



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday January 21, 2025, 5:30PM

Skyline Center 929 N. Front St
Azalea Room 154H

or [HYBRID ZOOM](#)

Call to Order Chair: Terry Smith
Vice Chair: Ron Woodruff

Call to order 5:32 PM

Staff Liaison: Amy Beatty, Parks & Recreation Director,

Public comment period (3 minutes)

Introduction of the new City Council Member, Chakema Clinton-Quintana

Gordon Petit, President of the Wilmington Professional Firefighters Association, Local 129, spoke on behalf of the Firefighters about renaming Greenfield Grind Skate Park to the Alec Chambers Skate Park. Alec Chambers was a mentor to young skaters and a welcoming presence at the skate park. The Greenfield Grind Skatepark was more than just a park to Alec. He spent countless hours, built friendships and gave back to others. The Local 129 recommends renaming the skate park is not just about changing the name but honoring a life that mattered. It sends a message that Wilmington remembers its people, stands with grieving families and chooses to turn tragedy into something lasting and meaningful.

Approval of November 2025 Minutes

Zach Gilbert motioned to approve the November 2025 minutes. Rhonda Waterhouse provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: N/A

Presentation of Vision Zero by Justin Carter, Assistant Director of Engineering-

[Vision Zero - Wilmington, NC](#)

Vision Zero focuses on traffic management with the ultimate priority of reducing traffic related deaths to zero. There is a crossover into pedestrian and bicycle safety and the link to park navigation. Vision Zero's goal is to have zero fatalities on city streets in the next 10 years. Pedestrians and bicyclists play a huge role in in that goal as well. Vision Zero treats the system as a whole.

Many larger cities have put Vision Zero into their planning, such as Matthews, Charlotte, and Raleigh. The city is working with NCDOT and WMPO to solve some of the problems on the state-

owned roads.

Bijou Park sign

Bijou mosaic tiles that were part of the original theatre were refurbished. Wilmington Downtown Inc. and the Municipal Service District Committee requests approval of the re-wording of the historic sign that will be on site.

“In 2025, the Wilmington Municipal Services District Advisory Committee and Wilmington Downtown Incorporated in partnership with the City of Wilmington Parks Recreation Department carefully restored this original mosaic at the park entrance. The tile was carefully removed, reinforced, and relayed, preserving BG's legacy as a beloved cultural landmark for generations to come.”

Rhonda Waterhouse made a comment to remove the second ‘carefully’ from the wording. Amy Beatty agreed.

Rhonda Waterhouse motioned to approve the signage with the change that was suggested. Ingrid Corbi seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously with changes.

Request to rename Greenfield Grind Skatepark in memory of Alec Chambers

A presentation was made earlier in the meeting from the Wilmington Professional Firefighters Association, Local 129 about renaming Greenfield Grind Skatepark in memory of Alec Chambers who was lost recently in a tragic accident. Amy Beatty went over the naming process with the board members.

Motion was made by Ingrid Corbi to rename Greenfield Grind Skatepark to Alec Chambers Skatepark. Rhonda Waterhouse seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

WMPO: Cape Fear Trails Etiquette Campaign and Signage Guide Update-WMPO Staff

WMPO staff made a presentation of the updated signage for the trail etiquette campaign.

The trail rules have been reviewed by the WMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee as well as staff from member jurisdictions including park staff, communication staff and planning staff. They created a toolkit with FAQ, press release, email template, newsletter blurb, social media graphics. The signage incorporates national and state practices for wayfinding and regulatory signage. The WMPO will bring this forward to their Board in February.

Committee Reports

- Parks & Greenway Committee Goal 3 + 5 + Adopt-a-Park initiative
Jo and Ingrid had a meeting this evening with Mary Toffolon about the painting of the

Riverfront Park benches. She has asked for a volunteer to join her initiative.

- Engagement Committee Goal 2 + 4
Council member Chakema Clinton-Quintana is here with us for this board meeting.
Council Member Santaguida was invited to the meeting in February.

- Student Involvement Committee Goal 1
No update to report

Chair's Report

- Looking for future green space
Fanning and 10th Street, right across from the Dream Center. This property looks promising for the location. Continue looking for new places.
- Regarding the new park property, Amy stated that it is on the February 3rd Council agenda and that she will have news at the next Board meeting.
- The Downtown Rotary Club has been working with city staff on the Rotary Wheel at Greenfield Park. Working on designs and plans for improvements after the Centennial.
- Board members would like to have the next meeting at Halyburton Park on February 18th.
- Engagement committee is looking into inviting some groups to come to the board meetings. Some of the suggestions were PTA's and school groups. Demographics that utilize the parks.
- Kickball with the City Council

Staff Report

None

Adjournment 6:30pm

Ron Woodruff motioned to adjourn, Jo Pendry provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Wednesday March 18, 5:30PM Skyline Center Azalea Room 154H