



RECREATION BOARD MEETING
OFFICIAL MINUTES
JUNE 10, 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 5:32 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- **Recreation Board Present**
 - Dennis Mitchell (Chair)
 - Jit Saha (Vice Chair)
 - Karla Piedrahita
 - Derek Kaighn
 - Shuntel Beach
 - Cheryl Rand
 - Cameron Kline
 - John Norton
- **Recreation Board Absent**
 - 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 Arts Division Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Manager
 - Eric Milley, Park Services Division Manager (Northern, Southern, Eastern, Downtown Districts), 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. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of 2025 Chair and Vice Chair

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion to elect the Chair for the Recreation Board.
 - Board Member Rand offered a motion to re-elect Chairman Mitchell as the Chair for the Recreation Board.
 - Board Member Beach seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved (8-0).
- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion to elect the Vice Chair for the Recreation Board.
 - Board Member Rand offered a motion to re-elect Vice Chairman Saha as the Vice Chair for the Recreation Board.
 - Board Member Beach seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved (8-0).

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Recreation Board Minutes from April 23, 2025

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion.
 - Vice Chairman Saha offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from April 23, 2025, Recreation Board meeting.
 - Board Member Kline seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved (6-0-2).

VI. STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

a. DIVISIONS

i. Community Services Division Monthly Report – June 2025

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

Monthly Highlights:

- The participant feedback survey results and the environmental impact report are in from the Community Compost Program, which is attached for review. Great impact and feedback from participants.
- The ARC hosted their quarterly LUCC (Land Use Coordinating Committee) meeting at Old Rucker Farm on May 21st. Approximately 3 dozen City representatives from the five-county metro area were present to learn about the City Agriculture Plan process and tour Old Rucker Farm.
- Landscaping at the Adult Activity Center has been refreshed with native and edible plants, many of which were propagated by Alpharetta residents at their homes for this project. New additions include native azaleas and blueberry bushes.

- Cambridge High School Agaretta Box students completed their senior year with the Alpharetta Farmers Market on May 3rd and Taste of Alpharetta on May 8th. Their scholarship this year was the largest yet, with \$1,249.54 going to both of the students this year, who are off to Georgia Tech and Kennesaw State in August. We are very proud of them!

Monthly Initiatives:

- AG-Venture Camp is every week in the month of June, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is the first year the Farm's camp is completely full, with 20 campers each week. Numerous campers are here for their 2nd and 3rd year in a row.
- Plans are already underway for the fall harvest picnic at the farm, please Save the Date for Sunday, September 21st.
- Eight schools are signed up for the 2025/2026 School Garden Support Program. We are in the process of conducting sight visits to all of these schools, and they will receive seeds and seedlings in September and February for the gardens. In addition, they have the option to participate in the Chicken Hatching Program, where they will be given an incubator, cage, heat light, and feed, and then can give the chicks back to the farm once done with them.
- To date, we have donated 1,500 lbs of food to NFCC, which is a 100% increase over last year.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

C AG Camp is great, lots of fun things. (Piedrahita)

Q 95% of people said yes to the composting, was there any feedback from the no's? (Saha)

A No, there was no feedback given. (Musilli)

Q Were we responsible for selling the home composters? (Rand)

A No requirement to sell them and we will continue to sell them. (Musilli)

Q Arrangement with North Fulton Community Charities? (Rand)

A NFCC has 3 community gardens, 2 of them have our design and our seeds. (Musilli)

ii. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – June 2025

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

Monthly Highlights:

- Alpharetta Arts Center Classes & Summer Camps
- Paint the Town - Alpharetta Plein Air Events
- The Spotlight Community Stage - Grand Opening

Monthly Initiatives:

- Arts & Culture Master Plan Schedule
- Juneteenth Celebrations

- Bailey-Johnson Documentary Release
- Alpha Loop - Art & Signage

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/>
- Juneteenth Celebration presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Phi Phi Omega Chapter, Arts Alpharetta, and City of Alpharetta at the Alpharetta Arts Center on Saturday, June 14th. The event is free.
 - 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm AKA 4th Annual Juneteenth Celebration on the Lawn
 - 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Gallery Exhibit & Reception Juneteenth Independence and Reflection
 - 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm Jazzin' Celebration Concert in the Black Box
- Bailey-Johnson School & Community Documentary Release at Alpharetta City Hall on Wednesday, June 18th from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The event is free.
- Photographing Water in Nature presented by Alpharetta Chapter - Georgia Nature Photographers Association at the Alpharetta Arts Center on June 18th from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The event is free.
- Alpha Jazz, Dance by Alpharetta City Band at the American Legion Post 201 on Friday, June 20th from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. This event is free.
- Concert Band, Patriotic presented by the Alpharetta City Band at Village Park from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This event is free.
- Concert Band, 4th of July presented by the Alpharetta City Band at the American Legion Post 201 on July 4th from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q Can people just rent the Spotlight Stage as residence? (Beach)

