

**River Bend Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**June 10, 2025**  
**Municipal Building**

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

Board Members Absent: Stephanie Viers

Others Present: Barbara Maurer, Don & Nancy Fogle, Tywana Johnson, Jeff Weaver

Victoria Stuppy called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm with a quorum present.

Victoria Stuppy moved to adopt the agenda. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Victoria Stuppy motioned to approve the minutes of May 7, 2025. Beth Stokes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Weaver updated the board regarding the playground estimate. The submitted design, while checking off all of the Board's items for inclusivity, was more expensive than what was originally projected. The estimate returned was \$443k + \$230k for the base. The Board will work with Jeff to scale back the design.

Jeff Weaver discussed Beth Stokes and Stephanie Viers being up for reappointment to the board this month. Jeff needs to know by Thursday if board members want to be reappointed for 2 more years.

Jeff Weaver also let us know that he is waiting for a response from the Pickle Ball courts builder.

Victoria Stuppy reported that the Board has \$870 left in the budget that ends 6/30/2025. This money will be used to:

- Refill supplies for future events
- Restock prizes for games
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July

Events are limited due to there only being 3 active members of the board currently. Volunteers' availability has also been limited at the last few events.

In the last 28 days, we have had 6000 views on our P&R Facebook page. Victoria Stuppy is also advertising our events on Next Door, River Bend Community page and New Bern events, when appropriate.

Yoga in the Park – We have been asked to offer additional classes in the future.

Fun Run – Approximately 25 people joined us for the Fun Run. Participants requested that we host them more often. Diana will check with the local businesses regarding a meet-up place to do a weekly run or walk. Diana will coordinate.

Bingo Night – 6/13 – 40 people are signed up. 50 will be the max. The food truck will be here at 5pm. They will serve from 5:30 – 8pm. Victoria will get \$10 gift cards from local businesses. Beth will pick up snacks. Victoria will get the bingo markers, game and cards from the storage building.

4<sup>th</sup> of July – Allison ordered the big water slide. Victoria Stuppy will create a sign up to send out to volunteers. We will need:

- 2 people on the grill
- 8 for food service
- 2 shifts for water slide
- 2 shifts for snow cones

Food will be served inside the small conference room. The big room will be available for people to eat inside. We will set up Thursday, 7/3 at 5:30pm. Serving will start by 11am.

- Victoria Stuppy – Food Service
- Diana Pantall – Snow Cones
- Beth Stokes – Waterslide

Victoria Stuppy will order the syrup for the Snow Cones.

If a logistics meeting is needed, Victoria will schedule but we should be able to handle any outstanding items via email and phone calls.

July's meeting scheduled for July 2<sup>nd</sup> will be rescheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Blood Drive – Building not available 8/2. It is scheduled for 8/29/2025. Red Cross will provide a volunteer for the drive. Victoria Stuppy will confirm the room is available.

Fall Festival – We may schedule for September or October. We would like to partner with the Country Club. Victoria Stuppy will reach out to Kathy at the country club.

Community Yard Sale – The proposed dates are 9/20 or 9/27. Victoria Stuppy will follow up with the Garden Club and Red Caboose Library.

Friendsgiving – This event was held 11/23 last year. 11/22 is the Saturday before Thanksgiving this year. That will be the target date, but will confirm in a future meeting.

Board members need to review the events & budget for FY 25-26 & bring ideas for future events to the next meeting.

Community Member Comments:

Don Fogle – Mr. Fogle asked about the Fun Run safety and whether the current medians presented any issues to runners. Diana Pantall reported there were no issues. We had River Bend police presence, water & snacks for the participants. He also suggested having a PA system for Bingo. Victoria Stuppy will check with Delane about having the PA system available.

Barbara Maurer – Noted that for the fall events, CAC has mentioned having hayrides.

Tywanna Johnson – Asked about the playground update. She is concerned about the safety of the current equipment for her toddler. She also asked if it was possible for the Town to supply a shade for the people fishing. Also, would it be possible to install water fountains in the Town Hall area. Ms. Johnson has applied to join the board.

There being no further business, Victoria Stuppy moved to adjourn, seconded by Beth Stokes. The meeting adjourned at 6:09pm.

  
Submitted by Beth Stokes