



CITY OF
FAYETTEVILLE
ARKANSAS

100 W. Rock St. Suite 246
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Parks, Natural Resources and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Rock St. Meeting Room / Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
October 6, 2025
5:30 PM

Members

Chair Stephen Sheely (Exp: 12/25)
Sky Caldwell (Exp: 12/27)
Elizabeth Cunningham (Exp: 12/26)
Yarri Davis (Exp: 12/27)
Sarah Downing (Exp: 12/25)
Dell Hall (Exp: 12/26)
Hugh Kincaid (Exp: 12/25)
Doug Walsh (Exp: 12/27)
Melissa Zabecki (Exp: 12/26)

City Staff

Parks, Natural Resources and Cultural Affairs Director Alison Jumper
Recreation Superintendent Lee Farmer
Park Planning Superintendent Ted Jack
Senior Administration Elizabeth Milton

A meeting of the Fayetteville Parks, Natural Resources and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board was held on October 6, 2025 at 5:30 PM in Suite 246 of the City Hall Rock Street Annex Building, located at 100 W. Rock Street in Fayetteville, Arkansas..

Zoom Information

Webinar ID: 851 5896 8343

Registration Link: https://fayetteville-ar.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KjFqMpn-TqGtH2VYI-j0lg

Call to Order

Chair Steve Sheely called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Sheely, Downing, Caldwell, Cunningham, Davis, Hall, Kincaid, Walsh, Zabecki

Minutes

September PNRCAAB Minutes 2025

Parks, Natural Resources & Cultural Affairs September PNRCAAB Minutes 2025

Approval of September 2025 PNRCAAB Minutes. PNRCAAB Motion: 9-0-0 Made by Cunningham, Zabecki to second approval.

Request by the Board for more information to be included in the Meeting Minutes along with a link to the video archive.

Link to video archive for further reference: reflect-fayetteville-ar.cablecast.tv/internetchannel/show/9171?channel=1

Reports and Presentations

Fayetteville Youth Baseball Report: Michael Ferguson

Vice President Michael Ferguson to give Fayetteville Youth Baseball highlights and updates from the past year. FYB consists of 21 board members and their mission is to provide a recreational baseball league for the NWA community in fall and spring. The league boasted a record number of players in the spring league at 892, making it their largest season in history so far, and noted that the newer fall league continues to grow yearly. Ferguson made note that more ball fields and batting cages are currently needed to meet demand.

In 2025, FYB assisted financially or was responsible for:

White River capital improvements by FYB: \$56K spent redoing batting cages, replacing sewer line, bull pens, building fences, and safety features.

Mt. Kessler: \$20K was spent on a new HVAC system and was installed in K1 and Concession building, including the equipment and electrical rooms.
2026 FYB improvement goals/wishlist for Kessler: Turf replacement in heavily used areas. Grass areas behind bleachers need to be replaced by concrete or turf.
Improved trash system.

Active Transportation Advisory Committee: Doug Walsh

Walsh to relay September brought an uptick in accidents between cars and humans, typically seen when UA students return. Passed a recommendation upgrade that scooters in crosswalks be given the same protections as pedestrians and cyclists. Working on a plan to monitor trail usage on a quarterly basis for data purposes, regarding improvement.

Botanical Gardens Report: Elizabeth Cunningham

Cunningham to report the Botanical Gardens Twilight Wings Gala is upcoming. A garden designer is needed as current position will be retiring. Looking at bringing advisors to assist in vision and planning moving forward. Winter Glow is currently in planning.

Arts Council Report: Sarah Downing

Downing reported a donated dog sculpture outside Jammin' Java will be installed in November. The new YRCC mural is complete. Looking for a date for the opening of the City Hall art show.

Partnership Committee Report: Sarah Downing

HMR and Construction Report: Zach Foster

Staff to present construction updates. Demolition and deconstruction has begun at Walker Park. Underwood Park grading permit was issued and dirt will begin moving soon. Bryce Davis' dog park plaza was poured in September, and the Wetland pavilion will be completed soon. Pavilions and playground work are slated for Bryce Davis' near future. South Yard Park is 75% complete. Centennial Park trail head signs and kiosks were installed last month. YRCC new mural is complete. Buddy Hayes stream restoration is complete as work on the rest of the park continues. The Bird Blind at Lake Fayetteville is complete. The Memorial Bench Donation Program is live and active again, now digitized where applications are received online. HMR report delivered noting percentage down again from last month.

