



RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

OFFICIAL MINUTES

MARCH 11, 2025

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 PM

OFFICIAL MINUTES

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the video recording for said meeting is a matter of public record and is available to be viewed at the City Clerk's office during normal business hours or viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/alpharettagov>.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

• Recreation Commissioners Present

- Dennis Mitchell (Chair)
- Jit Saha (Vice Chair)
- Karla Piedrahita
- Cheryl Rand
- Shuntel Beach
- John Norton

• Recreation Commissioners Absent

- Derek Kaighin
- Brad Bowers

• Staff

- Kurt Kirby, Senior Operations Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Amanda Musilli, Community Agriculture & Sustainability Services Division Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Kim Zane, Cultural Services Division Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Christine Young, Recreation Services Division Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Eric Milley, Park Services Division Manager (Excluding Wills Park), Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Matt Casey, Park Services Division Manager (Western District & Equestrian), Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
- Sarah Bausano, Administrative Office Coordinator, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Recreation Commission Minutes from February 11, 2025

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion.
 - Commissioner Beach offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from February 11, 2025, Recreation Commission meeting.
 - Vice Chair Saha seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved (6-0).

b. Recreation Commission Work Session Minutes from February 26, 2025

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion.
 - Commissioner Piedrahita offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from February 26, 2025, Recreation Commission Work Session.
 - Vice Chair Saha seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved (3-0-3).

V. STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

a. DIVISIONS

i. Community Agriculture & Sustainability Services Division Monthly Report – March 2025

- Amanda Musilli, Community Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Monthly Highlights

- As of March 6th, the greenhouse construction is on hold, due to delays caused by missing and incorrect equipment and parts. The work is on hold until the manufacturer and distributor get the correct parts delivered to Old Rucker Farm.
- The first of the three plant and seed pick-ups for 2025 happened February 28th through March 8th. In total, over 295 seed packets and 1,868 seedlings were given to residents to grow beautiful and delicious plants at home or in their community garden plot.
- In addition to the residents, the garden at North Fulton Community Charities and our five partner schools received over 2,088 seedlings and 14 packets of seeds to grow in their school gardens.

Monthly Initiatives

- The 2025 *Think Globally, Plant Locally* grant program opened for application on February 1st, and all twenty-five (25) spots were filled for the 2025 program. This is the second year of this program, and it was one of the recommendations in the City Agriculture Plan.
- Before the end of April, the landscaping at the Alpharetta Adult Activity Center will be refreshed with native and pollinator-friendly plants. Some of the existing plants on site will be used/moved to better locations within the landscape to add more visual

appeal. The timing of this planting re-fresh fits nicely with the Garden Club's scheduled planting on May 6th, which they will be able to do in the bed designed and designated for their annuals.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q I would like to see the Ag Plan. (Rand)

A I will bring it to the next meeting. (Musilli)

Q Wild Side and Pollinator Garden, are they the same? (Rand)

A No, Wild Side is through Public Works. (Musilli)

Q Regarding Public Works, do we have an official connection to the Natural Resources Commission? (Rand)

A Not formerly working with them, it is not a joint venture. (Kirby)

C Seems like Amanda and the Natural Resources Commission would be a good alignment. (Rand)

ii. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – March 2025

- Kim Manning, Cultural Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Monthly Highlights

- Black History Month – Community Gallery Reception and Bailey Blacksmith Shop Historical Marker
- City Lifestyle Article – Alpharetta Arts Center

Monthly Initiatives

- Arts and Culture Master Plan DRAFT and Cultural Arts Commission Work Session
- The Spotlight Community Theater – Update
- Alpharetta Arts Center Classes and Camps

Monthly Happenings

- Arts & Culture Online Calendar
<https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreation-parks/cultural-services>
- Alpharetta Music City – Live Music
Calendar <https://www.awesomealpharetta.com/calendar/category/alpharetta-music-city-live-music/>
- Love and Light presented through inspiration from the Alpharetta Symphony / Alpharetta Arts Center Studio Gallery / January 25th through March 28th / FREE
- A Little Princess presented by ACT1 Theater / 180 Academy Street / March 14th to 30th Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. / To purchase tickets visit: <https://act1theater.org/little-princess>
- A Little Princess presented by ACT1 Theater / Alpharetta Arts Center Black Box / March 14-30 Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30pm and Sunday at 2pm / To purchase tickets visit: <https://act1theater.org/little-princess>

