



TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE Minutes

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

January 15, 2026

The Mount Gilead Parks and Recreation Committee met Thursday, January 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Mount Gilead Library, 119 West Allenton Street, Mount Gilead, North Carolina. Present were Jennifer Haywood, Taryn Gross, Melanie St. Germain, Allena Ingram and Town Manager Barrett Brown

Absent: Rick Moore, Bianca Haithcock, Tara Clark, and Commissioner Vera Richardson

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Haywood called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

ITEM I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Melanie St. Germain made a motion to adopt the agenda with a second from **Taryn Gross** Motion carries unanimously.

ITEM II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. September 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Melanie St. Germain made a motion to adopt the minutes from September 18, 2025 with a second from **Taryn Gross**.

B. December 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Melanie St Germain made a motion to adopt the minutes from December 16, 2025 with a second from **Taryn Gross**.

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

Baseball Field Policy

The members discussed the status of the baseball-related approval. It was confirmed that while the item had been discussed previously, it has not yet been fully approved.

ITEM IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Cleanup Date for Park – Boy Scout Hut

The members discussed establishing a community park cleanup day, potentially in coordination with the town-wide cleanup traditionally held in April.

Along with this discussion was a possible collaboration with the Gilmont Club. The schedule is aim prior to Spring.

The members discussed the condition of the **Boy Scout Hut**. After inspection by staff and the Town Manager, it was reported that:

- The roof is caving in
- Interior structural damage is extensive due to weather exposure
- The cost of restoration outweighs the benefit

Proposed Plan:

- Demolish the Boy Scout Hut
- Fire Department to conduct a **controlled burn** for training purposes
- Wahoo to remove debris following demolition

Concerns regarding asbestos or toxic materials were discussed; it was noted that the building appears to be entirely wood with no known hazardous materials.

Taryn G. requested advance notice before demolition to allow former Scout leaders to retrieve any personal items stored inside.

B. Girl Scout Hut

The members discussed repurposing funds originally considered for the Boy Scout Hut to instead:

- Renovate the Girl Scout Hut
- Use it as a rental or indoor community space during colder or rainy weather

Potential Improvements discussed:

- New roof (quotes to be obtained)
- Painting
- Floor cleaning or refinishing

C. Hiring Lifeguards

- Advertisement for lifeguard positions will be posted soon
- Returning lifeguards must reapply but will receive preference if eligible
- Lifeguards receive Red Cross training, CPR, First Aid, and endurance testing
- Training is conducted in-house by certified instructor

D. Bands for Fall Festival

- Concerns were raised regarding The Tams, cutting high cost and failure to perform the full contracted time in past years
- Consensus leaned toward not rebooking The Tams

- Next Level Band of Charlotte was viewed favorably and recommended as a headliner
- Additional bands under consideration: Shawn Dyke's Band and The Magnificents

E. Advertising Story Walk

Jennifer H. discussed promoting the Town's Story Walk, noting many residents may be unaware of it. Along with:

- Repairing damaged or knocked-over signage
- Will be maintained by the Town
- Locate or recreate a map of the Story Walk
- Promote via photos and social media once repairs are complete

The members emphasized the importance of literacy, outdoor activity, and family engagement.

ITEM V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

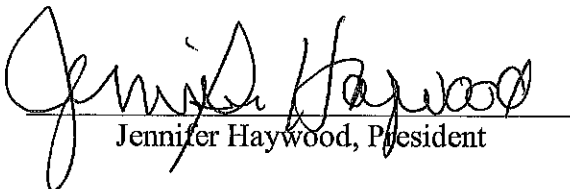
Melanie G. mentioned that Highland Community Center is launching a new partnership with Major League Soccer – MLS GO

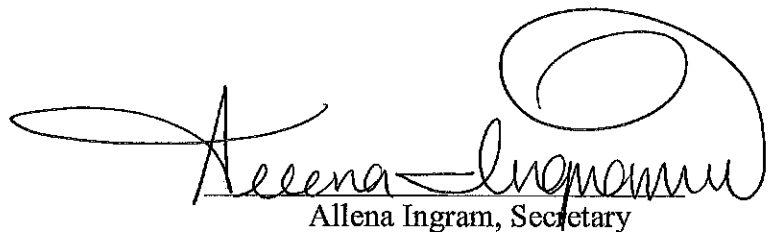
- Inclusive program for all children
- Cost: \$50 per child (includes uniform); scholarships available
- Summer League (June-July) to avoid conflict with neighboring programs
- Games at Highland fields; no Saturday conflicts anticipated
- Volunteers and coaches welcomed
- Each participating child receives a free ticket to a Charlotte FC Match

The program aims to expand youth recreation opportunities and increase community engagement.

ITEM VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be discussed **Jennifer Haywood** made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from **Taryn Gross**. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.


Jennifer Haywood, President


Allena Ingram, Secretary