



**OAK RIDGE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
NOVEMBER 20, 2025 - 6:30 P.M.  
(Held in person & electronically via the Zoom platform)**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present**

John Browning, Co-Chair  
Adrian Eckenrod, Co-Chair  
Phyllis Anders  
Kyle Anders  
Barbara Engel, Alternate (Not sitting)  
John Garrett, Alternate (Not sitting)  
Ty Lindsay  
Caroline Ruch  
Chelsea Young, Alternate (Sitting)

**Staff Present**

Ashley Royal, Deputy Town Clerk  
Brock Dunigan, Parks Superintendent

**Members Absent**

Mike Kimel  
Reese Bell, Teen Advisor

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Co-Chair John Browning called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*John Browning made a motion to amend the agenda by adding an update on the Tranquility Garden as New Business, Item C thus moving the consideration/approval of the selection of engineering and design service for Heritage Farm Park Phase 2 to Item D, and Kyle Anders seconded. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).*

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

*John Browning made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2025, regular meeting, and Adrian Eckenrod seconded. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).*

**4. STAFF REPORT**

- Park Superintendent Dunigan presented the financial report.
- Dunigan reported that the Park full-time employee Brenk Carickhoff's last day would be December 15, 2026, and that part-time employee Brad Boone's last day would be December 19, 2025. Dunigan stated that he would begin advertising for vacant positions after the holidays.
- Dunigan announced Oak Ridge Youth Association (ORYA) fall sports had ended.

- Dunigan reported that the Town and Bar Construction held a mediation to address the remaining issues at Heritage Farm Park with a Special Called Town Council meeting called to approve the mediation results.
- Dunigan reported that the parking lot at the Farmhouse Community Center was still under construction.
- Dunigan commented that Duke Energy subcontractors were expected to begin installation of streetlights around the Farmhouse to the parking lots soon.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Consideration/Approval of Placement of 9/11 Building Structure at Oak Ridge Parks (Patti Dmuchowski)**

Special Events Chair Patti Dmuchowski asked permission for a piece of steel from the South Town of the 2 World Trade Center in New York City to be installed at the flagpole at Oak Ridge Town Park. She said that it would be a great way to honor those lives lost on 9/11 at their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event during 2026.

*John Browning made a motion to approve the installation of the steel structure at the flagpole at Oak Ridge Town Park with coordination with Parks Superintendent Brock Dunigan, and Adrian Eckenrod seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously (7-0).*

**B. Consideration/Approval of Shared Radiance Performing Arts Co. to present Romeo & Juliet at the amphitheater (Sherri Raeford)**

Sherri Raeford from Shared Radiance Performing Art Company asked permission for Romeo & Juliet to be presented at the amphitheater on May 30, 2026, with a rain date of May 29, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. with set up beginning at 4 p.m. The public will be invited to attend with ticket prices offered between \$20-\$25 apiece with reduced cost for students and veterans. Raeford asked for the Board to consider a reduced amphitheater rental rate due to theater company being a non-profit with expenses to pay.

*Adrian Eckenrod made a motion to allow Shared Radiance Performing Arts Company to perform Romeo & Juliet at the amphitheater on May 30, 2026, with a rain date of May 29, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. with set up beginning at 4 p.m. with a reduced rental rate of \$150.00 with a required \$75 refundable security deposit and applicable staff hours at \$15.00 per hour, and it was seconded by Ty Lindsay. The motion was passed unanimously (7-0).*

**C. Consideration/Approval of added feature at the Tranquility Garden (Danny Yanusz)**

Oak Ridge Lions Club President Danny Yanusz said that the Tranquility Garden project had been approved by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board in May of 2025. He said that since that approval that a large lion statue had been purchased and installed at the Tranquility Garden. He stated that the statue was 80 inches tall and would have a bronze plaque with the founding members of the Oak Ridge Lions Club engraved on it. He asked that the Board approve the added feature.

*Kyle Anders made a motion for the bronze lion to be added to the Tranquility Garden at Heritage Farm Park, and it was seconded by Ty Lindsay. The motion passed unanimously. (7-0).*

**D. Consideration/Approval of the Selection of Engineering and Design Service for Phase 2 of Heritage Farm Park**

Dunigan reviewed the four Statement of Qualifications in response to the RFQ for design and engineering of Heritage Farm Park Phase 2. He stated the staff reviewed all four proposals with the following criteria:

1. Qualifications of principal staff;
2. Experience with similar projects;
3. Project approach;
4. Previous experience with the Town of Oak Ridge;
5. References

Staff ranked the four proposals based on these criteria in the following order:

1. Revington Reaves
2. Benesch
3. Stewart
4. Davis-Martin-Powell

Royal shared with the Board information regarding the references that were done on each firm. She stated that Revington Reaves had received superior reviews from the City of Greensboro and that Benesch had positive reviews from the City of Burlington. Caroline Ruch provided an excellent recommendation for Revington Reaves for their work on the Veterans Honor Green.

A lengthy conversation ensued among Board members regarding each proposal. The Board was given the option of inviting firms in to present their proposals in person.

*Adrian Eckenrod made a motion to select Revington Reaves as the firm to provide the engineering design for Heritage Farm Park Phase 2 with Benesch being the second choice. John Browning seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (7-0).*

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Update on Farmhouse Community Center Open House**

Ruch reported that the Farmhouse Community Center Open House that was held on Sunday, November 9, 2025, went extremely well.

**B. Update on Park Entrance Master Plan**

This information was shared during the staff report.

**C. Update on 2025 & 2026 Music in the Park Series**

Royal reported that four of the six bands had been booked for the 2026 series.

**D. Update on 2025-2026 Music on the Lawn at the Farmhouse Community Center**

Phyllis Anders reported that both bands had been booked to perform on May 31, 2026, and on June 28, 2026.

**7. OTHER DISCUSSIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS**

Next regular meeting:	December 18, 2025
Light Up the Night	December 6, 2025

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Ann Schneider said that she was excited that the Farmhouse Community Center Open House was successful and that she was thrilled that the Board selected Revington Reaves to provide the engineering design for Heritage Farm Park Phase 2. She also encouraged staff to market the Farmhouse Community Center once the parking lot issues are resolved.

Special Events Chair Patti Dmuchowski commended the Board for selecting Revington Reaves and shared her positive experience with them during the construction of the Veterans Honor Green.

Robert Jones inquired about the timing of how soon the pickleball courts would be built, and the Board responded that money had not been allocated for Heritage Farm Park's Phase 2 project yet.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

*Kyle Anders made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., and Adrian Eckenrod seconded. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).*

Respectfully submitted:

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Ashley Royal, CMC  
Deputy Town Clerk

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John Browning  
Co-Chair