



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 15th, 2023, 5:30PM

401 S. 8th St., Martin Luther King Center

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

Call to Order at 5:35pm

Staff Liaison: Amy Beatty, Community Services Director, Sally Thigpen Assistant Director

Public comment period (3 minutes)

No comments.

Approval of October 2023 minutes

David Eason moved for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Ingrid Corbi and the motion carries unanimously.

Guest staff speaker: Sally Thigpen- AD presented the Riverwalk Extension Feasibility Study findings, reviewed the study's components and the map of extensions.

- The study was financed by City Council and Off The Hook Yacht Services.
- Four possible alignments. Red to green route most recommended.
- Possible roofed component underneath the Isbel Holmes bridge.

Old Business

- Greenfield Lake Masterplan review- internal staff review continues
- By laws update- staff continue internal review
- Trends in parks and recreation from Comprehensive Plan and public input.
[638063720211430000 \(wilmingtonnc.gov\)](https://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/638063720211430000) see page 4-9.
- Pickleball amenities
 - Olsen Park pickleball construction approaching completion of the design phase. 4 – 6 courts depending on bid.
 - Concerns were addressed regarding location of pickleball courts at Olsen Park, and perceived safety of pickleball courts and Empie Park.
 - Community feedback survey produced mixed results regarding the public's priorities. Scientific survey values Farmer's Market Pavilion, Greenway and Natural surface trails, Open Space, Water Access for canoes/boating and Outdoor Fitness Equipment.
 - Vote on Resolution - As amended in the meeting.
 - Amendment to include public survey information.
 - Amendment to reword first paragraph to address safety concerns, and open space usage.



- Amendment to third paragraph to include information from virtual “scientific survey.”
- Amendment to the fourth paragraph to elaborate on the need for pickleball courts, mentioning the submitted petition for more pickleball facilities.
- Amendment to the fifth paragraph changing the number of pickleball courts at Olsen Park from 6 – 8 to 4 – 6 dedicated courts since the additions to Empie park are more central to Wilmington and within city limits.
- David Eason moved to approve the amendments made to the proposal. It is seconded by Ron Woodruff and the approval carried unanimously.

New Business

- NCINO Advisory Committee. Recommended appointee from Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to be reviewed at January meeting.

Committee Reports

No comments

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

Chair’s Report

No report

- Terry Smith

Staff Report

[Holiday Events! | City of Wilmington, NC \(wilmingtonnc.gov\)](http://wilmingtonnc.gov)

- Friday November 24th DBA Holiday Tree Lighting corner of Market St. and Water St.
- Thursday November 30th Riverfront Park tree lighting and family event, Santa.
- Holiday Parade December 3rd at 6pm downtown. Staff are looking for 3 volunteers to serve as judges for the winning parade floats. Please arrive at 5:45. The parade starts at 6pm and lasts about 1 hour.
 - Ingrid Corbi, Shirin Jenkins, Zach Gilbert

Recreation Team is looking for volunteers!

- Friday, 11/17: Kids Night Out at Maides Park from 5PM – 8PM
 - If interested in volunteering, please contact Blair Houtz, blair.houtz@wilmingtonnc.gov



- Saturday, 12/2: Adaptive Sports Day at Robert Strange Park from 10:30AM – 2PM
 - If interested in volunteering, please contact Abby Smith, abby.smith@wilmingtonnc.gov

No meeting in December- would the Board like to meet for a holiday gathering? Yes.

Board Member Round Table

No comments

Adjournment

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

- **Next Meeting: January 17th, 5:30PM TBD**



**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Current Membership Contact Information 2023**

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
Shirin Jenkins	5920 Wayfarer Trail Wilmington, NC 28405	(336) 681-5909 (m)	shirin.montenegro@gmail.com	December 7, 2023
Vacant (Lisa Sullivan resigned 8/25/23)				December 7, 2023
Paul Connor	1515 Hooper Street Wilmington, NC 28401	(910) 334-3916	pauldconnor@gmail.com	December 19, 2026
David Eason	252 Foxwood Lane Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 899-4042 (h) (541) 250-5945 (c)	baronmd23@gmail.com	December 6, 2024
William Bordeaux	7513 Old Oak Road Wilmington, NC 28411	(910) 367-3042 (m) (910) 686-5742 (h)	Will0855@aol.com	August 12, 2024
Ingrid Corbi	3980 Echo Farm Blvd. Wilmington, NC 28412	(910) 471-2211 (m)	ingridcorbi@msn.com	December 7, 2023
Zach Gilbert	505 Barksdale Road Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 547-2440 (h) (910) 962-4116 (w) (910) 547-2440 (c)	zacharygraygilbert@gmail.com	July 13, 2024
Lemetrius Nolan	7214 Algoa Bay Lane Wilmington, NC 28409	(910) 442-8282 (c)	lynolan@hotmail.com	December 6, 2024
Alexa Fritz	706 Ann Street Wilmington, NC 28401	(703) 969-5504	alexafritz@fritzrealtors.com	April 19, 2025