



**TOWN OF SMYRNA
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA
October 21, 2025
Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center Lecture Hall
5:00 PM**



1. Citizen Comments

The Town's Public Comment Period shall be reserved for those citizens that have signed up to address a Board or Committee at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, pursuant to the Town's Public Comment Policy. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. Additional comments may be submitted in writing.

2. Call to Order

3. Prayer

4. Approval or Correction of Minutes

- a. September Meeting Minutes
- b. August Meeting Minutes

5. Old Business

- a. Vote to Extend Smyrna Elementary School Practice Lease Term

6. New Business

- a. Parks Master Plan Kick Off - Kimley-Horn Representative
- b. Review of Parks Mission Statement

7. Reports of Officers, Committees, or Staff

- a. Director's Report

8. Other/Round Table Discussion

- a. Communications

9. Adjournment

SMYRNA PARKS AND RECREATION PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF September 16th, 2025

The monthly Smyrna Parks and Recreation Parks Advisory Board Meeting was held on September 16, 2025, at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center in Smyrna, Tennessee. Vice Chairperson Molly Jennings called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

PRESENT: Eleven people were present: Dalton Hidalgo; Tom Sage; Mark Hardy; Vice-Chairperson Molly Jennings, Mayor Reed; Mike Moss, Parks Director; Charles King, Town Engineer; Todd Spearman, Assistant Town Manager; Marty Smith; Claire Settle; and Christina Manus, staff

ABSENT Councilmember H.G. Cole, Nichole Green, Megan Dietsch, Michael Potts, and Chairperson Christina Treglia

SUMMARY

Citizens' Comments: None

Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

There was no quorum present. August minutes will need to be approved in October's meeting

Old Business:

Discussion of Smyrna Elementary School practice fields lease – follow-up

Mike Moss has postponed a vote to proceed with exploring a five-year lease option until the October meeting. He presented a map outlining the land, noting that both our soccer and baseball leagues are currently using the area for practices. Mayor Reed asked if the land could be used for more permanent purposes by the soccer league. Mike responded that it is possible, although some repair work will be needed in the area that was recently utilized for a thermal project. The mayor would like to include this area in the new Master Plan. Additionally, she mentioned that she will be meeting with Dr. Southerland and other county leaders to discuss the Rutherford County Schools System, and she plans to address this site during that meeting. The mayor requested that Mike Moss provide her with a list of our current partnerships with the school system.

Mark Hardy inquired about the TN Rehab practice fields, mentioning that not many teams were interested in using the field due to the grass infield. Mike agreed that if the league committed to using the site, they would work on improving the infield of the field.

New Business:

Aquatic Presentation – Claire Settle

Mike Moss introduced Claire as our new Aquatics Coordinator, highlighting that she has successfully completed her first season in this role. He invited Claire and her supervisor, Marty Smith, to present a recap of the 2025 aquatics season to the board. During her presentation, Claire shared details about her background and explained her move from Oklahoma to Tennessee for this position. She began by presenting revenue statistics, noting that the swimming pool generated \$208,632 this season, and provided a breakdown of the sources of that revenue. Claire spoke about the staff and that 43.5% had returned from the previous year.

This year, there were a total of 116 saves. The staff also participated in various events, including Independence Day celebrations. At the end of the season, Claire surveyed the staff, and 94% rated their overall experience as above average. Most lifeguards noted that their favorite part of the job was the relationships they formed with their co-workers.

This season's swimming lessons reached maximum capacity, and participation in water aerobics exceeded last season's numbers. Claire shared several ideas for next season, including adult swim lessons, fall lifeguard certifications, training videos, and updated procedure manuals. The mayor commented that we could enlist the help of our new multimedia coordinator to make training videos for the staff.

Marty praised Claire for her hard work this year, highlighting that she overcame numerous training and certification challenges before the season began. He described her as a breath of fresh air for the team.

Mayor Reed requested a copy of the presentation slideshow. She also inquired about the availability of shade at the pool. Mike responded that in 2020, we transitioned from two funbrella rentals to one, which has provided more shade and has worked well. However, he mentioned that we could explore additional shade options if needed.

Additionally, Mayor Reed asked if the private time for the daycare at Gregory Mill was still being utilized. She received complaints from parents who would like access to the splash pad during those morning hours. Mike assured her that we would gather statistics on the rentals. Still, it appeared that the arrangement was effective, as it allowed groups to have exclusive access without mixing with the general public.

