

MINUTES
Habersham County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 5:45pm
Activity Room-Aquatic Center
120 Paul Franklin Rd., Clarkesville, GA 30523

The Recreation Advisory Board held a public meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 5:45pm in the Activity room at the Ruby Fulbright Aquatic Center located at 120 Paul Franklin Rd., Clarkesville, GA 30523.

Members Present: Peggy Fortson, Joe Elam, Karen MacLeod, Terry Lannon, Cassie Head, and Shelley Tullis

Members Absent: Angela Haughton, Jonathon Long, and Keith Deyton

Others Present: Northeast Georgian Reporter, Zach Taylor and Ms. Sherrie Whitten

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:46pm by Shelley Tullis

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Joe Elam, seconded by Cassie Head and voted 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the August 19th, 2025, meeting.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Cassie Head and seconded by Peggy Fortson to approve agenda. Vote was 4-0 to approve.

5 Minute Public Comments: None

Staff Report: Each member received a copy of the Staff Report prepared by Terry Lannon, Interim Director of HCPR. Terry summarized the report to members. Terry mentioned the 10 dugouts project, hitting a stalemate and that each part of the process consisting of roof, fencing and benches needed to be bid out. He felt that this project could possibly be pushed out further due to budget constraints. Terry continued his report with P & R department contracts, summarizing some of the 22 contractual agreements that he has been working on as the members reviewed the handout given. He added that County Manager Tim Sims had also asked him to review the Board of Education contracts and that he would be contacting the B.O.E. to open the dialogue.

Old Business:

- a) Discussion continued from the last meeting, amongst board members, about whether there should be discounted rates for shorter time periods used at the fairgrounds, for setting up and tearing down. Current forms used, for rentals of the fairgrounds, and the current fee schedule, were passed around and reviewed to observe the verbiage to see if and how the instructions and information aligned

amongst all forms. Members decided to table any changes of any kind until a deeper review of the language in the forms and Fairground contract could be done by the County. Terry Lannon will initiate the deeper review with the County for clarification and legal input. Motion was made by Cassie and seconded by Peggy with a vote 4-0 to table.

- b) The Sponsorship packet was given to all members to take home and review. It was briefly explained by Terry Lannon who said he was available for any questions.

New Business:

- a) Ms. Sherrie Whitten, Principal, was invited to make a request to the Board regarding the Mountain Ed School's need for an emergency pick-up location. The school is re-doing their Emergency Safety Plan and they would like the Ruby Fulbright Aquatic Center parking lot to be their first reunification center for students, and the Fairgrounds lot to be the second location should an emergency arise, needing a central location for students, teachers and families to re-unite. The school hours are 4-8pm, Monday through Thursday, with 140 kids enrolled. A motion to approve was made by Peggy, seconded by Cassie with a vote 4-0. Terry Lannon was asked to sign MOUs by Ms. Whitten, to which he did.
- b) Terry Lannon, Interim Director, shared the P & R department contracts previously in his Staff Report. He then briefly summarized the NRPA (National Recreation and Park Association) data in a performance review comparison chart which included data for Habersham County Parks and Recreation.

Next meeting: October 21st, 2025, Activity room, Aquatic Center, at 5:45pm

Adjourn: A motion was made by Joe Elam and seconded by Cassie Head, vote was 4-0 to adjourn at 6:33 pm.

Shelley Lullis

10/21/25