AGENDA

Town of Stoneville Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
August 18, 2026 - 3:00 PM
Council Chambers - 101 Smith St.

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Curt Bennett

WELCOME

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 18, 2026 AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- Meeting – June 16, 2026

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS
- Parks and Recreation Survey Results
- Consideration of Bid Proposals – Pocket Park Restrooms

CLOSING COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING: September 15, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Town of Stoneville - Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)

Meeting Minutes
Date: June 16, 2026
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Council Chambers – 101 Smith Street, Stoneville, NC

Members Present – Chairman Curt Bennett, Jerry Smith, Charles Rakestraw, Bob Bailey.
Members Absent – Pastor Kenneth Moore, David Price, Ed Brown, Chris Avis.

Staff Present – Town Administrator Michael Sands, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson

Call to Order: Chairman Curt Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the June 16, 2026 meeting agenda was made by Jerry Smith. Seconded by Charles Rakestraw. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the April 21, 2026 meeting minutes was made by Jerry Smith. Seconded by Charles Rakestraw. Motion carried.

Old Business

The Board discussed the previous proposal concerning improvements and potential programming for the Town's tennis and pickleball facilities. Members reported that attempts to contact the individual who previously presented the tennis proposal had been unsuccessful. The Board discussed the potential refurbishment or conversion of the existing courts but agreed that it would be prudent to await the consultant's recommendations regarding Parks and Recreation facilities, programming, and priorities before making a substantial investment. Members expressed concern about the observed limited use of the existing tennis courts and the need to determine current and future demand. The Board noted the increased popularity of pickleball compared to tennis and discussed the possibility of adapting the existing facility for pickleball as a separate Town initiative. The Board also discussed potential improvements to the existing concrete surface but agreed that further action should be deferred pending the consultant's recommendations.

New Business

Pocket Park Project: Town Administrator Michael Sands provided an update regarding the proposed restrooms. It was clarified for the record that when the Town Council approved moving forward with the project, the authorization was limited to seeking proposals and determining the anticipated cost of the project. The approval did not constitute authorization to begin construction or implementation. The Town is currently in the preliminary stage of determining what the project will cost and whether the funds currently available are sufficient.

The Board discussed questions concerning whether funds donated specifically for the pocket park could be used for improvements at Stoneville Memorial Park. Staff explained that the funds were donated and designated for the pocket park and could not simply be redirected to another project.

Staff reported that discussions had been held with contractors who had visited the site and reviewed the proposed project. One contractor expressed concern about the existing structure and recommended that an engineer evaluate whether the existing wall structure is capable of supporting a roof. The Board agreed that such an evaluation would be important before proceeding so that the Town does not expend funds on a project that later cannot be completed because the existing structure is inadequate. Staff emphasized that no contractor had been led to believe that the project was a guaranteed construction project and that the Town would first compare the proposals with the funds available before deciding whether to proceed.

Park Security Cameras: The Board discussed security cameras at Stoneville Memorial Park and the Town's other park facilities. Safety along the walking trails was identified as an ongoing concern, particularly for individuals who use the trails alone. Staff reported that the Town Council had agreed to move forward with the installation of additional cameras and the repositioning of existing cameras in order to provide improved coverage of the walking trails and the enclosed picnic shelter. The Board also discussed positioning cameras to protect Town property and address areas where questionable activity had reportedly occurred.

The Board discussed the importance of appropriate signage notifying park users that security cameras are in operation. Members noted that at least one camera notice was located near the bathroom/concession building and that additional or more visible signage may be appropriate throughout the park, particularly near the enclosed shelter. Members agreed that visible camera signage could serve as a deterrent as well as inform park users of the security measures in place.

The Board also discussed whether the cameras could be made available for public viewing through the Town's website. It was explained that the existing system may have that capability, but implementation would require coordination with the Town's website/IT resources. The Board discussed both the potential benefits and security concerns associated with public access. While public viewing could provide greater awareness of activity at the park, a security professional advised against making the camera feeds publicly accessible because individuals could potentially use the information to determine whether people, particularly individuals who are alone, were present at the park. The Board agreed that the primary purpose of the cameras should be security and protection rather than providing the public with a live view of park activity. The possibility of public access could be revisited in the future if desired by the Town Council.

Parks and Recreation Survey: The Board received an update on the Parks and Recreation survey. Staff reported that the survey would remain open until July 6th to allow additional responses. At the time of the meeting, there were approximately 44 fully completed surveys and approximately 50 partially completed surveys. The consultant monitoring the survey indicated that information could potentially be extracted from the partially completed surveys as well.

The Board discussed the adequacy of the response rate. Staff advised that approximately 75 completed surveys would be sufficient from a statistical standpoint to allow the survey results to be evaluated.

Meeting Schedule July – December: The Board discussed its meeting schedule and whether the current Tuesday morning meeting time provided the best opportunity for participation. Members noted that the Board had previously established a 10:00 a.m. meeting time and that attendance had been inconsistent among the active members, but there was interest in changing the day or time to potentially accommodate individuals who are unable to attend morning meetings.

Members discussed several possible times, including afternoon meetings. A meeting time of approximately 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. was viewed favorably because it could be more convenient for business owners and other community members who have work obligations in the morning.

After discussion, the Board reached a consensus to change its regular meeting time to 4:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Members agreed that the change could provide an opportunity for additional residents and stakeholders to participate. It was also agreed that members should be contacted by email, telephone, or text to ensure that everyone receives notice of the schedule change. Staff indicated that an updated calendar would be distributed.

SEASONAL PROGRAMMING AND SHORT-TERM STAFFING OPTIONS

The Board discussed alternatives to hiring a full-time Parks and Recreation director immediately. One proposal was to use seasonal independent contractors for individual programs. Under this approach, the Town could contract with an individual to operate a basketball camp for a designated period and then use another individual for a spring baseball or softball program. Members discussed whether this could provide a practical short-term solution while the Town develops its overall Parks and Recreation structure.

The Board discussed the possibility that the consultant may recommend either a part-time or full-time position and may establish a phased process for developing the Parks and Recreation program. Members agreed that the consultant's recommendations should be considered before the Board makes any recommendations to the Town Council concerning the hiring of a Parks and Recreation director. The consensus of the Board was to continue the planning process and await Lisa's recommendations.

The Board briefly discussed Town merchandise, including T-shirts and the possibility of offering long-sleeved shirts. Members noted that the Town is nearly out of its existing T-shirts. Staff reported that, in connection with the Town's upcoming 150th anniversary, the Town is considering a contest or opportunity for a local young person to design a new T-shirt that can be used to promote the anniversary and the Town. The goal is to transition away from the existing shirt design and introduce new merchandise.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Bennett asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Smith. Seconded by Charles Rakestraw. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Chairman, Curt Bennett	Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson