



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 17th, 2024, 5:30PM [Fit For Fun Center 302 S. 10th Street, Wilmington](#)

Call to Order Chair: Terry Smith
Vice Chair: Ron Woodruff

Call to Order at 5:30pm

Staff Liaison: Amy Beatty, Parks & Recreation Director, Sally Thigpen Assistant Director

Public comment period (3 minutes) No comments.

Approval of November 2023 minutes Zach Gilbert moved for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Ingrid Corbi and the motion carries unanimously.

Guest staff speaker: Victoria Carrai, Recreation Supervisor at Fit For Fun at Robert Strange Park

- Overview of Fit For Fun facility usage
- Overview of recurring programs
- Maintenance needed after 25 years of use.
- Fundraising Ideas – Donations or sponsorship, silent auction, naming rights on bricks outside building.

Old Business

- Greenfield Lake Masterplan- in review, overdue
- By laws update- staff internal review continues
- The City is looking for a volunteer from your Board to serve on the [nCino Sports Park](#) Advisory Committee. Ingrid Corbi volunteers, Board supports her serving.
- Pickleball resolution
 - Received by City Council.
 - City working with engineering firm to analyze the stormwater permit for feasibility to increase impervious surface at Empie Park.

New Business

- Guest Presentation: Matthew Emmerich
 - Naming request for 'Sam Bowens Memorial field' at Robert Strange Park currently known as "Field No. 1."
 - Sam Bowens was a Wilmington native and played Major League Baseball in the 1960's.



- Sally Thigpen will prepare a formal proposal regarding the Field 1 name change.
- Ingrid Corbi motions to recommend naming “Field No. 1” to “Sam Bowens Memorial Field.” Alexa Fritz seconds the motion. 5 board members approved and 1 abstained.

Committee Reports

- Parks & Greenway Committee – Ron Woodruff, Committee Chair
 - Adopt-a-Park initiative update
- By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee – Zach Gilbert, Committee Chair

Chair’s Report

- Wilmington Downtown Trail
 - Phase 1 suggests the trail begins on 4th St. through to Archie Blue Park
 - Feasibility study ongoing

Staff Report

- John Dolan new Park Ranger
- Shirin Jenkins has completed her time on the board.
- June 19th meeting is a City Holiday. Propose reschedule for Thursday June 20th.
 - Meeting reschedule approved unanimously.
- Review 2023-2024 Work Plan
- Sally Thigpen delivers a budget update.
 - Review org-chart, contains information about job positions and designated pay scale.
 - Fee study consultation underway.

Board Member Round Table

- Discussion about new Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services Department hired and separate department from Parks & Recreation.

Adjournment

- Ingrid Corbi moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm, seconded by Ron Woodruff and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Next Meeting: February 21st, 5:30PM Davis Center 1101 Manley Ave.**



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
 Current Membership Contact Information 2024

Name	Address	Phone Number(s)	E-mail Address	Term Expiration Date
Terry Smith <i>Chairman</i>	229 Tanbridge Road Wilmington, NC 28405	(910) 833-5888	tmscpa@att.net	December 19, 2025
Ronald Woodruff <i>Vice-Chair</i>	406 West Renovah Circle Wilmington, NC 28403	(910) 520-0077	rhw1152@gmail.com	November 7, 2024
Franklin Boney	2134 Echo Lane Wilmington, NC 28403	(910) 617-6031	fcboney29@gmail.com	December 7, 2026
William Bordeaux	7513 Old Oak Road Wilmington, NC 28411	(910) 367-3042 (m) (910) 686-5742 (h)	will0855@aol.com	August 12, 2024
Paul Connor	1515 Hooper Street Wilmington, NC 28401	(910) 334-3916	pauldconnor@gmail.com	December 19, 2026
Ingrid Corbi	3980 Echo Farm Blvd. Wilmington, NC 28412	(910) 471-2211 (m)	ingridcorbi@msn.com	December 7, 2026 <i>Formerly Lisa Sullivan</i>
David Eason	252 Foxwood Lane Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 899-4042 (h) (541) 250-5945 (c)	baronmd23@gmail.com	December 6, 2024
Zach Gilbert	505 Barksdale Road Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 962-4116 (w) (910) 547-2440 (c)	zacharygraygilbert@gmail.com	July 13, 2024
Alexa Fritz	706 Ann Street Wilmington, NC 28401	(703) 969-5504	alexafritz@fritzrealtors.com	April 19, 2025
Lemetrius Nolan	7214 Algoa Bay Lane Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 442-8282 (c)	lynolan@hotmail.com	April 4, 2026
VACANT				