Dalton Hidalgo asked if we had worked with the local high school swim teams. Mike Moss responded that we work with Coach Trumpour at SHS each season to receive recommendations for lifeguards.

Claire concluded the presentation by announcing that the slides at SplashTown will be restored over the winter through a \$50,000 contract with Raindrop as part of the capital projects plan.

Tom Sage asked about the mechanics of the pool, specifically the filtration system, expressing his understanding of the complexities involved in aquatics. Claire assured him that the system is functioning well. Tom praised Claire for the presentation and her hard work.

Participation Exercise – Identify Parks System's Needs (Five-Year Master Plan)

The meeting began with a slideshow highlighting current trends in parks and recreation, including aquatics, shading, and outdoor fitness. Mike then presented the results from the 2019 Master Plan Survey along with ideas submitted by the Parks Advisory Board in 2019. The document included checkmarks beside items that have been accomplished, such as the Mountain Bike Trail, Pickleball Courts, improvements to Todd Lane Field 3, and kayak rentals.

Mike shared one goal he has to be included in the Master Plan - emphasizing the importance of closer collaboration with partners like Smyrna Rutherford County Schools.

He then invited the board to provide their suggestions. Below are the results of the participation exercise.

1. Mike Moss– Rutherford County School

- Smyrna Middle School Tennis / Pickleball
- Sport Fields
- Thurman Francis
- Smyrna Elementary School
- Todd Lane Baseball Complex
- Volunteer Park
- Tennis

2. Event Center Property (4 acres) – referring to making a plan for the land connected to the Event Center

Park Board (not in priority order)

1. Shade over bleachers
2. Scoreboard – protect equipment
3. Shade over walking trail/areas – hiking and safety
4. Covered Pickleball Courts
5. More Pickleball Courts
6. More programs for seniors
7. Greenway Expansion
8. More Neighborhood (Pocket) Parks
9. Golf Course growth opportunities
10. Park Land for the future
11. Multi-purpose Indoor Arena plus shelter (Enon Springs Property)
12. Address soccer growth
13. Turf conversions
14. Community Center
15. Maintenance Facilities – regional
16. Security Systems – Greenway
17. Lighting at trailheads/facilities
18. Greenway mile markers

After much discussion, Tom Sage expressed that he would like to hear Mike Moss’s suggested priorities in a future meeting.

Director’s Report:

Due to time, Mike asked the board to review the report in their spare time.

Communications:

Mark Hardy gave kudos to the Parks Department for the Top Gun Night Run.

Council Update:

Reports of Officers, Committees, or Staff – Round Table Discussion

Charles King reported that Washington Street to the roundabout will be paved on October 6th.

Tom Sage motioned to adjourn, and Mark Hardy seconded. The meeting ended at 6:52 pm.

SMYRNA PARKS AND RECREATION PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF August 19th, 2025

The monthly Smyrna Parks and Recreation Parks Advisory Board Meeting was held on August 19th, 2025, at the Smyrna Golf Course, Smyrna, Tennessee. Chairperson Christina Treglia called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm

PRESENT Fifteen people were present: Michael Potts; Dalton Hidalgo; Councilmember H.G. Cole; Chairperson Christina Treglia; Tom Sage; Nicole Green; Mark Hardy; Megan Dietsch; Molly Jennings, Vice-Chairperson; Mike Moss, Parks Director; Scott Merritt, Golf Director, Jimmy Stitt, Assistant Parks Director; Charles King, Town Engineer; Todd Spearman, Assistant Town Manager; and Christina Manus, staff

ABSENT Mayor Reed

SUMMARY

Citizens' Comments: None

Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Mark Hardy motioned to approve June's Parks Advisory Board minutes. Vice-Chairperson, Molly Jennings, seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Old Business:

Mike Moss welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed gratitude to Scott Merritt for hosting it at the Smyrna Golf Course and providing refreshments. He also introduced the Assistant Town Manager, Todd Spearman.

Project Update: Master Plan and other improvements

Mike noted that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is set to expire in 2025. To pursue grants like the LPRF Grant, a current plan is essential. He mentioned that he has received a quote from Kimley-Horn to engineer the new plan. Kimley-Horn recently completed both the Town's Mobility Plan and the 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Mike encouraged the board to begin brainstorming ideas for the new plan, which will now include the Smyrna Golf Course, following the merger of the departments. He expressed excitement about collaborating with the Parks Advisory Board on this project and welcomed Council Member Cole and Tom Sage, who both have experience with past plans.

