

*The City of Muskogee encourages participation from all citizens in public meetings if participation is not possible due to disability, please notify the City Clerk in writing at least forty-eight hours prior to the scheduled meeting and necessary accommodations will be made. (ADA/36).*

**AGENDA**  
**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**AUGUST 12, 2026**

*Official action can only be taken on items which appear on the agenda. The public body may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, amend, strike, or continue any agenda item.*

*When more information is needed to act on an item, the public body may refer the matter to Staff or back to Committee or the recommending body.*

*Under certain circumstances, items are deferred to a specific date or stricken from the agenda entirely.*

**REGULAR SESSION - 4:00 P.M. - PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE, 837 EAST  
OKMULGEE, MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA**

- 1        Consider approval of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of May 13, 2026, or take other necessary action.
  
- 2        Consider selection of a new vice chair filling Linda Stowers vacated position, or take other necessary action.
  
- 3        Receive report on current status of E-Bikes at Depot Green, or take other necessary action.
  
- 4        Review, and make recommendations regarding the possible removal of wooden benches and trash cans along Centennial Trail, or take other necessary action.
  
- 5        Receive an updated report on Yaffe Family Trust Fund disbursements with Tulsa Community Foundation (TCF), or take other necessary action.
  
- 6        Receive staff work progress updates.

Brooke King, Assistant Director

Rick Ewing, Parks & Recreation Director

**ADJOURN**

## **Parks & Recreation Board Agenda**

**1.**

Meeting Date: 08/12/2026

Submitted For: Rick Ewing, Parks & Recreation Initiator: Karen Finley, Office Admin II

Department: Parks & Recreation

Staff Information Source:

---

### Information

#### AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consider approval of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of May 13, 2026, or take other necessary action.

#### BACKGROUND:

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

---

### Attachments

May 13 2026 Minutes

---

## **MINUTES**

**OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
OF THE CITY OF MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA  
MET IN REGULAR SESSION  
IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM  
OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE  
MAY 13, 2026**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Muskogee, Oklahoma, met at 4:00 p.m. on MAY 13, 2026, in the Conference Room, Parks and Recreation Office, 837 E. Okmulgee Ave., Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The meeting was called to order and the roll was called as follows:

Present: Shonika Breedlove, Board Member; Perry Hewitt, Board Member; Tom Martindale, Board Member; Joy Sloan, Chair; Jami Coburn-Speir, Board Member; Wren Stratton, Board Member

Absent: Stacy Alexander, Board Member; Amanda Hays, Board Member; Gary Underwood, Board Member

Staff Present: Rick Ewing, Director, Parks & Recreation, Brooke King, Assistant Recreation Director, Karen Finley, Secretary

- 1 Welcome and introductions.  
Board Members introduced themselves and welcomed new Board Member Jami Coburn-Speir.
- 2 Consider approval of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of the March 25, 2026, meeting, or take other necessary action.  
Motion made by Board Member Tom Martindale, seconded by Board Member Shonika Breedlove, to approve Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes of March 26, 2026.  
Carried - Unanimously with the exception of new Board Member Jami Coburn-Speir, who abstained.

- 3 Receive report of Azalea Festival activities, or take other necessary action.

Director Rick Ewing reported that St Francis sponsored the fitness aspects of the Azalea Festival such as Fitness in the Park, which incorporated various fitness activities each week like yoga, pilates, social runs, walkerize and power sculpting. There were approximately one hundred fifty (150) to two hundred (200) participants during the month of April.

The Azalea Parade was on the 4th, and had forty (40) entries, ten (10) of which were floats. Due to the weather, the parade was moved from 11am to 1pm.

The Azalea Run was on the 11th, and had one hundred thirty-five (135) runners; most ran the 5K.

Flower Power Bike Ride was on the 25th. There were two hundred (200) bicyclists with eight (8) states in attendance. The thirty-to-fifty (30-50) mile ride was the most popular. However, a retired judge in his 80s did the eighty (80) mile ride, taking a little over 8 hours to complete. There were rest areas set up about every 10 miles.