- All About Pastels Gallery Exhibit Presented by The Southeaster Pastel Society/ Alpharetta Arts Center / March 26 / For more information: <https://southeasternpastel.com/>
- GPNA presents Flower Photography with Larry Winslet / Alpharetta Arts Center / March 19th from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. / FREE
- The Unfinished Symphony presented by the Alpharetta Symphony / Alpharetta Methodist Church / Friday, April 25th, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. / To purchase tickets: <https://www.alpharettasympphony.org/unfinished>
- Alpharetta Garden Club Plant Sale / Mansell House / Saturday, April 26th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

Q How are the Summer Camp signups? (Rand)

A Camp Creative is sold out and we only have a few spots left in our other camps. (Zane)

Q Are you planning to do the concerts again this year? (Norton)

A Yes, we are planning to do them. (Zane)

iii. Recreation Services Division Monthly Report – March 2025

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Monthly Highlights

- Summer Resident Registration
 - Wills Park Day Camp ages 6-9, filled up in five minutes
 - Openings still in Extreme and Level-Up camps
 - Open registration begins on March 12th

Monthly Happenings

- In preparation/planning MODE
 - Seasonal Hiring
 - Camp Preparation
 - Pool Preparation
 - Staff Training and Certifications
 - Taste of Alpharetta
 - Summer partnered Special Events
 - 2025-2026 Planning
- Upcoming Events
 - Farmer's Market opens Saturday, April 5th at 8:30 a.m.
 - Garden Faire is Saturday, April 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - Alpharetta Food Truck Alley starts back April 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 - NFCC Pickleball Tournament will be April 26th and 27th
 - Songwriters at Sunset presented by Home By Dark in Brooke Street Park on Saturday, April 26th at 7:30 p.m.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

Q The reconfiguration of the older camps, how are the signups going? (Saha)

A Starting to fill up as well as the one-day field trips. (Young)

iv. Park Services (Excluding Wills Park) Division Monthly Report (Part I) – March 2025

- Eric Milley, Park Services Division (Excluding Wills Park) Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department was not in attendance.

Monthly Highlights

- Phase 1 of the paver replacement has begun in and around the fountain at North Main Street Park.
- Additional fence, wind/privacy screen, and additional tree work along the same fence line at Innovation Sports Complex is being installed due to some extra money in the capital fence account.
- Continue with the winter program of pruning and cutting back underbrush along all field fence and netting lines to keep branches and limbs from fence and netting encroachment.
- Waiting to schedule the field fencing replacement out at North Park fields 5 and 6.
- Successful opening days at both Webb Bridge and North Park soccer, to include the new artificial field, baseball, and softball.
- The Greenway washout near Webb Bridge Road is complete with the installation of the safety rail/barrier.
- Replaced a few of the broken concrete panels behind City Hall/Brooke Street Park. Not as many replaced as planned due to funding. Planning to revisit funding towards the end of the budget cycle and try to replace more if funds are available.

Monthly Initiatives

- Continuing to develop new maintenance plans/practices in all parks and on all trail systems, on all athletic fields, and in all common areas.

v. Park Services (Wills Park & Equestrian Center) Division Monthly Report – March 2025

- Matt Casey, Park Services (Wills Park & Equestrian Center) Division Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Monthly Highlights

- Baseball has started its spring season. Opening day ceremony was a success. Weather cooperated for a beautiful start to the year.
- Field 5 drainage project is almost complete. This will improve the management of stormwater in that area.
- All park entrances have new mulch and pine straw.
- Equestrian Center has been busy. Horseshows have been well attended. Staff have made multiple improvements throughout the stable area.

Monthly Initiatives

- Focus on park enhancements to include common areas, keeping trails passible, and play structures.

vi. Senior Operations Manager Monthly Report – March 2025

- Kurt Kirby, Senior Operations Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department came forward to present.
- Kurt stated how proud he was of the staff with getting ready for the summer months.
- Kurt also updated the Commission on the Webb Bridge turf being completed.
- Kurt gave an update on the Park Bond Project RFQ. The RFQ has closed, and the committee has to review everything prior to moving forward. There were 8 proposals.
- Kurt stated that the Mayfield Road demolition was approved by City Council on March 3rd.
- Kurt gave a general update on the Parks and Programs.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q Are the concessions used at the Miracle League Field? (Rand)

A Yes, they get used during games, there is new leadership with the Miracle League and they plan to use them more often. (Kirby)

VI. RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Commissioner Rand made a motion to adjourn.
 - Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).
- With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano

Administrative Office Coordinator

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services