

River Bend Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2026 – 6:30pm
Municipal Building – 51 Shoreline Drive

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

Board Member Absent: None

Others Present: Barbara Maurer, Kay Thomson

Call to Order – 6:32pm

Addition to agenda – Victoria Stuppy added voting on prospective candidate. Victoria Stuppy motioned. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

No update from town council.

Financial Review by Victoria Stuppy – Holiday Tree Lighting was over budget due to the addition of cookie decorating and new décor. We have a surplus of \$300 from events not scheduled for January and February. We are still on target. Budget Planning for FY 2026 – 2027 is due February 23, 2026. Members need to review the budget for the next year. Review events from previous year to start planning the next year. Victoria Stuppy will be asking for additional dollars for events that would be hosted at other venues due to the lack of members on the board. Victoria Stuppy motioned to add funding for transportation to other venues. Diana Pantall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Victoria Stuppy reported that she boosted the holiday and Blood Drive posts. This received 1800 impressions for about \$20 but this is not worth the money due to lack of targeting. The advisory board needs to come to the next meeting with ideas of different types of content for more attention – videos, interviews, articles.

- a. All Boards Flyer – Add an all-boards flyer to the water bill in March. Victoria Stuppy will follow up with Delane Jackson about the possibility of adding this in March.

Past Events Discussion -

- a. Holiday Tree Lighting –We didn't have the best turnout, due mostly to the weather. Building is reserved for the entire first weekend of December 2026. Hopefully this year we will have more volunteers to help with decorating. We would like to add something for adults so they can enjoy the evening as well. Also, this may attract families that do not have small children.

- b. ARC Blood Drive – Victoria Stuppy reported that the blood drive was quite chaotic due to the lack of the volunteer from ARC. She has followed up with a ARC representative and is waiting to have a conference call. June blood drive TBD. We did have 28 donations with a goal of 30.

Future Events Discussion –

- a. Set Target Dates for Events.

Easter Egg Hunt – March 29, 1pm – 3pm. We would like to partner with the RB Country Club again this year.

Movie in the Park – May 15, 7pm – 9pm. Invite food trucks.

Spring Festival – April 25, 11am – 1pm

May/Mental Health Month – Yoga, May 9, 10am. Beth will contact Mary Wallen regarding the Yoga class. Fun Run – May 16, 10am. Diana Pantall will take lead on this event.

Workshops/Seminars – Victoria Stuppy will follow up with Suzan Alexander who volunteered to run a jewelry making workshop.

Food Truck Fridays -We may have to move this to Thursdays so we are not competing with New Bern and Trent Woods.

- b. Discuss America 250 – Members are asked to think about ideas for the 4th of July celebration.

It has been 2 years since the last survey. Victoria Stuppy motioned to do another, shorter survey to gauge the interest in the activities. Diana Pantall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There we no public comments.

We have a new applicant, Kay Thomson. Victoria Stuppy motioned to add Kay Thomson to the advisory board. Diana Pantall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm. Victoria Stuppy motioned to adjourn. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Beth Stokes, Secretary