Azalea Banner Auction was on May 1st, showcasing one hundred (100) banners which brought in an in-person auction record of fourteen thousand, three hundred forty dollars (\$14,340).

This year's first All Aboard Thursday was held on April 16th with a Mustang car show, kid's zone, live bands, and vendors.

The Garden & Crafts Market was held at Honor Heights Park on May 2nd, with twenty (20) vendors, and live music.

- 4 Receive report on Yaffe Family Trust Fund disbursements with Tulsa Community Foundation (TCF), or take other necessary action.

Director Rick Ewing informed members of the 2001 Bob Yaffee Trust Fund, which was a donation of one million dollars to be managed by TCF. Funds were designated to help with costs over and above normal maintenance and development costs. When the foundation's contact person within the City retired, emails from them were no longer received, and contact was dropped. A while back, when it was noticed that December 2022 was the last time funds from the foundation were received, we began reestablishing contact, and are hopeful that funds will not only continue, but there will be a substantial amount of disbursements to catch up.

- 5 Consider placement of a new sign in Civitan Park by the Cherokee Nation recognizing the boundary marker placed by Nathan Boone in the 1830's, or take other necessary action.

Director Rick Ewing informed members in 1826 that the Creek Indians of Georgia and Alabama signed a treaty with the US Government for choice of land here. That same year, the US made a treaty with the Cherokee Indians of Arkansas giving them that same land, which created conflicts. In 1832 and 1833, treaties were signed, and boundaries decided. Nathan Boone, a soldier and son of Daniel Boone, was hired to survey the boundaries, and pillars were placed every half (1/2) mile. A couple of years later, iron posts that had the mile mark forged on them were placed marking the boundary. One of those markers is just east of the fence at Civitan Park. Recently, contact was made with the Cherokee Nation to let them know, and they have requested to place a sign just north of the Community Gardens at the Park.

- 6 Receive report on lighting project with OG&E at Spaulding Park, or take other necessary action.

Director Rick Ewing stated that OG&E installed decorative lighting on the trails of Spaulding Park in the early 2000's. With the explosion in the popularity of pickle ball, people using the courts at Spaulding Park are staying later, and walking further to where their vehicles are parked, creating a need for additional lighting along the streets. OG&E has agreed to install this lighting for free. This will happen in two (2) phases. The 1st phase would be to fix all the existing lights, and change them over to LED. The 2nd phase would be to add the streetlights going down the park.

- 7 Consider approval of operational policy change for return of building security deposits to Park and Recreation facility renters, or take other necessary action.

Director Rick Ewing explained there have been problems in the past with park facility renters getting their deposit returned before the facility has been inspected and cleaned, later finding out there was damage to the facility, or some other problem where the deposit would have been kept. Input was requested for an operational change to rectify that issue.

After some discussion, Park Board Member Perry Hewitt IV, made a motion to change the operational policy to the return of building security deposits of Park and Recreation facility renters to be up to three (3) business days.

Carried - Unanimously

- 8 Receive staff work progress updates.

Brooke King, Assistant Director

YVC Summer of Service program has a therapy dog named Elliott, and he has a book coming out. Elliott participates in the "Read With Elliott" program at the library.

RCWP & Spaulding Park pools open next week.

Splash Pads opened May 1st. Elliott Park splash pad is closed due the pump being out. It's the only recirculating water splash pad so it might be a cost-saving, as well as man-power savings to convert it to a flow-through pump.

Esports events/tournaments continue to grow. Most recently there was a theme night.

Rick Ewing, Park & Recreation Director

The spillway project at Honor Heights Park is still ongoing. The bridge was supposed to be set last Friday, but that didn't happen. Possibly next week.

Jackie Robertson, Interim Parks Assistant Director will be celebrating his 50th year with the City on the 26th of next month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 PM.

JOY SLOAN ,CHAIRPERSON

Muskogee Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