The department has submitted a proposal to the council for approval regarding the design phase of the concession and restroom facilities at Lee Victory Recreation Park. This project aims to update the restrooms for ADA compliance, renovate the concession operations for the Smyrna Fastpitch League, and enhance the visual aspects of the existing building.

Cedar Stone Phase II is expected to go out for bids very soon. However, progress is currently on hold due to further studies concerning adjacent wetlands and pending approval from TDEC.

The department is also working on Rotary Soccer Park improvements for the stage and trophy presentation area, as well as a breezeway connecting the two concession buildings. Additionally, they will begin seeking proposals to redesign the field layouts to incorporate turf fields. This project is well-suited for grant funding, as the Town of Smyrna owns the land.

The water slides at SplashTown are set to receive a facelift once the season concludes and the council approves the quote.

Lastly, Sessions Paving will commence work at Sharp Springs Park to repave the interior roads, addressing necessary improvements. This project will involve over 800 tons of asphalt.

New Business:

Smyrna Elementary School Land Use Agreement

The annual renewal of the Smyrna Elementary School Land Use Agreement was recently presented to the council for approval. Councilmember H.G. Cole inquired about the possibility of establishing a long-term agreement with the school board to secure practice space for the future. An overview map of the property was provided for reference. Mike Moss spoke with Trey Lee from the Rutherford County School System regarding a potential long-term agreement. Mr. Lee indicated that the school system does not have any expansion plans for the next five years.

H.G. also asked about the barn on the property. Mike explained that they currently store straw, props, and backstops there. He further clarified which areas of the land might be unusable due to geothermal pipes or slopes, stating that there were no visible pipes but that some sloping exists in the back area. When H.G. asked whether that sloping area could be graded and made usable under a long-term agreement, Mike confirmed that it could be done, although they would need to balance the site. Some of the property is in the flood plan.

H.G. additionally inquired if discussions had taken place with the Stones River Football Club and the Fastpitch League about their needs and current use of Smyrna Elementary fields. Mike responded that the soccer league would be involved in the park's improvement designs, providing an ideal opportunity to assess their specific practice field needs. He also mentioned the possibility of a shared-use agreement with Smyrna Middle School's football fields for soccer.

Smyrna Golf Course Presentation

Scott Merritt, the Director of Golf, began by sharing some history about the Smyrna Golf Course. The golf course was initially built as a nine-hole course for Sewart Airbase between 1941 and 1942. It gained national attention in June 1943 when it hosted a USO exhibition match featuring Ed Dudley, Byron Nelson, Billy Conn, and Bing Crosby. After Sewart Airbase closed in the 1970s, the course became the Smyrna Country Club, with the clubhouse located where the 12th hole currently sits. In the 1980s, with the arrival of Sam Ridley Parkway, the holes changed direction, and the current clubhouse was constructed. The course now has a total of 30 greens, which include an 18-hole course, a 9-hole executive course, a putting green, a First Tee green, and a nursery green. There are 22 employees and 12 volunteers, consisting of 8 marshals and four ball mark repairers.

Tee times can be booked up to 6 days in advance through the online GolfNow software. The course is open seven days a week from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM during the peak season. Last year revenue exceeded \$2

million. The golf course is home to several local high school and middle school teams and hosts the popular First Tee Summer Program. It also serves three corporate leagues: Nissan, Schneider Electric, and Ingram. Additionally, the course hosted its first Drive, Chip, and Putt Qualifier since 2016. Annually, the golf course hosts 20 golf outings, including the Special Olympics Golf Tournament. Scott informed the board that the recently launched PGA HOPE program has already served seven veterans in its first season.

Mike expressed his gratitude to Scott for the information and informed the board that Scott has been with the Golf Course for over 18 years and excels in his role. He highlighted the recent United Way Tournament, which raised \$96,000. Scott mentioned that he organizes several tournaments each year, but his favorite program is the new initiative for veterans. He noted that one veteran drives all the way from Clarksville to participate, and Scott enjoys the time spent coaching these veterans.

Scott also shared details about recent improvements, such as painting the interior of the clubhouse, installing a water bottle filler, removing trees on the 18th hole, and adding a television to the patio area. Looking ahead, they plan to consider renovations for the restrooms and identify areas to turf. Mike discussed the partnership development with the Golf department, emphasizing that both departments share a maintenance focus, making it practical to share equipment and resources.

