



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2026
Little Rock City Hall

Attendance: Quinten Whiteside, Summer Campbell, Samuel Ellis, Chemia Woods, Amber Tiegen, Nolan Hughes

Absent: Cannon Fletcher, City Director-Andrea Lewis, City Director-Capi Peck

City Board of Director Liaison:

LRPR/LRCAO Staff: Parks Director-Leland Couch, Deputy Director Administration-Angela Nelson, Deputy Director Operations-Justin Dorsey, Deputy Director of Recreations-Shawanda Craig, Deputy City Attorney-Simone Blagg, Safety and Training Coordinator-Courtney Perry, Administrative Assistant to the Parks Director-Mahogany Burkhalter, Parks Data and Marketing Coordinator-Graham Brown, Secretary-Kyndall Richardson

Welcome: Chairman Whiteside welcomed everyone. Meeting called to order at 11:48 am.

Roll Call: Roll call completed. Six (6) Commissioners are present. Quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Whiteside asked for a motion to approve February 2026 minutes. Commissioner Hughes made 1st motion. Motion was 2nd by Commissioner Campbell. Vote passed. Motion carried.

Citizen Communication:

- UA-Little Rock Communications Dept Students attended. Working on Project.
- Little Rock Garden Club letter read by Chairman Whiteside.

Director's Reports

Staff Reports:

- No Staff Report questions

BOD Agenda Items:

- Saferoom – Rebsamen Tennis
- USTA Grant – Resurfacing tennis courts
- First Tee Contract Extension
- RTP Grant for Boat launch – River Mtn Park
- Merriweather Park New Playground
- Allsopp Park – New Playground being installed
- Masterplan work for Hindman Park & War Memorial Park
 - Commissioner Hughes asked about Hindman



Events:

- Director Events – Leland Couch – Parks Director
 - April is when the Pavilions and Parks open for reservation. Open from April to November.
 - Keep LR Beautiful Clean up event – Clinton Library
 - Parks Clean up event w/ Pettaway Park

- Parks and Rec Events – Graham Brown – Parks Data & Marketing Coordinator
 - St. Patrick’s Potluck – Saturday – Southwest CC
 - Family Bingo Night – Thursday – West Central CC
 - Pathway to Wellness – Saturday 3/21 – Dunbar CC
 - Easter Egg hunt – Saturday 4/4 – West Central CC
 - Sneaker Ball – Saturday 4/10 – Stephens CC
 - Sneaker Ball – Saturday 4/10 – Southwest CC

- Parks Commission Subcommittee Reports
 - Parks Conservancy
 - Commissioner Campbell
 - ❖ Discussed the Hindman Park land donation. Parks Director discussed the details and what stage of the process that they’re in.
 - ❖ Discussed how to use the rest of the Reservoir Park Fundraiser funds.
 - ❖ Parks Director/Media Marketing Coord discussed the Passport Program
 - Marketing – No Updates
 - Masterplan – No Updates

- Presentations - Senior Center Construction – Deputy of Operations – Justin Dorsey
 - Played Senior Center Facility Video.
 - Deputy Director of Recreation – Shawanda Craig, discussed the programming and requirements.
 - Presentation Selection for Next Meeting –
 - LR Marathon
 - Beyond the Divide

Unfinished Business:

- Vacancies – Available Positions/New Applications (Please promote)
 - Four Vacancies – will follow up on applications that have been submitted.
- 30 Crossing Update – Parks Director gave an update on the grant application. Discussed the 30 Crossing Park vs. The Deck Park.

New Business:

- Parks Commission Retreat – The Commission Retreat has to start at 1pm.
- BOD Presentation Review – Chairman Whiteside gave an overview. Wants to add a story to next years Presentation to show the impact that Parks is having.
 - Commissioner Hughes asked about outsourced work vs. what is handled in the house. Parks Director discussed the process.



Agenda items for next meeting:

- Discussed Presentations.

Board – liaison Feedback

- No Update

Adjournment:

- Commissioner Whiteside asked for Motion to Adjourn.
- Commissioner Campbell made the motion to Adjourn.
- Vice-Chair Woods made the motion to Adjourn at 12:37 pm. Commissioner Hughes 2nd the motion.
- Vote passed. Motion carried.
- Meeting Adjourned at 12:37 pm.