



LEE'S SUMMIT PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI

DATE:	January 28, 2026	TIME:	6:00 PM	PLACE:	Strother Conference Room
Board Members Present:		Board Members Absent:		Staff Present:	
Nate Zier				Joe Snook	
Mindy Aulenbach				Steve Thomas	
Kathy Campbell (arrived at 6:02pm)				Tede Schantz	
Lawrence Bivins				Devin Blazek	
Jon Ellis, Treasurer				Jodi Jordan	
Samantha Shepard, Vice President				David Dean	
Jim Huser, President				Erin Birchard	
Casey Crawford				Heath Harris	
Wesley Fields (arrived 6:24pm)				Scott Ison	
SPECIAL GUESTS					
CITIZEN COMMENTS					
PRESENTATIONS					
				DISCUSSION (Findings/Conclusions)	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS
AGENDA ITEM					
Approval of Minutes –		Supporting documentation (see pages 2-4).		Mr. Bivins made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Aulenbach seconded. The motion carried unanimously.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 10, 2025, Park Board Minutes 					
Treasurer's Report – (Nov. & Dec. 2025)		Supporting documentation (see pages 5-40).		Mr. Crawford made a motion to approve the November treasure report, Ms. Shepard seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Zier made a motion to approve the December treasure report, Mr. Crawford seconded. The motion carried unanimously.	
Sales and Use Tax Report – December 2025		Supporting documentation (see pages 41-42). Mr. Blazek stated Sales tax performing slightly below budget. Use tax is outperforming both last year's budget and this year's budget.		No Board Action.	
BOARD APPROVAL ITEMS					
Unity Village Master Plan		Supporting documentation (see pages 43-44). Mr. Casey stated staff has been working on this project with the consultant for several months. A masterplan with a destination park has been developed which will have some alternative uses, including bike baths, flow courses and Treetop village to take advantage of the terrain. The park will also include traditional park amenities, including a playground and shelter. Mr. Casey stated that this park would be a multi-phase project. Mr. Casey said this is more of a destination park unlike anything else we have. Mr. Bivins stated the idea of the treetop village excites him. Mr. Zier mentioned his excitement for the bike trails and flow courses, and stated the		Ms. Shepard made a motion to approve the Unity Village Master Plan as presented Mr. Ellis seconded. Motion passed (7-0-1). Mr. Crawford abstained.	



	need in the community for a park like this. Ms. Campbell agrees with the multi-phase plan for this project, especially since the Discovery Park development nearby is also in phases. Treasure Ellis shared his appreciation for the Lee's Summit School District for being a great partner and is excited to see something unique.	
HEED Instructor Position	Supporting documentation (see pages 45-46). Ms. Birchard stated there is an ask to reinstate the HEED instructor position. This part-time position is to help revitalize our Healthy Eating Every Day program.	Ms. Shepard made a motion to approve the HEED Instructor position as presented. Mr. Bivins seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
OLD BUSINESS		
Projects and Services Review	Supporting documentation (See page 47-54). No additional comments.	No Board Action.
Mouse Creek Trail Project Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 55-57). Mr. Casey said staff are working through the agreement and hope to start construction in the spring. Hopefully wrap it up in the fall.	No Board Action.
Longview Pickleball Complex Project Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 58-60). Mr. Casey stated there are a few items remaining, mostly electrical and site furniture. Mr. Snook said the day it opens it will be busy.	No Board Action.
Legacy Lake Dredge Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 61-64). Mr. Dean said they did get about a week done of dredging before the cold weather. It will be held off until warmer temperatures. Staff have done some informational posts on social media on this process.	No Board Action.
Indoor Sports Complex Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 65-66). Mr. Dean stated things are progressing well with the final design stages. Mr. Snook said based on new pricing estimates, staff will be coming back to the Board in the future for approval of additional funding for the facility.	No Board Action.
World Cup Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 67-72). Mr. Snook said the committee is meeting every two weeks. FAQ's will be added to the Parks landing webpage. In addition, he meets with other metro directors monthly. Mr. Snook said a resource guide is being developed that will include camping in the area, park and ride, as well as hospital/urgent care information. Mr. Snook stated we can anticipate four countries to be based in the KC area for the World Cup.	No Board Action.
NEW BUSINESS		
Park Impact Fee Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 73-74). Mr. Blazek said both the applications that have been filed and money received are included in the report. Receivables looks good and we are right on budget.	No Board Action.
4 th Quarter Safety Report	Supporting documentation (see pages 75-78). Mr. Dean said there was no additional information.	No Board Action.
Fundraising Update	Supporting documentation (see pages 79-80). Ms. Jordan said there is not much to report. As of today, there are only two outstanding payments.	No Board Action.
Safety Town Presentation	Supporting documentation (see pages 81-102). Darren Varner from Olsson presented Safety Town with a high-level overview. Mr. Snook said Longview has been chosen as the site for Safety Town.	No Board Action.
Staff Retreat Summary	Supporting documentation (see pages 103-104). Mr. Snook said the summary is available for the Board.	No Board Action.
End of Project Report- Red Hawk Park	Supporting documentation (see pages 105-107). Mr. Thomas stated the project came in around \$10,000 under budget. The ribbon cutting had a record turnout.	No Board Action.
End of Activity Reports	Various Staff (pages 108-197). No additional comments	No Board Action.
PATRON COMMENT REVIEW		
	Supporting documentation (see pages 198-207). No additional comments.	No Board Action.
MONTHLY CALENDARS		
	Supporting documentation (see pages 208-21). No additional comments.	
ROUNDTABLE		
Mr. Zier said he feels fortunate to be a part of the Board. Ms. Aulenbach said the joint session with City Council was great. Ms. Campbell stated she thought the joint session was good and thanked staff for their presentations. She is excited for Safety Town. Mr. Fields commended Mr. Snook and staff on his World Cup efforts. Mr. Bivins thanked staff for their presentations at the joint meeting. He stated it was very effective. Mr. Ellis said he appreciated all of staff's		



efforts into looking at Safety Town sites. Ms. Shepard said she is excited about the things coming up in the next 6 – 12 months. City Council member Cynda Rader stated she loves the energy the Board and staff has. She stated she is very excited about Safety Town. Mr. Huser said it was nice to see the videos of both the dredge project and pickleball complex on social media.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

Mr. Snook reminded the Board of the MPRA conference next month and therefore the February meeting is being rescheduled to Feb. 18. He stated a name needs to be selected for both the fieldhouse and the complex at Longview. The Board needs to focus on the process for naming the fieldhouse first.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting went into closed session at 7:28pm Ms. Shepard made a motion and Ms. Aulenbach seconded.

CLOSED SESSIONS:

Pursuant to Section 610.021(3) of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri pertaining to hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Budget
Jon Ellis, Chair
Wesley Fields
Kathryn Campbell

Personnel
Samantha Shepard, Chair
Jim Huser
Mindy Aulenbach
Jon Ellis

Youth Sports
Lawrence Bivins
Samantha Shepard
Kathryn Campbell
Casey Crawford

Foundation Board
Mindy Aulenbach
Nate Zier