne Ahern, John Mercer, James Donohue

9. FY26 Mt Hood Budget

No updates

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION</b>
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**VI. RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

1. Program Updates

Rec started basketball yesterday. There are close to 600 kids playing. They are down 100 from last year and down 100 kids from the year before that. It has affected every single grade. Travel basketball takes about 80 kids away from Recreation basketball. However, many kids have done both historically. There has always been travel basketball. For whatever the reason is there is a drop and Frank wants the PC to know. Some of the summer programs were also down.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION</b>
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2. FY26 Recreation Budget

The decrease in participation of course does not help the budget.

John M asked Frank to explain about the loss of his general fund budget. Frank recapped what he has seen happen. Recreation expanded for years and so did the revolving fund. The city felt like Recreation could support themselves so took away the general fund money that they were funding Recreation. Recreation can stay afloat for some years, but, not forever. Frank is not sure of what the city plans to do once the revolving account is low.

The mayor wants Frank to do a survey of the residents. They haven't done one in 10 years. Frank feels this is not a bad idea.

Frank is having a meeting with the mayor next week. John asked Frank to get a clearer understanding of the city's intentions. He (John) would be happy to meet with Jim and the mayor to try and find some answers.

**RESULT:            REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

## VII. PARK DEPARTMENT REPORT

### 1. General Park Dept. Report

Rob is waiting on a lot of quotes for the CIP projects that he now has money for. He does not have a lot to report on right now.

**RESULT:            REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION**

### 2. Tremont St. Pickleball Permanent Lines Vote

The Park Superintendent and the Recreation Director described what the project entails and has entailed in the past. There were several residents that did the back breaking work of keeping pickleball lines on the Tremont St. courts. The Recreation pilot program went very well. There have been no complaints, and they would like to overlay permanent pickleball lines for 4 courts on 2 of the tennis courts.

Mary Corridian, 436 Lebanon St., spoke to the huge success that the fall program was. She is hoping the Park Commission is in favor of making the lines permanent.

Jane Weisen, Malvern St., echoed Mary and had one other request: to figure out a way to have availability to others being able to play outside of the Recreation programs, meaning to have nets available.

Frank responded that he and Rob have researched this a bit and feel they can work through this to make nets available.

Rob thinks that the project may have to go out to bid and that it could possibly get done by summer.

Motion:        To approve the painting of permanent pickleball lines on 2 of the Tremont St. tennis courts.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED [3 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	John Mercer
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Anne Ahern
<b>AYES:</b>	Anne Ahern, John Mercer, James Donohue

3. FY26 Park Budget

No update

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>REVIEWED BY PARK COMMISSION</b>
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**VIII. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING**

None

Motion: To adjourn

By: Anne Ahern, Second: John Mercer - motion carried.