

Fayette County Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2025
(revised August 13, 2025)

Present:

Charles McCollum – Recreation Commission Chair
Nick Kilburg- Recreation Commission Vice-Chair
Shirelle Hicks-Recreation Commissioner
Kynthia Gaines- Recreation Commissioner
Bobby Ferrell-Recreation Commissioner
Anita Godbee – Director, Parks and Recreation
Mary Catherine Domaleski – Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation
Jessica Walker, Peach State Dragon Boat Academy
Timothy Milis, Peach State Dragon Boat Academy

- I. Call to order: 6:33 PM
- II. Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge: Charles
- III. Public Comment: none
- IV. Minutes
 - a. May 2025: motion to approve-Nick, second by Shirelle; all in favor.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Multiuse Facility Update
 - i) Ms. Godbee reported that the site has been substantially cleared, and all the trees are now gone. The former activity house has also been demolished. The groundbreaking ceremony has been scheduled for Thursday, June 12th at 4 PM, with a photo opportunity with the County Commissioners and Recreation Commissioners. It is open to the public.
 - ii) Shirelle expressed concern regarding project milestones and events being planned with very little notice to the Recreation Commission. Ms. Godbee apologized mentioned that her office was only notified last week regarding the groundbreaking but ensured that the Recreation Commissioners will receive ample notification regarding major events in the future. These events could include the installation of the last piece of steel and the ribbon cutting.
 - iii) The new facility is scheduled to receive a mural, and Charles recommended that the mural includes representation of all the sports and association, as well as depictions of some of the courses offered through Parks and Recreation. Nick suggested that a timeline or mural

inside the new facility that tells the history of the Parks and Recreation department would be good well.

- iv) Five bricks were saved from the former activity house, with the purpose of saving one to be placed in the time capsule. One brick was selected, and Ms. Godbee stated that plaque would be added to the brick to memorialize its significance.
- v) Charles requested that monthly progress reports be submitted to keep the Recreation Commissioner abreast of construction activities. Kynthia asked if the Construction Manager is submitting monthly reports, these be forwarded to the Recreation Commissioners as well.

b. Dragon Boat Association Presentation and Request

- i) Jessica Walker and Timothy Milis from the Peach State Dragon Boat Academy (PSDBA) this meeting to answer any questions from the Parks and Recreation department or the Recreation Commission regarding their request for recognition as a Fayette County adult recreation association.
- ii) Charles asked for confirmation of the dragon boat season. Ms. Walker confirmed that the season ran from March to November. During the off season, the association practices off-water in the gym.
- iii) Charles asked if PSDBA has had any conversations with ROW Georgia. Ms. Walker stated that after extensive consideration, Lake Kedron would be a better option for the association. She also noted they would still need to add a floating dock that adjusts the varying water levels (which they will work with the Fayette County Water Authority regarding) and still need to figure out the trailer parking.
- iv) Ms. Godbee asked about the need for a safety boat. Mr. Milis noted that they would need to purchase an electric “zodiac” boat (vs. using a jon boat), but PSDBA is still investigating.
- v) Motion to extend the PSDBA as an association under the Parks and Recreation
(1) Motion to approve-Nick, second by Bobby; all in favor.

VI. New Business

a. Links Park Concept

- i) Ms. Godbee reported that Fayette County is in discussion with Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) to utilize county lands for wetlands mitigation in exchange for passive parks and recreation improvements, and a draft presentation was received by the Recreation Commission. This area is located at the former Links Golf Club, just south of the county Fire/EMS and Sheriff’s training facilities. Current concept includes clearing overgrown existing walking paths, new walking paths and wildlife observation areas, a gravel driveway to reestablish connectivity to two dead-ending streets within the Links neighborhood, and a small parking area. No timeline was given for these improvements.
- ii) Motion to accept the concept park plan, to only include passive elements such as walking trails and open greenspace.
(1) Motion to approve-Nick, second by Bobby; all in favor.

VII. Staff Reports

- a. Ms. Godbee notes that the Fire Department and Public Works will be installing an aluminum can recycling trailer at McCurry Park soccer field near McDonough Rd. The funds generated from these efforts will be donated to the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation, and organization that has worked with the Fire Department in the past.
- b. Ms. Godbee mentioned that the budget will be presented at the County Board of Commissioners meeting this Thursday, June 12th. The Food Truck Frenzy will also be held that night but will be relocated due to the meeting.

VIII. Board Reports

- a. None

IX. Adjournment: Motion- Shirelle, Second – Kynthia, all in favor 7:33 pm

Next Meeting – July 8, 2025, at 6:30 PM