



Locust Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Joel Huneycutt Community Room

6:00 PM

August 4, 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 6:10 PM.

Kara Finch was excused due to scheduling conflict. Felix Salzedo joined via Zoom. Lucia Downer is no longer eligible to be on the Park Advisory Board due to moving outside of Locust city limits.

Board Members Blair Dover and Kerry Sanford were in attendance in person. Emily Jones, Jessica Honeycutt and Hunter Williams were also in attendance. Blair Dover presided over the meeting in place of Board Chair, Kara Finch.

2. Adopt Agenda

M/S/A Board Members Blair Dover and Kerry Sanford (3-0)
Motion To adopt agenda as presented

3. Minutes - adopt February 17, 2025

M/S/A Board Members Blair Dover and Kerry Sanford (3-0)
Motion To approve minutes from February 17, 2025 meeting

February 17, 2025

4. Director's Report

Athletic Coordinator, Hunter Williams, went over fall sports registration numbers. He explained that for soccer, we were able to increase registration numbers in younger age groups due to some older age groups not having as many registered. It was also discussed that this season was the first time we opened registration to Locust city residents and returning coaches (resident or non-resident) for two weeks prior to opening it to the general public, in an effort to allow residents priority over non-residents. This worked well and was utilized by residents. Over the summer, Locust Parks & Rec partnered with a returning volleyball coach, Tara Molles, to host a volleyball camp. We also partnered with Perfect 10 Skills Academy to host a basketball camp. Emily Jones, Park Director, mentioned that another set of new soccer goals will be purchased ahead of the fall season, as well as mentioned that some new signage had been purchased for the soccer fields. Jessica Honeycutt, Program Coordinator, went over previous events, including start of Summer Concert Series and Sprinkle & Splash series, as well as the Farmers' Market.

March-April Report

5. Sub-Committee Reports

6. Special Reports

Spring 2025 End of Season Athletics Survey

**** Considerations for changes and improvements**

Emily Jones reviewed results from End of Season Athletics Survey. It was of note that there was low response rate - sent to 458 email addresses, only 49 total responses. Based on the results, the following goals for improvement were discussed and approved by the Park Advisory Board. A comprehensive summary of the survey results and takeaways from this meeting is to be presented to council at the next meeting.

- Scheduling
- Communication
- Rain out plans
- Cost of Program
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Jerseys
- All-Star Selection
- Facilities
- Concessions

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

Upcoming Special Events - Jessica

Jessica discussed upcoming events - 8/6 Sprinkle & Splash, 8/9 Movie Night (Ferdinand) with petting zoo provided by sponsor Red Barn Farm, 8/23 Summer Concert featuring Tim Clark Band, 9/13 Movie Night (The Wild Robot) sponsored by Mission Church, 9/27 End of Summer Concert featuring The Tams w/ fireworks finale

Upcoming Athletics - Hunter

Previously discussed, but Hunter stated again that fall baseball and soccer registration is closed. Volleyball remains open until 9/7 to allow for middle school tryouts so those that do not make the middle school team have time to sign up for the rec season. Tennis and Pickleball lessons are being offered by Tennis Bloc.

Accessibility in Parks Grant Application Update

Emily stated that we were awarded \$500,000 from the Accessibility in Parks Grant, coming in tied for first place in applications. Before a public announcement can be made, the governor's office must make their official announcement, and that has not happened yet. Those funds will be released to us some time in September and projects can begin at that time.

Capital Improvement Plan

Capital Improvement Plan was discussed - updates to athletic complex. Emily will work with a consultant to determine the best way to move forward to apply for the PARTF grant to help with the costs of implementing the Capital Improvement Plan. This application is due in May 2026.

9. Board Closing Comments

Vacant Park Advisory Board position due to member Lucia Downer moving outside of the city limits. The board discussed and decided to open applications up again for all of September and combine those with previous applications submitted and decide on a new board member at the October PAB meeting, to present to council at the October council meeting. The next Park Advisory Board meeting will take place on October 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Joel Huneycutt Community Room.

10. Adjourn

M/S/A Board Members Blair Dover and Kerry Sanford (3-0)
Motion To Adjourn at 7:35pm

Kara Finch, Board Chair

Emily Jones, P&R Director