Minutes of a Regular Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
November 10, 2025

A regular meeting of the Blue Springs Parks Commission was held on Monday, November 10, 2025, at the Fieldhouse. The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Ken Horrell – Present 6/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Justin Stuart
Tony Lopez – Present 6/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Mary Herrington
Debbie Canfield – Present 4/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Derek Mayden
Tara Johnson – Present 5/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Daniel Sack
Brian Markworth – Present 5/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Lydia Ritter
Brittany Boswell – Present 6/6	Parks Dept. Staff:	Angela Price
Nick Tepesch – Absent 5/6		
Greg Markway- Present 5/6		

The regularly scheduled monthly parks commission meeting was called to order at 6pm. A motion was made by Greg Markway and seconded by Ken Horrell to accept the Consent Agenda. It passed unanimously.

Visitors/Correspondence: None.

Program/Activity Spotlight: Lydia Ritter highlighted the success of the Adaptive Swim Program, a collaboration between the aquatics team and Children with Opportunity. The program emphasizes water safety and provides individualized instruction through smaller class sizes, supported by specialized staff training.

Finances: Included in packet.

Staff Reports: Staff reported their monthly operations.

Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman's Report: Tony Lopez shared Keith Hannaman's resignation and stated that his historical knowledge will be missed.

City Council Liaison Report: None.

Old Business: Justin provided an update on the park sales tax projects, noting that the new restroom at Rotary Park is expected to open within the next week. Additional projects include the Rotary Park playground replacement, lighting replacement at Blue Springs Park, new fencing improvements at Hidden Valley Park, and new tennis courts at Baumgardner Park. He also shared that the Southwest Park design is ongoing, with Stantec leading the design and Newkirk managing construction, and the park is anticipated to open in 2027.

New Business: Justin presented the police activity report, highlighting updates at Burrus Old Mill Park and noting that there were no significant concerns. He reported that incidents of vandalism have declined over the years. Regarding the Park Foundation, Justin shared that efforts are underway to identify fundraising opportunities and secure additional funding.

Miscellaneous: The group discussed the upcoming Mayor's Tree Lighting event which took place of the December meeting. Justin encouraged commissioners to attend this event. Details for the January meeting following the holidays. Upcoming holiday lunches at Vesper Hall were also mentioned, with a request for volunteers to assist with lunch shifts. Additionally, Tara raised a concern regarding smoking at the dog park and suggested reviewing or enhancing park signage to address the issue.

As there was no further business, a motion for adjournment was made by Debbie Canfield and seconded by Greg Markway. The meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.