



# TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

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110 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina,  
27306

September 18, 2025

The Mount Gilead Parks and Recreation Committee will meet Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Mount Gilead Library, 119 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina.

Present were Jennifer Haywood, Tara Clark, Melanie St. Germain, Taryn Gross, Bianca Haithcock, Vera Richardson, Barrett Brown and Allena Ingram

## CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Haywood called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

## ITEM I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Tara Clark** made a motion to adopt the agenda with a second from **Taryn Gross**. The motion carries unanimously.

## ITEM II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

### A. August 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

**Tara Clark** made a motion to adopt the minutes with a second with **Taryn Gross**. The motion carries unanimously.

## ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

**No Old Business**

## ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Fall Festival Updates

- **Jennifer Haywood** provided comprehensive updates on festival progress, reporting continuous vendor application.
- **Felica Chambers** will provide the bouncy houses.
- The children's area is situated with the bouncy houses and rock climbing wall arrangement.
- **Melanie St. Germain** voiced a concern on the Axe throwing vendor. They were requesting half-day participation, creating fairness concerns since all other vendors must remain for the full event duration. The members agreed to decline the half-day

arrangement to maintain vendor equity and Barrett Brown suggested we schedule them for next year.

- **Jennifer H.** mentioned the Touch-a-Truck featuring garbage trucks, tractors, and semi-trucks for educational purposes.
- **Melanie St. G.** Voiced a concern about phot and video release of people that are being taken photos of. **Commissioner V. Richardson** replied that festival photography is generally accepted unless specifically objected to by attendees.
- **Jennifer H.** mentioned she has talked to the Tams and Next Level of Charlotte and both were good to go. Also mentioned having one headliner band and smaller ones for next year.
- **Jennifer H.** confirmed a free Bigfoot costume arrangement with volunteer performer, requiring only \$30 for dry cleaning cost. Additional animal mascot rentals at \$100 per day was declined by members.
- It was brought to the members that Chrissy's Produce wanted to bring her petting zoo. **Jennifer H.** mentioned that Chrissy's Produce would solely be responsible for anything that she put in their kennels or fence area. **Commissioner V. Richardson** expressed strong concerns about insurance adequacy and animal welfare, leading to the committee to decline the petting zoo due to safety and liability risks.
- **Taryn G.** brought up that the local merchants suggested that the vendors be place back to back along the center yellow line rather than against the sidewalks to maintain storefront visibility. **Commissioner V. Richardson** advocated for scattered food trucks placement to accommodate elderly attendees.
- September 30, 2025 is the deadline for applications.
- **Manager Barrett Brown** emphasized implementing formal street closure permitting requiring 30-60 days advance notice.
- **Commissioner V. Richardson** suggested the roads by closed off at Montgomery Insurance and right before Mt Gilead Market formally known as Food King.
- Signs will be put up for event parking and leading the residents to it.
- Handicap parking designation will be near Town Hall. Golf cart shuttle service was proposed for handicap attendees and distant parking from the elderly.
- **Melanie St. G.** reported 25 vehicle contact with 9 confirmations. Committee debated resulted in limiting participation to 6 vehicles total due to space constraints.
- T-shirt design was discussed. Preference for historic water tower design over floral patterns.
- Floral design wasn't suitable for male attendees. Committee decided against including dates to avoid leftover inventory and preferred designs featuring the water tower.

B. Trunk or Treat

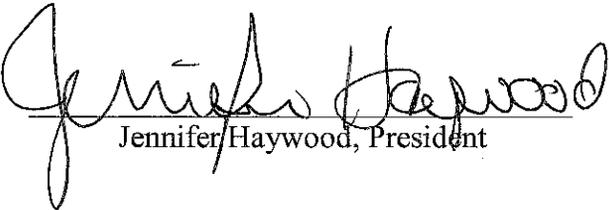
- **Jennifer H.** discussed the relocation of Trunk-or-Treat from the car wash to Main Street.
- **Commissioner V. Richardson** expressed concerns about perception that all events occur downtown, potentially excluding other town areas. **Jennifer H.** acknowledged community division while noting universal desire for town unity. Alternative locations including McRae's parking area was suggested for future consideration.

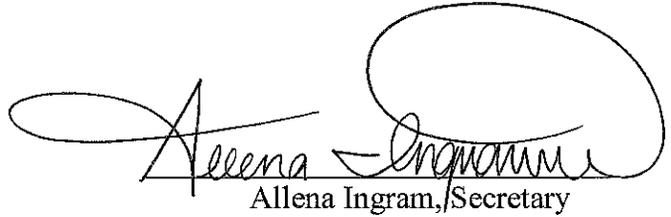
ITEM V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

- **Manager Barrett Brown** mentioned reporting a report for the board of commissioners at the next board meeting. Monthly board meetings occur first Tuesday of the month starting at 7 pm.

ITEM VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discussed **Jennifer Haywood** made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from **Tara Clark**. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
Jennifer Haywood, President

  
Allena Ingram, Secretary