



**PARK ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
MAY 14, 2026 AT 4:00 PM
HJEMKOMST CENTER AUDITORIUM - 202 1ST AVE N.**

Disclaimer: Voting requirements may be subject to changes in the law, parliamentary procedural matters, or other unforeseen issues. The City Attorney provides opinion on questions of voting requirements by the Moorhead City Code, Minnesota State Statutes, and parliamentary procedure.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Recognitions/Presentation
 - A. Oath of Office – Board Member, Carrie Rogers, Ward 1
3. Agenda Amendments
4. Approval of Minutes
 - A. February 26, 2026 - Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
5. Citizens To Be Heard
6. Business
 - A. Friendship Park designation in honor of Friendship City Partnership with Zakho Kurdistan
 - B. Receive Updates on the Golf Courses
7. Information/Update
 - A. Hjemkomst Rope Replacement Project
 - B. Native Prairie – Control Burn
 - C. Unauthorized Structures – Homestead Park
 - D. Senior Program Updates
8. Adjourn

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**MINUTES OF THE PARK ADVISORY BOARD
HJEMKOMST CENTER AUDITORIUM - 202 1ST AVE N.
February 26, 2026 - 4:00 PM**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

Present (6): Alexander Aldrich, David Marquardt, Robert Ross, Erin Gillam, Brian Haugen, Emily Moore

Present Not Voting (0):

Absent (1): Mitch Havig

2. Recognitions/Presentation

A. City of Moorhead - 150 Years

B. Rushelle Flaten - Office Specialist

3. Agenda Amendments

4. Approval of Minutes

A. August 28, 2025

5. Citizens To Be Heard

6. Business

A. Reclassification of Romkey Park

Recreation Director Sean Brandenburg provides an update on the Reimagine Romkey Project. With the new project coming to completion this summer, Parks and Recreation is looking to reclassify the park from a neighborhood park to a community park with all the added amenities.

Motion to Approve made by Erin Gillam and seconded by Brian Haugen.

For 4: Alexander Aldrich, David Marquardt, Robert Ross, Emily Moore

Against 0: None

Abstain/Recuse 0: None

Motion

B. Update on Elements Asset Management System

Public Works Director Paul Fiechtner provides an update on our Elements XS System. The Novotx Company highlighted the City of Moorhead in a recent video.

C. Update on Clay County MPCA – Projects

Forrest Steinhoff provides an update on the Clay County Public Health funding. Through the survey, they had about 102 responses online stating which project they prefer. Forrest discussed options for projects to utilize this funding.

Option 1: Arbor Day Tree Planting, Estimated Cost: \$14,574

- Option 2: River Corridor Amenities, Estimated Cost: \$11,215
- Option 3: River Corridor Pollinator, Estimated Cost: \$17,600
- Option 4: Bluestem Bridge Trail Lighting, Estimated Cost: \$25,600
- Option 5: Cross Walk Painting Around Moorhead Area Public Schools, \$80,100

7. Information/Update

A. Woodlawn Park Disc Golf Course Update

Park Maintenance Manager Derek Boman provides an update on the new Woodlawn Park Disc Golf Course. Temporary signs are placed in the park currently. Permanent signs are to come this spring.

The old baskets will be reused in our neighborhood parks, but the Parks Advisory Board are welcome to provide suggested ideas for reusing these baskets.

- B. Grant Closure/Completion
 - i. Age Friendly MN Grant – Pickleball Conversions
 - ii. MPCA Climate Action – 10 Acres Native Grasses

Public Works Director, Paul Fiechtner, provides an update regarding the Age-Friendly MN Grant - Pickleball Conversions and the MPCA Climate Action - 10 Acres Native Grasses.

- C. Mary's Tunnel / Skating Ribbon
- D. Golf Course Updates
- E. M.B. Johnson Park Trailhead Sign
- F. Park Maintenance Training Update
- G. Program Summaries
- H. Essentia Walking Trail

8. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn made by Robert Ross and seconded by Erin Gillam.
For 4: Alexander Aldrich, David Marquardt, Brian Haugen, Emily Moore
Against 0: None
Abstain/Recuse 0: None
Motion



Park Advisory Board Memorandum

May 14, 2026

SUBJECT: Friendship Park designation in honor of Friendship City Partnership with Zakho Kurdistan

RECOMMENDATION: The Park Advisory Board is asked to receive information and approve the recommendation of renaming Johnson Farms Park to Friendship Park.

