

MT. JULIET PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT: Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

MEETING DATE: May 6, 2025

LOCATION: Charlie Daniels Park (CDP) – Community Center

ATTENDEES:

Parks Board	Present	Not Present
Tina Hutsenpiller / Chairperson	X (remote)	
Dave Schilling / Secretary	X	
Taryn Tarter	X	
Adrian Muniz III		X
Ross Hayes	X	
Terri Atwood	X	

City Staff, Commissioners, Other Guests	Present	Not Present
Rocky Lee, Parks Director	X	
Melinda Troutman, Deputy Parks Director of Admin	X	
Bill Trivett, City Commissioner	X	
Others / Guests: Amy Rider Boy Scout: Jonathan Parkhurst (Justin Parkhurst father)	X X	

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1. Meeting started at approximately 6:02 pm.
 2. The March 4, 2025 Parks Board meeting minutes were approved.
 3. Citizens Comments:
 - a. Amy Rider updated her activities in the past months on the goals to address evasive vegetation within 5-ft of the trail pavement edge along the Cedar Creek Greenway. She noted that the Tuscan Gardens subdivision approved her plan and that a site walk was being scheduled with the MJ Parks Department next week. She has started coordinating with TDEC on applicable permits. She also noted that an organization reached out to her and is willing to donate 500 trees (four different species) and whether the Parks Department could use them? Rocky noted that some of these could be used to replace some trees along the Town Center Trail that have died since they were first planted.
 4. Special Presentations:
 - a. Jonathan Parkhurst is working on his Eagle scout badge and presented his project to install a wood-framed donation box in the lobby of the CDP Community Center. These would be collected and donated to the Salvation Army, Health Care, or others on a rotating basis. Jonathan will be preparing flyers and other signage to promote its

existence and use. After discussion, it was unanimously approved by the Parks Board. Jonathan stated he would be installing the donation box later tonight.

5. Park Director's Report:

- a. See attachment for Parks Director notes dated May 6, 2025, and reviewed in the meeting. Various items of note outlined below.
- b. An all-inclusive merry-go-round will be installed by a non-profit group to be located near the Squirrel Run play equipment.
- c. Rocky noted there was some discussion on the proposed senior citizens center building and the need for Commissioner space. No decisions have been made and that the Center's renovation bids were proceeding.
- d. Rocky noted that due to City budget shortfalls, there is a hiring freeze in effect.
- e. Rocky noted that the new recreation center project was presented the Board of Commissioners last Monday. Pool will have six swim lanes. Building cost is running between \$7.5M and \$10.0M
- f. Splash Pad: Rocky noted that they see a lot of out-of-county buses arrive which overwhelms the facility and causes long wait times. Rocky asked for the Board's input on how to control this concern. After discussion, a consensus was made to limit usage of Ava Splash Pad to only entities based in Wilson County. This would primarily be enforced on the large day-care or summer-camp type out-of-county buses and that smaller groups or families could be tolerated and not turned away. The Splash Pad attendees would monitor the situation and call the personnel in the CDP community center to police the situation. Also recommended signage be installed making it clear the facility is intended for Wilson County residents. Also, swimwear is required to avoid issues with balancing the water pH levels.
- g. An Equalization Basin is being installed at the corner of Old Lebanon Dirt Road.
- h. Noted upcoming July 4th firework event at Circle Ranch. More activities are being planned to fill the time until the fireworks occur including a car show.
- i. Noted a Barry Wilmore Day (astronaut) at 11 am, June 28 at CDP. Barry will be speaking and will be presented various acknowledgements such as a quilt.
- j. The parking lot at Robinson Park is scheduled for paving.

6. Old business

- a. None.

7. New Business

- a. None.

8. Friends of the Mt. Juliet Parks 501c

- a. The two new pickleball nets, paid by the Friends of the Mt. Juliet Parks group, is being used and was well received by the group.
- b. No update to the Eagle Scout project to construction a large-scale chess board.

9. Adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm. Next meeting is July 1 at 6:00 pm.

End of Meeting Minutes

PARKS DIRECTOR'S NOTES

May 6, 2025

Welcome: We would like to thank Tim Bryant for reaching out to us to help organize a huge Welcome Home to our local astronaut, Captain Barry "Butch" Wilmore. We will celebrate his homecoming on June 28th at the amphitheater.

TN National Guard: Andrew Mule requested our assistance with two informal radio check communication exercises. Held on April 12th and May 10th.

ADA Merry-go-round: Jennifer Etheridge and Steven Whitehouse (non-profit SW&Friends). Estimate \$40,651.20

New Parks Sign @ Entrance: Ben Williams with Witt Sign Co. is working on a quote for a new sign at the entrance of the park.

American Legion Post 281: No updates on the Cobra Helicopter

National Fitness Grant: On hold due to budget restraints.

Activity Center: The parking lot is well underway. Sidewalks will connect PD, Center, Farmers Market, and Park

Veterans Park: We installed a 160-foot sidewalk to make this park ADA-compliant.

The Buddy Bridge: Pending. We met with Chip and will be installing a concrete slab on both ends of the bridge. Construction will take place closer to June/July.

Parks/Senior Center: Construction will be going out for bids.

Vintage Fire Truck: Still Pending. Dave Roland and crew should have delivery of the firetruck in the Spring

Teen Center: This project will begin after July

New Rec Center: We have a meeting scheduled with Commissioner Milele to prepare a proposal for the BoC meeting on the 12th.

New Upcoming Park(s): 22-acre EQ Basin
2.7 acres District Park

Ava's Splash Pad: Will open 5/27. We have four attendants who are currently going through the onboarding process.

Event News & Upcoming Events:

- **Easter in the Park, sponsored by Chief Rental, and EggStra Special Egg Hunt sponsored by Volunteer Bank,** were both a huge success
- **July 4th and Celebrate MJ** has merged (name is pending) – Our fireworks show ordinance has been signed by Mayor Maness.
- **05/03 Mt. Juliet Farmers Market Opened** – all booths have been rented and was a huge success.

- **05/10 Spring Yard Sale**
- **05/10 Mother-Son Dance – Cancelled.**
- **05/24 Veterans Park Concert – Tyler Cates.** This is not a city event
- **05/27 Ava's Splash Pad Opens**

Robinson Park: The walking trail has been paved, and they're in the process of paving the parking lot.

Hamilton-Densen Park: We're working with Cunningham Rec to get us a quote on installing sunshades over the play equipment.

Eagle Park: Lisa Stine has requested to maintain the landscaping in the flowerbed in honor of her son, Hunter. She is gathering ideas and will present them to us soon.

Park Greenways: The Mundy Crew has sealed the wooden boardwalks on the greenways.

- **Cedar Creek Greenway:** Approximately 30 volunteers from Keller Williams will be painting the fence along the trail on May 8th for their Annual Community Give Back Day.
- **Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 2:** Phase 2 will connect CDP to Lebanon Rd pending TDOT approval. It is 20% complete with pre-construction activity.
- **Town Center Trail:** • Phase 3 will extend from S. Greenhill Rd to MJ Elementary and is 75% complete with preconstruction activity. • Phase 4 received approval to install a greenway trail from the Train Station east to Clemmons Rd, following alongside Clemmons Rd to the Lynwood Station site.

Coming up:

- John Castle, with MJ Masonic Lodge, will hold a chili cookoff at this year's Halloween in the Park.

Discussion:

- Has the Parks Board decided on charging admission for non-local daycare and other businesses who arrive by the busload, without reservation, to Ava's Splash Pad?

Thank you,

Rocky Lee

MJ Parks Director