



## PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday March 18, 2026**

**5:30PM**

**Skyline Center 929 N. Front St  
Azalea Room 154H**

or [Teams Meeting](#)

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

Call to order 5:32 PM

Staff Liaison: Amy Beatty, Parks & Recreation Director,  
Sally Thigpen, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director

Public comment period (3 minutes)

### Approval of March 2026 Minutes

Ron Woodruff motioned to approve the February 2026 minutes. Zach Gilbert Provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

### New Business:

North 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. median beautification pilot project – Ron McMillan, City Beautification Superintendent.

This project started as an issue with citizens using the right of way median to install plants, décor, pavers, etc. Over the years, crews have been trying to mow around the plantings and hardscape, but much of it has grown into disrepair. The landscaping office reached out to a few neighbors but decided to post a 30-day notice to have the items and plants removed from the site by the citizens who planted or placed them. The neighborhood pushed back on the idea and said that they like the plants there. Amy Beatty asked if the Landscaping office could meet with the neighbors to have a conversation about collaborating with the city and come up with a possible landscaping plan that would work for everyone. The agreement is still processing and formalization of the 'Adopt a median' plan is ongoing. Some members of the Cape Fear Garden club have offered to help them get started. They've had about 15 people to sign up and pay dues. Their name will be 'The Brooklyn Arts District Garden Club' and they call themselves The 'BAD Garden Club'. This is just a prototype and will be a partnership with the neighborhood. This group plans on fundraising this summer for these projects on N. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Guest Speakers: N/A

## Old Business

### Open Space Preservation (Goal #5) – Franklin Boney

- Franklin had some questions about what type of land to look for.
- After looking at the description, Terry said that it was vacant land that Parks and Rec could use for green space.

### [nCino Sports Park Advisory Board - Wilmington, NC](#) update – Ingrid Corbi

Ingrid suggested watching the City Council Presentation from Carson Porter, Executive Director of the Wilmington Hammerheads. Carson starts the presentation with detailing what is in the park.

- 11 Full Size Soccer Fields
- 1 Artificial Turf Field
- 5 fields with lights
- Award winning design, bathrooms

Carson showed the Council their launch video to better describe what the park looks like now. The land is now an active park that is serving the children in our community. Carson pointed out that it took some of the pressure of the other parks in our area and the revenue impact for the Wilmington area.

- ECNL Impact Summary from the Hammerhead hosted event shows total economic impact from the event.
  1. Direct business sales of over 3 million
  2. Total business sales of over 6 million

Carson states that this was from one of their biggest events and that they have many events happening in the park. College level Ultimate Frisbee event is happening this weekend. This is just a snapshot of what the park is doing for the community and businesses. Carson stated that the park is on the list to be the facility for the qualifying place of the Olympic Archery team. Carson states that the paving is the only thing that needs to be addressed going forward to bring the standard of the park to what it should be.

## Committee Reports

- Parks & Greenway Committee Goal 3 + 5 + Adopt-a-Park initiative  
Franklin will be sending a list with suggested spaces.
- Engagement Committee Goal 2 + 4  
City kickball event with the council. Terry would like to organize.
- Student Involvement Committee Goal 1  
Lemetrius has some suggestions that she has sent Rhonda for review.

### Chair's Report

- Terry was not able to make it to the NHC Parks Advisory Board meeting. He will call and reschedule a time.

### Staff Report

- Sally wanted to remind everyone about the officer elections coming up in May and inserted an excerpt from the bylaws in the agenda.

### Board Member Round Table

N/A

### Adjournment 6:15 pm

Ingrid Corbi motioned to adjourn, Ron Woodruff provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday April 15, 5:30PM Skyline Center Azalea Room 154H**