Park Land Dedication

1020 S School Multi-Family Development

Development Name: 1020 S School Multi-Family
 Engineer: DCI (C. Henrichs)
 Owner: Stevens Properties Fayetteville, LLC
 Location: NE Of 11Th St And S School Ave
 Parcel ID Number: 765-05436-000
 Park Quadrant: SE
 Development Size: 3.4 Ac
 Units: 130 Multi-Family
 Land Dedication Requirement: N/A
 Fee-In-Lieu Requirement: \$123,760
 Nearby Existing Parks: Walker Park, Razorback Greenway, South Yard Park, The Ramble, Willow Bend, YRCC, Buddy Hayes Park, Park Meadows, Greathouse Park, World Peace Wetland Prairie, Tsa-La-Gi Bike Park, Town Branch Trail Corridor
 Developer's Request: Fee-In-Lieu
 Staff Recommendation: Fee-In-Lieu
 Justification: Proximity To Existing Parks

1020 S. School Multi-Family Development in the Southeast quadrant is proposed by Tanglewood Branch Creek near Walker Park with a fees-in-lieu of land dedication recommended by staff. **PNRCAAB Recommendation** to accept fee-in-lieu: 9-0-0. Davis to motion, Kincaid to second.

New Business

Proposed Little Free Library at Red Oak Park: Zach Foster

Proposed new Little Free Library at Red Oak Park sponsored by Fayetteville Metro Kiwanis. Staff recommends approval with a request for maintenance to be kept up by Kiwanis.

PNRCAAB Recommendation 9-0-0. Kincaid to make the motion, Downing to second.

Park Impact Fee Update: Alison Jumper

Director Jumper relayed an update on the Park Impact Fee conversation from the July Meeting and feels like proposing more Park Impact Fees is both justifiable and worth considering. The item will be presented at the Nov. 18 City Council meeting. At the July PNRCAAB meeting, staff's fee proposal was based on 30% of the maximum justifiable fee. Staff now recommends a resolution of intent for fees to be based on 40% of the maximum justifiable fee.

Land Acquisition Update: Alison Jumper

Parks wants to show initial interest in local parcels for acquisition and proposed sending letters to landowners.

Park Land Dedication Funds Update: Alison Jumper

Park Impact Fee Update:

NW Quadrant — \$694,495.64
NE Quadrant — \$147,340.54
SQ Quadrant — \$1,994,592.53
SE Quadrant — \$16,623.42

Total: \$2,853,051.71

Proposed Bond Projects: Alison Jumper

2026 Bond Priorities discussed. Of the \$320,100,000 total proposed, if approved, Parks, Natural Resources and Cultural Affairs could receive \$60,000,000 bond dollars toward an Aquatic Recreation Center, and \$19,600,000 for Parks and Recreation. Staff and Board urged community members to show support.

Announcements

Upcoming Programs and Events

Weekend Starts Run Each Friday In The Lower Ramble Or Upper Ramble From 5 To 7 Pm, Through October 17.

- October 4 Make A Difference Day
- October 4 Right Tree, Right Location Session 1: Parks, Natural Resources And Cultural Affairs Office
- October 7 Right Tree, Right Location Session 2: Parks, Natural Resources And Cultural Affairs Office
- October 7 Archery Basics: Lake Fayetteville
- October 8 Intro To Fishing: Lake Fayetteville
- October 9-11 Phantasma In The Upper Ramble: Upper Ramble
- October 10 YRCC Teen Night: YRCC
- October 11 Celebration Of Trees: Spring Street Garage
- October 11 Square 2 Square: Upper Ramble
- October 14 Fall Coed Volleyball Start: YRCC
- October 18 Lake Sequoyah Clean-Up: Lake Sequoyah
- October 24 Spooky Movie In The Ramble: Upper Ramble
- October 25 Hiking With A Forrester: Kessler Regional Park
- October 25 YRCC Burls Kids Game: University Of Arkansas
- October 29 Beginner Kayaking: Lake Fayetteville

October 30

Intro To Disc Golf: Northshore Disc Golf

October 31

Trick Or Treat On The Trail: Lower Ramble

Next Meeting Date: November 3, 2025

Adjournment

Chair Sheely adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Elizabeth Milton