

River Bend Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
May 7, 2025
Municipal Building

Board Members Present: Diana Pantall, Beth Stokes, Victoria Stuppy

Board Members Absent: Stephanie Viers

Others Present: Barbara Maurer

Victoria Stuppy called the meeting to order at 6:30PM with a quorum present.

Victoria Stuppy moved to adopt the agenda. Diana Pantall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Victoria Stuppy motioned to approve the minutes of April 2, 2025. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Weaver was not able to attend the meeting tonight. No updates from Town Council.

Victoria Stuppy reported that the Easter Event went over the budgeted amount by \$63 but this includes supplies that will be used for next year. Diana suggested buying supplies after Easter next year when they go on sale.

The Board discussed purchasing a laptop for P&R. Victoria Stuppy motioned purchasing a laptop. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Victoria will price out laptops and will send the details to Jeff Weaver to purchase.

We also need to purchase a new canopy for one of the pop-up tents that were purchased last year. We will discuss this more during June's meeting.

We are still in good standing with the overall budget with \$1440 remaining which will cover the previously mentioned items.

Victoria Stuppy has continued to advertise events on the Parks & Recreation social media page. She is also posting some events to the River Bend Community page if we are not getting a lot of views on the P&R page. Events are also being posted on New Bern's events site.

Victoria Stuppy discussed the Easter Egg Hunt that was held at the River Bend Country Club. We have received a lot of positive feedback about this event. The ballroom was perfect for the number of people that attended. Partnering with the Country Club also brought people to that location that had never been there before. Many of them stayed to have lunch with their families. The popcorn machine was a big hit. Notes for next year: Advertising the event needs to be very clear on specific starting times for each age group.

Yoga in the Park – Victoria Stuppy has the instructor scheduled for May 17th at 10am. The cost of this event is \$65 - \$35 for the instructor, \$30 for a sign. The field by the Red Caboose is reserved for the class. The Town Hall room is also reserved if needed. Two speakers have been tested. Advertisement will include: Bring Yoga mat & water. Beth Stokes will bring her two extra mats in case someone needs one.

Fun Run – Scheduled for May 31st - Diana Pantall presented the map for the run and the walk. Walkers can walk on the track, or they can walk behind the runners. Suggestions for the Fun Run path:

- Yard Signs with affirmations along the running path.
- Encourage runners to wear green for mental health month.
- Need a water station under a tent.
- Need Sign Up Genius created.
- Run will start at 10am. Participants should meet behind the Municipal Building at 9:45am.
- We encourage the community to be outside to cheer on the runners if they are able.
- The path will be down Plantation to Shoreline then end back at the Municipal Building.
- Path is 2.42 miles. If walkers walk on the track, 8 laps is @ 2 miles.
- After the run there will be water & healthy snacks for the participants.
- Diana will bring the first aid bag. Victoria Stuppy will check with Delane to see if there is a first aid kit that can be used if needed.
- Side walk chalk will be used to direct participants along the path. We will need to do this Friday night or early Saturday morning, depending on the weather.
- Victoria Stuppy will get the post up this week on the P&R Facebook page & will also post on the River Bend Community page.

Bingo Night – 6/13, 7pm – 9pm – Beth Stokes will host Bingo night. Victoria Stuppy will contact the food truck Taqueria San Luis to see if they are available. We will do \$10 gift cards from local business for the prizes. This way we can have more prizes than we did last time. 2 or 3 from each business. Beth will purchase snacks for this event. We will discuss it more at June's meeting.

Music in the Park – This was scheduled for 6/22. Victoria Stuppy reported that she is having issues finding a band that is within our budget. We are pushing this event to fall.

Independence Day – 7/4 – This celebration is the Town's event. P&R will help with serving the food. We did discuss food quality in the heat, which has not been an issue in the past, but the heat has been an issue for those serving the food. We would prefer to serve the food in the Municipal Building like we did last year. P&R will also provide games, snow cones (if we have volunteers), if not we may have popsicles. Victoria Stuppy will check on getting a waterslide or two like we had last year. We will not have the Bounce House because it was not used last year due to the heat. Victoria will talk to Delane about getting a Dunk Tank and a water mister. Public Works may have one that can be used.

Blood Drive – The first available weekend that the Red Cross has is August 2nd. This event will be discussed at the June and July meetings.

Food Trucks – Victoria sent the lists out to the board members.

There being no further business, Victoria Stuppy moved to adjourn, seconded by Beth Stokes. The meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Submitted by Beth Stokes