



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 09, 2025 at 5:30 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

1. Call to Order

Mrs. McWilliams called the meeting to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation

Mrs. McWilliams started the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Patton gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call

A. Luemma McWilliams - Chair Person

Bedford Smith - Co-Chair Person

Kathey Pepe - Secretary

Loree Knowles - Commissioner

Larry Patton - Member

Anna Arnold - Member

Katrina Holt - Member

Mr. Grooms preformed roll call and Mrs. Arnold was the only missing member.

4. Approval / Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

A. Regular Session - June 11, 2025

Mrs. McWilliams stated that everyone had been sent a copy of the minutes and Ms. Pepe stated that there was an error under Special Reports for the Parks Department, in the part about the new screen being easy to set up just not easy to put up and Mr. Smith stated that in the General Comments an ed needed to be added to the word fix.

Mrs. McWilliams asked for a motion to accept the minutes with the changes and Mrs. Knowles made the motion to accept the minutes with the corrections and Ms. Pepe seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. Completion / Review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

A. Back to School Bash

Ms. Busby stated that Mrs. McWilliams came over to the center and made bags of supplies for each School and exchanged the extra collage ruled paper for wide rule to fill more. Ms. Busby stated that they would set up at the splash pad and have hot dogs, chips and drinks for 200. Mrs. McWilliams asked for date and time and Ms. Busby stated the event would be Saturday the 19th from 10-1.

Mrs. McWilliams wanted add that we would be setting up a table for any teachers that wanted to show up could pick up supplies for their class rooms. With the left over supplies after filling

100's of bags for the kids, we still have tons of supplies for teachers. Then whatever is left we will split between the schools and donate to them.

Mr. Smith stated that he had already requested with the bank to be at the event and bring cool pops.

B. Water Day

Ms. Busby stated that this event was going to be a day at the Splash pad with music and hotdogs. Mr. Smith asked about the Public Works doing their day and Ms. Busby said that they had planned theirs for the 31st of July. The Parks and Recreation event will be on the 16th of August.

C. Movie Night

Ms. Busby stated that she would like to host this at Arrow Mines Park, but only if the bathrooms are finished and the electricity running to the pavilion. If not it can be moved to one of the other parks or the center. Mr. Grooms stated that a change order need to be put in for power to the shelter.

This issue was discussed in more detail.

6. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable

A. Parks Report

Ms. Busby stated that the July Celebration had a great turn out and she had spoke to Mr. Grooms about the event and how things could be better next year. Mr. Smith stated that the time could be later and that the music and things could change.

Mr. Grooms stated that we are already working on the event for next year. He mentioned that we could work with the radio station and match music with the fire works, he also stated that we could also move everything to the West side and use Gray Lane as a part of the event space.

The Commission discussed this event in further detail.

B. City Manager Report

Mr. Grooms stated that Arrow Mines is close to being done, the building is up and painted and final touches are being done. He stated that we may have to do some work ourselves.

Mr. Grooms state that we made it to the second round of the grant and should have more information by the 16th. He then stated that the only way we have gotten this far is with the strategic plan that was done before and still good. He stated that he would like to get back to that and update the plans with Community input and build it over the next years. With all the new things coming we could use this to better our community as it grows.

The Community Center is still in the design phase and will more than likely start in the fall. He stated that he would be getting with the Boys and Girls Club and the Senior Center people to make sure they have a place to go during construction.

Mr. Grooms stated that the Canopy is up that was donated by the Boys and Girls club and looks nice.

7. New Business

(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)

A. Mid- South BBQ Festival

Ms. Busby stated that she and Mr. Grooms would be meeting with Mrs. Jackie Johnson on Friday to discuss more details about the event and Mr. Grooms stated that they had a layout of

how things will set up and working on the events for each night. He stated that Friday will be Hometown Night, with a pep rally and watching the game on the big screen. Mr. Smith asked about the costume contest and we plan to that on Saturday morning.

The group talked more about details of this even.

B. Haunted Trails

Ms. Busby stated that the Haunted Trail is the following weekend on the 25th. Everyone will start setting up around 2pm and the event starts at 4pm. We will have the Chili Cook off and all the businesses set up around the trail with their candy.

8. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)

9. Board / Staff Comments / Adjournment

Mrs. McWilliams stated that if there was nothing else she would entertain a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Knowles stated that she would make the motion to adjourn and Mr. Smith stated he would second it. All were in favor.