



Town of Clayton
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM
The Community Center, 715 Amelia Church Road

<p>Board Members Present: Kuanyu Chen Travis Crowder Denise Husband Natasha Ellis-Smith Carol Houston Corie Miller Charles Counts Greg Forde</p> <p>Board Members Absent: Mark S. Morgan Emily Beddingfield Rebecca Bradford</p>	<p>Staff Present: Scott Barnard, Parks & Recreation Director Todd Riddick, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Kelly Young, Board Clerk</p>
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1 CALL TO ORDER

- a) The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm.

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) DRAFT Minutes
Adoption of 14 April 25 Minutes

RESULT: CARRIED MOVER: Carol Houston SECONDER: Travis Crowder
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3 OLD BUSINESS

- a) Legend Park Project
Presenter: Scott Barnard, Parks and Recreation Director

Mr. Barnard shared that Legend Park is moving from Phase 1 to Phase 2. All waste has been reconsolidated and capped. Phase 2 includes the permanent turf layer and the sowing of non-woody grasses. The next portion of construction work will involve RiverWild and includes the addition of a secondary entrance to the bordering subdivision and reconstructing the Greenway segment this fall. Afterwards, a gravel

parking lot will be added. Stormwater will be monitored by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in perpetuity. Mr. Barnard commented that currently, the project is months ahead of schedule. It was brought to the Board's attention that part of the Greenway near Lake Road is eroded where folks are accessing the closed Greenway on bikes.

- b) Annual Board Tour Follow-up
Presenter: Scott Barnard, Parks and Recreation Director

A mention of thanks was given to those who were able to attend the recent Board tour. Site visits included Legend Park, properties at Loop Road and Little Creek Church Road as well as property in forestry management on Jack and Corbett Roads. All of these properties will be reviewed by SageDesign, the consulting firm who recently concluded work on the Clayton Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

- c) Future Park Assessment
Presenter: Scott Barnard, Parks and Recreation Director

SageDesign will evaluate several Town properties in light of the key recommendations outlined in the recently completed Clayton Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This review/evaluation will assist the Town in prioritizing the use of these sites based on current and future needs. The Board mentioned that perhaps connectors to properties, easements, etc. could also be considered for future Greenway additions.

- d) Volunteer Opportunities
Presenter: Todd Riddick, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director

Mr. Todd Riddick shared that Johnston County Senior Games had recently concluded and offered a big thank you to all those who volunteered. He noted that Clayton will be hosting the NC Senior Games in the fall during Big Week and will include bocce, shuffleboard, and cornhole, Sept 29-Oct 2. Square to Square on July 4 and youth coaching are also opportunities for needed volunteers.

4 NEW BUSINESS

- a) Summer Meeting Schedule
Presenter: Scott Barnard, Parks and Recreation Director

A reminder was given that there are no scheduled Advisory Board meetings in July and August. Mr. Barnard informed the Board that June could be optional if it was preferred. Mr. Barnard would post quick highlights in an email if the Board opted not to meet in June. It was decided that the Board Clerk would check with members via email during the first week of June to gather preferences. Member Carol Houston made a motion and Kuanyu Chen made a 2nd to tentatively skip June if we didn't have a quorum based on the email sent the first week of June to check schedules.

Motion to cancel June meeting if consensus based on email input sent the first week of June reveals preference to not meet.

RESULT:	CARRIED
MOVER:	Carol Houston
SECONDER:	Kuanyu Chen

- b) Sports Tourism
Presenter: Scott Barnard, Parks and Recreation Director

Mr. Barnard shared some information on the value of sports tourism and its economic impact on the community. NC Senior Games are an example. Those coming into Town related to sports are not coming alone. They want to eat, stay, play, explore so those dollars spent would support the Town. Johnston County is sliding into sports tourism and the need for places to stay is increasing. Our Parks and Recreation Department supports sports tourism currently by hosting the Clayton Clovers. We are also hosting our second year with WPSL, Women's Premiere Soccer League. All games will be held at East Clayton Community Park. Mr. Barnard further added that our Fourth of July events also impact our community economically. There are fewer firework displays around the area, so more folks come to Clayton to enjoy this holiday festivity. Fireworks will be set off at Clayton High School once again this year.

5 STAFF REPORTS

- a) Run the Branch 5K occurred this past weekend at Municipal Park with 250 participants. The fastest runner clocked 18 minutes. There was also a Tot Trot. Senior Games wrapped up with a closing ceremony last Thursday, May 8, and noteworthy statistics were shared. Summer Camp is set to begin June 2 and will employ roughly 40 part-timers and 80 weekly campers. The waitlist for Camp is 30-50 kids per week. Summer Camp will consume much of the building during its 10-week run but some programs/classes will still run. Youth baseball/softball is in the middle of the season and a newly developed lacrosse clinic, led by one of our own Maintenance staff who assists at Barton, is instructing. Summer kickball is needing an extra push as only two teams currently are fielded. A Board member commented on the likeability of the new pickleball instructor and suggested the desire for advanced pickleball classes in the future.

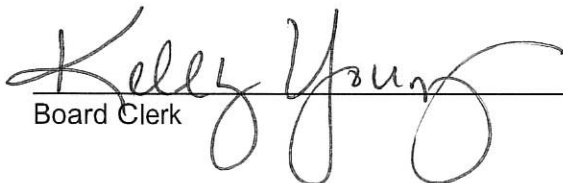
6 ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

Duly adopted this the 8th day of September, 2025, while in regular session.



Board Chair



Board Clerk

