



**Lumpkin County, Georgia
Parks and Recreation Department
Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

September 10th, 2025

1. Call to Order
 - a. Citizens Advisory Board Vice Chair, Shawn Boyd, called the meeting to order at 5:01pm on September 10th, 2025.
 - b. Autumn Chatham, Jessica Tardonia, Shawn Boyd were present.
 - c. Tim Towe, Ahmad Kamara, Scarlet Shumate, and Jared Ray were also in attendance as county staff.
2. Invocation
 - a. Shawn Boyd gave the invocation.
3. Recognize Citizens or Guests
 - a. Katherine James, candidate for 2026 Chairman.
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. A motion was made to approve the previous minutes by Autumn Chatham, seconded by Jessica Tardonia
 - i. Passed unanimously
5. Old/Ongoing Business
 - a. Scholarship Recap
 - i. Awaiting a letter from the park board to be submitted to the board of commissioners detailing the update of our scholarship scale to be on par with one used by Lumpkin Family Connections. The idea being that if applicants are at the predetermined poverty level; they will receive a 100% scholarship. If the applicants are not at the poverty level, it will be up to the Park and Rec Board and Staff discretion to achieve up to a 50% scholarship.
 1. Additionally, there will be a hardship clause that will include but is not limited to; foster care, deaths within the family, loss of wages, etc that will make applicants eligible for 100% scholarship.
 2. Hoping for approval prior to the start of Basketball Season
 - b. Swim State
 - i. Amelia Turk won state in the 50m butterfly and will be recognized for her achievements in the September Board of Commissioners meeting.

- ii. Our full time staff attended Swim State Competition in order to show support to our athletes and to do some research on hosting a larger swim event in the future, such as state or district.
 - 1. GRPA did make the decision earlier this month to combine B and C class and so our space will be unable to hold all of the associated swimmers and supporters. We are discussing the feasibility of hosting a dual with our next season.
 - c. Field Renovations and Turf Project
 - i. The field renovations are almost complete on fields 1, 2 and 5. Bases will be put in in the next week and moving poles on field 5. The trees around field 5 will also be cut back in October with assistance from the Road Department.
 - ii. Field 5 will serve as a multipurpose field; 14U baseball can practice on it as it will be stobbed at 60-80 yards.
 - 1. Field 1 will be at 60 & 65 yards; field 2 will be at 60, 65 and 70.
 - 2. Field 7 will serve as a multipurpose field with stobs at 60, 65 and 70 yards. Field 8 will be stobbed the same to serve Coaches Pitch. Field 9 will be stobbed at 60, 65, 70, 80, 90 yards and serve as a multipurpose field. Field 10 will serve as the same as field 8.
 - 3. Hitting mats have been discussed to protect the batters boxes.
 - iii. Following the construction meeting on 09/18 at 8am, construction will be starting shortly.
 - 1. After the clover leaf is done, construction will move on to rugby field. The rugby field will be lined for a full size football field, regulation soccer field, and two 10U soccer fields
 - a. "Rugby" field will be used for soccer in the spring and football, girl's flag and cheer in the fall.
 - 2. The addition of lights, restrooms, parking and concessions will be made in 2026.
 - iv. The nets and pole system that were purchased will also be setup by the road department in October.

6. New Business

a. Girl's Flag and Football

i. Girl's Flag:

- 1. We are considering disallowing 2nd grade to participate in the 2026 season, keeping registration to 3rd-5th. The elementary age gap from 2nd-5th is just too large making play seem unsafe for the younger groups.

ii. Football

1. We have a good chance for playoffs. We discussed the potential of reaching out to different organizations for volunteering to help with staffing concerns.
 - b. Cheer
 - i. The season is going incredibly well. The 6th grade team was small and combined with 5th for practicing; some athletes chose not to cheer because of this and were refunded.
 - c. Old trophies
 - i. We need to make some space in our storage areas which are currently full of trophies dating back to the 80's. Suggestions made for making space were: making a facebook post appealing to team members from the applicable trophy, recycling trophies, auctioning trophies for scholarship donations
 - d. Travel Tournaments for 2026
 - i. Currently there are 22 tournaments tentatively scheduled awaiting the new rate for rentals after field renovations and construction. Organizations that want to rent thus far are Perfect Game, RBI, GAPGF, and USFA.
 - ii. \$125/field/day with lights of \$100/field/day without lights. We are discussing between \$300-400 and will be reaching out to comparable fields in our area.
 - iii. There will also be a concessions stand rental clause for \$400 to man the concessions stand if we choose not/are unable to staff it.
 - e. 2025 – 2026 Basketball Season
 - i. Registration is open currently and set to end on 10/03. Tentatively, coaches will be picked between 10/06 and 10/10. Evaluations set to take place the week of 10/20. Practice beginning the week of 10/27. First games deciding between Late November and Early December dependent on uniform ordering dates. No games played between 12/18 and 01/05.
 1. 12U will be different compared to last year due to playing at Lumpkin County Middle School.
 - f. Pinetree Recreation Center
 - i. The floors in the gyms are currently being redone due to manufacturing issue; on track for deadline of 10/13. Lines should be painted better to accommodate pickleball and volleyball.
 7. Comments/Other
 - a. Soccer opening day was 09/06 and the season seems to be going very well.
 - b. 24 hour race at Lake Zwerner Reservoir went very well and we will be meeting with Dahlonga Ultra Marathon Association to discuss things to change for next year and overall experience.
 8. Adjournment

- a. A motion was made to adjourn at 6:25pm Autumn Chatham and seconded by Jessica Tardonia.
 - i. Passed unanimously



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As recorded by Scarlet Shumate.

September 2025 Minutes approved by: Board Members.


Hank Haynes, Chair

Shawn Boyd

Autumn Chatham


Justin Davis


Jessica Tardonia