BACKGROUND/KEY POINTS:

In July 2025, leaders from the City of Moorhead and the City of Zakho, Kurdistan, held a historic proclamation ceremony at Minnesota State University Moorhead, formally establishing a Friendship City partnership between our two communities. This event highlighted both cities' shared commitment to cultural exchange, educational collaboration, and community connection.

Moorhead is home to an estimated 3,500 Kurdish residents, representing approximately 8% of the city's population. For more than a generation, Kurdish families have been important contributors to Moorhead's cultural and social fabric. Many came seeking safety, stability, and opportunity, strengthening the vibrancy of our neighborhoods, schools, and local economy.

To honor this relationship locally, staff have been exploring opportunities to designate a city park as Friendship Park, as Zakho, Kurdistan will also be naming a park in the City celebrating the ties to Moorhead.

Friendship Park honors that relationship, while also allowing communities of all nationalities a place where they can feel welcome. With Moorhead being a vibrant, caring community, and home to over 63 spoken languages daily.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

Department: Parks & Recreation

Submitted By:

Sean Brandenburg, Recreation Director

Attachments: Friendship City Proclamation

**The Cities of Moorhead, Minnesota, USA
Zakho, Kurdistan Region of Iraq and
Minnesota State University Moorhead**

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Cities of Moorhead, Minnesota, USA, and Zakho, Kurdistan Region of Iraq; as well as Minnesota State University Moorhead recognize the shared values of cultural diversity, mutual understanding, and a commitment to promoting global peace and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, existing ties and connections shared between Moorhead and Zakho provide a strong foundation upon which to build collaboration, respect, friendship and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the partners are committed to strengthening their relationships and share mutual interests, including:

- **Cultural Exchange:** promoting cultural understanding through artistic collaborations, cultural festivals, and exchanges
- **Educational Collaboration:** supporting the collaboration of educational institutions through programs such as joint research projects and learning opportunities
- **Community & Economic Development:** seeking business partnerships and trade opportunities by connecting entrepreneurs and businesses and enhancing relationships between community organizations, civic leaders, and local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Shelly Carlson (Mayor of the City of Moorhead, Minnesota), Guhdar Sheekhoo (Head of Zakho Independent Administration), Timothy Downs (President of Minnesota State Moorhead) do hereby issue this collective proclamation

DECLARING A FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA; ZAKHO, KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ; AND MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,



Park Advisory Board Memorandum

May 14, 2026

SUBJECT: Receive update on season pass procedures

RECOMMENDATION: The Park Advisory Board is asked to receive information regarding updated procedures regarding season pass sales.

BACKGROUND/KEY POINTS:

In the Fall of 2025, staff identified a significant opportunity to streamline and modernize the way season passes are purchased and used at both the Municipal Pool and the City's golf courses. Historically, the season pass purchase process required patrons to visit the Parks & Recreation office during standard business hours or purchase directly from one of the golf courses or the pool. This approach created barriers for residents who could not visit during the weekday, and it placed substantial administrative demand on staff, particularly during peak golf and pool seasons.

During internal reviews, staff consistently noted challenges with in-person processing, data accuracy, and system reliability. These conversations highlighted the need for a more user-friendly process that reduced staff workload while improving customer experience.

To respond to these needs, staff explored the use of QR codes integrated with our Sportsman registration software. The goal was twofold: enhance convenience for patrons by allowing them to purchase season passes whenever it worked for their schedule and reduce administrative strain on Parks & Recreation staff, especially during high-demand periods.

Beginning with the 2026 season, patrons are now able to purchase season passes entirely online through a QR code-based system. Once purchased, their pass generates a unique barcode within their Sportsman account, which can be scanned at the Municipal Pool, the Meadows Golf Course, and Village Green Golf Course. This transition significantly reduces the time previously required to process passes manually and removes the weekday-only limitations associated with office purchases.

A notable improvement of the QR based system is the ability to capture clear, consistent user data. The new scanning system provides staff with more accurate participation counts, better understanding of usage trends, improved oversight of season pass activity, and more reliable year-over-year comparisons. This information will help guide future programming, evaluate service levels, and support data-driven decisions.



