

Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes August 20th, 2025

Call to order:

The recent Park Advisory Board Meeting was held on August 20th, 2025, at the Belle Johnston Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:14pm by Christine Turner.

Attendees

Matthew Jakubowski (Staff) Randy Brantley Kris McVey (Vice Chair)

Shi Cain (Staff) Lorraine Haynes Stacy Shatterly

Christine Turner (Chair) Ivette Isaacs Amy Smith

Public Comment: None

New Business

Approval of minutes:

 Christine Turner made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21st, 2025, meeting. Motion approved and seconded by Kris McVey; all in favor by all.

Director Updates:

Parks and Recreation Director Update

1) Pickleball Courts:

We are in the process of permitting the new pickleball courts. Kimberly Horne, our consultant, has visited the site to assess the area and determine the requirements for installation. We are currently working with Mecklenburg County to confirm if a permit will be required, which should be finalized within the next two weeks. Matthew has proposed a colorful court design, with each of the three courts featuring a different color scheme. The courts will be located on the left-hand side upon entering Jack Hughes Park.

2) McCullough Greenway Update:

Asphalt paving is scheduled for Thursday and Friday. A final walkthrough is set for September 3rd, and Park Board members are invited to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on September 4th. The ceremony will be held at the midpoint of the bridge connecting McCullough and Jack Hughes.

3) The McCullough Neighborhood Association has voted to prohibit golf carts on the bridge to ensure the safety of bikers, walkers, and runners. In collaboration with Electric Cities, lighting has been added along the Greenway, including lighted wall features to enhance visibility and safety at night.

4) Capital Projects:

Several new capital improvements are underway. We purchased a new Kubota and top dresser to assist the maintenance crew with field management and grass growth. Both parking lots at Lake Park—the large shelter lot and the lower lot by the playgrounds—are being paved. Additionally, the Bradford pear trees along Lake View Drive have been removed due to their invasive nature and safety risks from weak branches.

5) New Playground Presentation:

Matthew presented a PowerPoint showcasing four playground design options, highlighting their features, pros and cons, and cost estimates. The Park Board will vote on their preferred design, and Matthew will present the results to Ryan. He is also exploring the addition of shade structures for playgrounds as a future improvement.

6) Summer Camp Recap:

Summer Camp was a success, especially for Shi's first year leading the program. We averaged around 50 campers per week, with a few weeks slightly below that number. Each week included exciting field trips, structured schedules, and creative crafts and activities. The final day of camp, Friday, August 15th, featured a fire truck visit, water slide, water games, and Kona Ice to celebrate the summer. Junior Counselors performed exceptionally well and are being considered for Counselor roles within the next two years.

7) Rock'n & Reel'n:

Our Rock'n & Reel'n series went very well this season. We hosted three concerts with the Symphony, and both movie nights have been successful. The final movie of the season, *Mufasa*, will be shown on Friday, August 22nd.

8) Athletic Review:

- -Youth Volleyball: Erin will oversee the Fall Volleyball season and manage both the younger and older age groups.
- -Youth Soccer: 345 children participated in the drafts.
- -Adult Basketball: Seven adult leagues are currently active and competing.

PPRAB Vacancies and Appointments:

i. The PPRAB currently has 9 of 9 positions filled! The board is currently in full membership.

PPRAB Member Reports

i. <u>Community Engagements:</u> None

ii. Resident concerns/suggestions: None

Park and Recreation Department: Upcoming Events/Programs

i. Pineville 4 Miler: September 20th

ii. Teen Night: September 26th

iii. Fall Yard Sale: September 27thiv. Fall Fest: October 16th-18th

v. Trunk or Treat: October 24th

Open Discussion/Suggestions/Future Initiatives

Future Initiatives, Lorraine mentions the idea of turning the old Town Hall into a teen area where they learn how to play chess, podcasts, cooking, be influencers, etc.

<u>Schedule of Upcoming PPRAB Meetings:</u> 2025 Meetings: February 19th, May 21st, August 20th, November 19th

<u>Adjourn</u> – Christine Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kris McVey seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.