Tom Sage asked if the \$2 million was a revenue generator? Scott replied that it hasn't always been, but the past few years have been good. The money goes into the general fund. H.G. asked if footgolf received a lot of visitors. Scott replied that in the summertime, they do get around 150 rounds per month. H.G. also asked if we charge the local schools. Scott replied that they do not charge them green fees, but they do sell the punch cards and receive concession sales from them. Non-local schools are charged a \$5 green fee. The hope is that the kids will become lifelong golfers who return to the course.

Director's Report:

Mike Moss encourages everyone to read the Director's Report and view the pictures that were printed of the past two months of programs.

He shared with the board that the town's new Grant Coordinator, Denise Molina, was applying for a Block Grant that would match the town for Hilltop Rosenwald Park Improvements. The project would include a new playground, shelter upgrades, and concrete improvements. Todd Spearman, Assistant Town Manager, stated that the Block Grant sets aside \$400,000 each year for underserved populations based on census-driven information. The council moved forward with a public meeting as one of the requirements for the grant.

Communications:

Mike provided updates on upcoming events, including the Brave Run at Sharp Springs, the Top Gun Night Run at the Event Center, and the Depot Days and car show at the Depot District. He also requested volunteers to serve as judges for the Halloween in the Park costume contest, scheduled for October 25th. Mark Hardy and Chairperson Christina Treglia volunteered for this role.

Finally, Mike encouraged the board to review the Rutherford County Visitor's Guide that was distributed. He expressed excitement that the climbing wall at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center is featured on the cover and within the guide.

Council Update:

Councilmember H.G. Cole provided an overview of the latest Council Meeting. The first reading for the design of Lee Victory Recreation Park was approved by Thomas and Hutton. The town has designated Wiregrass as a secondary paving company due to the volume of available work. Additionally, the town will install a sidewalk connecting Pioneer Park to Old Nashville Highway. Plans are underway to approve land

along Percy Priest for commercial and industrial use, which will include a walking trail of up to 2 miles. H.G. also discussed the town's new solicitor ordinance.

Reports of Officers, Committees, or Staff – Round Table Discussion

None

The Park Advisory Board was invited to take a golf cart tour of the golf course upon the completion of the meeting.

Molly Jennings motioned to adjourn, and Michael Potts seconded. The meeting ended at 6:20 pm.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2nd, 2025

1. The Depot District Car Show and Depot Day event were well planned and successful.
2. Halloween in the Park preparation is underway, with 50+ vendors to date. We are looking for approximately 20 more.
3. The Rotary Soccer Park team photo area is 75% complete. The breezeway between the buildings is currently being designed.
4. Staff is overseeding the original five soccer fields with perennial ryegrass. Staff will spray for weeds on the annex fields this winter.
5. The Golf Course staff is aerifying and seeding the grass this month. Fans will be installed on the back patio, and the front 9 restroom improvements are scheduled for the coming months.
6. SplashTown slide improvements have been completed.
7. SOAC is hosting fall break activities, including Fright Nights and Members Only programs.
8. The town is evaluating proposals for the design improvements for the Rotary Soccer Park.
9. The Staff is working with Thomas and Hutton and Oakley Studios for design improvements to the Lee Victory Recreation Park Concession Building.
10. The Sharp Springs Greenway connection to the Jefferson Pike sidewalk is scheduled to be paved this month.
11. Cedar Stone Phase II Project is working through permitting to get to the bidding process.
12. Winter work includes:
 - Policy and Fee Review
 - Equipment and building maintenance
 - ADA compliance work in multiple restrooms
 - Batting cage installation for fastpitch and baseball leagues
 - Review and allocation of league's practice fields
 - Athletic Committee review of opportunities for Smyrna residents

Communications
October 2025



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| October 17 th | Cider at Cedar Field Fest at Cedar Stone Park |
| October 18 th | YMCA Lambert Dillard 5K/10K at Sharp Springs Natural Area |
| October 25 th | Halloween in the Park at Sharp Springs Natural Area |
| November 1 | Mountain Bike Mania at Sharp Springs Natural Area |
| November 7 | SRFC Tournament at Rotary Soccer Park |
| November 7 | Family Campfire & Stargazing at Sharp Springs Natural Area |
| November 11 | Veteran's Day Celebration at the Kuss Memorial |
| November 14 | Family Fun Night at SOAC |
| November 21 | Wreath Making Workshop at the Smyrna Train Depot |
| November 25 | Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Smyrna Train Depot |
| December 7 | Christmas Parade on Lowry Street |