Park Advisory Board Memorandum

May 14, 2026

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

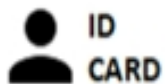
N/A

Department: Parks & Recreation

Submitted By:

Sean Brandenburg, Recreation Director

Attachments: Example QR Code



Moorhead Golf Course

Jay Haug



00000100

Send To

Email Address

Cell Number

Send

Print









Spring 2026 Native Prairie Regenerative Burn











Moorhead Senior Center Survey – March 2026 – 59 Responses

1. How would you rate the overall programs and services at the Moorhead Senior Center?

Unsatisfactory	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		2	20	31

2. Some programs listed are currently offered, but please select if it interests you or not.

Activity	Not Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested
Arts/Crafts	5	9	19
Meals	6	9	20
Fitness / Walking	4	6	18
Games / Cards	7	10	17
Singing	13	2	14
Knitting / Quilting	10	6	8
Education/Lifelong Learning	2	11	13
Seasonal Parties	9	7	14
Cooking/Nutrition	7	12	7
Memory Cafe	12	7	6
Travel / Tours	6	8	18
Book Club	12	4	8

3. Do you have suggestions for new activities at the Senior Center that you would like to see?

- Offer SAIL continuous with no breaks. (3)
- “I miss bone builders” (2)
- Dancing (2) Line and Ballroom
- Tai Chi (2)
- More time for quilting / sewing (all day) and larger room (2)
- Hand and foot care / nails (2)
- Movie Day (5)
- Organized Volunteer Opportunities, make money (2)
- Speaker series / candidate forum, like Breakfast Club (2)
- Single Comments: Genealogy, Cross Country Skiing, Board Game Club, children’s hands on projects.

4. Please indicate where you currently receive most of your news and information (check all that apply):

FM Extra	Inform	Facebook	Mhd Seniors newsletter	Park Program Guide
23	11	4	19	9

Specify sources or any others: City Website, Moorhead Senior Center flyers, Triad Meetings, Word of Mouth (6)

5. How many times have you participated in Moorhead Senior Center activities/programs in the past 6 months?

Never	About 1X/Month	About 1X/Week	More than 1X/Week
3	2	30	14

Other Comments: Have SAIL later in day, closer to noon meal so we can stay. (4). Transportation is a factor in my participation. More Advertising. Recruit for card playing. Put times in The Extra.

Activities Requested but not currently offered: Book Club, Indoor Walking Club, Travel and Tours, Cooking and Nutrition (not as many). A walking club was offered on the bike paths around Hjemkomst but had limited participation.

SENIOR CENTER

The Moorhead Senior Center offers social, educational and recreational programs for citizens 55 and older. In October and December there were 2 social parties, Pumpkin Palooza and Merry and Bright Christmas Party. Indoor pickleball started up again in October with strong attendance numbers. Educational Seminars included the Care Giver Conference and a Valley Triad sponsored "Senior Safety Seminar". A variety of exercise options continue to be offered with Movement Education, Tai Chi, Chair Yoga and Fit Fusion. Attendance numbers were higher in 2026 than 2025 in the Fall but have declined this winter due to inclement weather, forcing several cancellations. For more information see Moorheadseniors.com

August 2025 – January 2026						
Program	August	September	October	November	December	January
Artist Group (1x Week)	56	57	67	49	32	71
Bridge (3x Week)	155	144	151	96	97	61
Pinochle (3x Week)	50	40	72	43	64	53
Singing Group (1x Week)	76	94	75	31	34	18
Mahjong (1x Week)	29	40	27	16	17	25
Whist (3x Week)	55	64	67	49	71	48
Social Circle (5x Week)	99	68	84	72	90	76
Senior Meals (5x Week)	400	350	346	255	235	252
Memory Café (1x Month)	72	61	103	46	104	0
Breakfast Club (1x Month)	3	5	10	3	0	0
Valley Triad (1x Month)	10	8	11	15	0	14
Bingo (1x Month)	0	0	0	4	0	0
Quilting Group (2x Month)	23	16	26	16	11	12
Indoor Pickleball (2x Week) Oct-April			59	80	90	95
Movement Education (1x Month)	15	16	13	15	0	0
Special Events						
AARP Free Tax Assistance						
Care Giver Conference			72			
Valley Triad Safety Seminar		20				
Online Fitness Classes		2				
Merry and Bright Party					115	
Pumpkin Palooza Party			50			
Chair Yoga / Fit Fusion	21	14	10	5	3	0
Tai Chi	11	9	7	6	0	0
Sanders Flats Outreach	18					
Total Participants	1012	1127	1151	786	963	728

