



# Locust Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

## Joel Huneycutt Community Room

6:00 PM

February 17, 2025

Board Chair  
Board Members

Kara Finch  
Felix Salzedo, Lucia Downer, Blair Dover,  
and Kerry Sanford

### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM.  
Kerry Sanford excused due to illness; all other members present.

### 2. Adopt Agenda

M/S/A Board Members Blair Dover and Lucia Downer (4-0)  
Motion To adopt agenda as presented

### 3. Minutes - adopt January 6, 2025

M/S/A Board Members Blair Dover and Lucia Downer (4-0)  
Motion To approve minutes from January 6, 2025 meeting

### 4. Director's Report

#### January Report

Park Director, Emily Jones, discussed sports registration numbers for spring and explained waitlists. Orienteering course was completed at Locust Park by John Owen Tucker (Eagle Scout project), who provided compasses and maps. This was presented to City Council last week. New budget requests were discussed (athletic items, park supplies, etc.).

City Manager, Cesar Correa, has requested a one to five year plan for park projects be put together for the Capital Improvement Plan. This includes the following:

- Redevelopment of athletic complex
  - Football field as multipurpose field
  - Update Musco lighting
  - Turf soccer fields
  - Courtyard space between baseball fields
- Tennis/pickleball complex
- Develop town green
- Develop park at Locust "tree"

## 5. New Business

### Upcoming Special Events

Program Coordinator, Jessica Honeycutt, went over the following special events planned for 2025:

- Movie Night Series - April, May, August, September, October
- Concert Series - 4th Saturday of June-September, w/ fireworks following September finale
- Farmers Market - starts 5/1 and will be each Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM
- Hands On Locust - 5/10 9 AM to 12 PM (9 AM to 10 AM sensory hour)
- Sponsorship Guide developed for distribution to local businesses to garner sponsorship money to help offset costs of events

### Upcoming Athletics

As athletics were discussed in detail in Director's January report, they were not discussed here.

### Grant Applications

Park Director, Emily Jones, discussed a few grant opportunities that are in progress:

- Accessibility in Parks - Emily explained that there was limited funding for this grant due to funding being funneled to help rebuild Parks & Rec facilities in Western NC due to damage from Hurricane Helene
  - Site Plan Review - discussed in detail the site plan that was created and what was being requested in this grant, mainly accessibility from the parking lot to the playground and parking lot to the restrooms
  - Justification Review
  - Approval from Park Advisory Board
- PARTF (Parks and Recreation Trust Fund)
  - The same project as mentioned in the Accessibility in Parks grant will also be submitted for the PARTF grant, in case it is not accepted for the Accessibility grant.
  - Possible application for phase 2 of Redevelopment of OJSMP
- Suggestion from Blair Dover to have Park Advisory Board members at our events to gather input/feedback from public.

## 6. Adjourn

Next meeting is May 5, 2025

M/S/A Board Members Felix Salzedo and Lucia Downer (4-0)

Motion To adjourn at 7:26 PM

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Kara Finch, Board Chair

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Emily Jones, P&R Director