A Yes, it is open for rental. (Zane)

Q What is the seating capacity? (Piedrahita)

A About 140 to 160. (Zane)

Q How many sign ups so far? (Saha)

A We have about 7 to 8 bookings so far. (Zane)

Q Do you have the artist for the Alpha Loop Bridge Murals? (Beach)

A Yes, we have someone through our Call to Artists. (Zane)

Q How is pick up going for the Arts Center Summer Camps this year? (Rand)

A Going well, people can just drive up and the counselors are there. (Zane)

Q When do the concerts start up again at the Arts Center? (Norton)

A They will resume in August. (Zane)

iii. **Recreation Services Division Monthly Report – June 2025**

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Division Manager for Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department was not present and made her report available online.

iv. **Park Services (Excluding Wills Park) Division Monthly Report – June 2025**

- Eric Milley, Park Services (Excluding Wills Park) Division Manager for Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services came forward to present the item.

Monthly Highlights:

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, we are looking at several accounts to fund some incomplete projects and/or wants and needs in all parks and common areas. Mainly tree removal, concrete repairs, some sod, and plant/landscape replacement.

Monthly Initiatives:

As all these parks, trails, common areas, and athletic fields get used, we have to continue to develop new maintenance plans/practices, mainly scheduling maintenance and projects around peak times of usage.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q Fountains, how are they doing? (Rand)

A They are doing good. (Milley)

Q Parking at North Park? (Rand)

A Not sure, don't have an update at this time. (Milley)

A The Block Grant is what is funding it, there will be adjustments to the parking lot with that money. (Kirby)

Q Is there any talk with moving the bus barn? (Rand)

A There isn't a place to move it. (Kirby)

Q What about parking on the street? (Saha)

A I believe it is too narrow, but I can look into it. (Milley)

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

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

Monthly Highlights:

- Baseball has ended its spring season. Tryouts and tournaments will be in the coming weeks.
- Field 5 drainage project is complete.
- The walking trail at Wills Park was repaved with the help of Public Works staff.
- Equestrian Center has been busy. Horseshows have been well attended moving into the Summer series. Cub Scout day camp just finished and it was a success.

Monthly Initiatives:

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

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q We had a garden work day on Saturday and a truck was parked across a lot of the spaces. What should I have done? (Rand)

A Give me a call. (Casey)

Q Are staff included in tournament cost? (Norton)

A Yes, they are factored in. (Casey)

vi. Senior Operations Monthly Report – June 2025

- Kurt Kirby, Senior Operations Manager for the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Division came forward to present the item.

Updates:

- Park Bond – Trying to maximize what we have to make budget. Hoping to break ground this fall.
- FY26 Budget – Should be able to turf Field 5 at Wills Park. As well as the much needed North Park Field 1-4 concession stand.
- Field Trip – Summer Camp Field Trip for the Recreation Board and City Council on June 25th.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

Q Wacky World Community Build? (Norton)

A It is one of the items that they gave us a proposal on. That is still in the plan. (Kirby)

Q Wills Park volunteer involvement? When? (Kline)

A Once we have the contract finalized then we will know more. (Kirby)

Q Bathrooms getting redone at Wills Park? (Rand)

A Yes, that is part of the plan. (Kirby)

VII. RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kelly came forward with playground concerns. The concerns she had were related to options for disabled individuals. She would like the City to take into consideration and move it forward with the Recreation Board. She would like to be able to have a wheelchair on a playground. Chairman Mitchell asked if she was asking about car parking and the accessibility to the playground? Kelly stated yes to that and to being able to have a spot on the playground to park wheelchairs and walkers. Matt Casey came forward and stated that the new Wacky World construction has hard surfaces incorporated into it. Eric Milley stated that North Park has ADA compliant mulch. Board Member Beach has The Miracle League Field that is designed for disabled individuals.
- Vijay came forward to discuss composting alternatives. Vijay is part of the Natural Resources Commission, he has designed and built in composter, looking for ways to get the word out and promote this from the City. This would be no cost to the City. Chairman Mitchell asked if he was going through the Natural Resources Commission? Vijay stated he has not. Chairman Mitchell asked what are you looking for from the Recreation Board? Vijay stated he was just seeking promotion and finding locations for the composters. Board Member Piedrahita asked what the

footprint of the composter is? Vijay stated that they are a 4 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet box that is fully enclosed. Board Member Saha asked if he has them located in any other places and if they have an odor? Vijay stated he has them at 3 other homes and they are fully enclosed so it doesn't smell or make much noise.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Chairman Mitchell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Board Member Rand made a motion to adjourn.
 - Board Member Norton seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (8-0).
- With there being no further business to consider or discuss, Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bausano

Sarah Bausano

Administrative Office Coordinator

Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services