



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2026
Little Rock City Hall

Attendance: Quinten Whiteside, Samuel Ellis, Cannon Fletcher, Summer Campbell

Absent: Amber Tiegen, Chemia Woods, Nolan Hughes, City Director-Capi Peck, City Director-Andrea Lewis

City Board of Director Liaison:

LRPR/LRCAO Staff: Parks Director-Leland Couch, 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, Fred “Chip” Stearns-Rebsamen Tennis Supervisor

Welcome: Chairman Whiteside welcomed everyone. Meeting called to order at 12:03 pm.

Roll Call: Roll call completed. Four (4) Commissioners are present. Quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Whiteside asked for a motion to approve Amended June 2026 minutes with the changing of the word Clerks to Clerk. Commissioner Campbell made 1st motion. Motion was 2nd by Commissioner Ellis. Vote passed. Motion carried.

Citizen Communication: None

Presentation: Rebsamen Tennis/LR Open Recap – Facility Supervisor – Fred “Chip” Stearns

Director’s Reports:

Staff Reports

- Recreation Report overview given by Deputy of Recreation - Shawanda Craig.
- Operations Report overview given by Deputy of Operations - Justin Dorsey

BOD Agenda Items

- ZMD Lawn Serv. Contract
- MacArthur Dog Park Shade Structure - Rename
- Wetland Repair/Restore-Riverfront

Events

- Director Events – Leland Couch – Parks Director
 - July 7, 2026 - City Parks and Rec received grant with the Bezos Earth Foundation
- Parks and Rec Events – Graham Brown – Parks Data & Marketing Coordinator
 - July 15, 2026 – 9am West CC Community Garden Opening.
 - Allsopp Ribbon cutting will be rescheduled in upcoming weeks. Graham will send out info.



- Parks Commission Subcommittee Reports
 - Parks Conservancy – Subcommittee Chair – Commissioner Summer Campbell.
This meeting hasn't occurred yet. Next Meeting, 7/14/26 at 11:30 am.
 - Marketing – Subcommittee Chair – Commissioner Chemia Woods.
No Meeting. Commissioner Woods was absent.
 - Masterplan – Subcommittee Chair – Commissioner Cannon Fletcher.
Reviewing the previous Masterplans and the 2025 Strategic Review. Will discuss incorporating the previous plans with the current plan. Will have more information next Month.

Unfinished Business:

- Parks Commission Applications Status/Vacancies – Applications/Status
 - Mahogany advised of the City Clerk's plans to add the applications to the BOD Agenda in late July/August. Commission wants to write a letter and will send letter if appointments have not been completed. Commissioner Fletcher asked about the process and the BOD wanting to make a uniform approach to addressing the process.
 - Discussed Commissioner's Tiegen's resignation and the current state of the Parks Commission.
 - Chairman Whiteside asked how to approach sending a letter to the City Clerk.
- Site Visit dates for Fouche Creek – Benny Craig Park Float – Commissioner Ellis discussed the site visit and asked for dates suggestion. Chairman Whiteside suggested the following dates for the Commission to check availability. Will vote on the issue at the next meeting.
 - Tentative Save the Dates – 10/7/26 or 10/8/2026, 4pm – 6pm

New Business Parks Commission:

- March Retreat – Review – There was no feedback or items to discuss.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- No Agenda Items

Board – liaison Feedback:

- Commission Fletcher stated that City Director – Capi Peck commended the Parks Commission for attending the events and being engaged.

Adjournment:

- Meeting Adjourned at 1:04pm.