



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY Parks Advisory Board July 21, 2026, 6:00 PM Minutes

Chairman: Michael Smith

Council Members: Vice Chairman Matthew Waldron, Renee Cannon, Brandy King, Valerie VanOstenbridge

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Michael Smith, Matthew Waldron, Renee Cannon, Brandy King, Valerie VanOstenbridge

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Renee Cannon requested that we add Outdoor Nerf Party to the agenda.

Matt Waldon made a motion to approve the agenda with additions, Valerie VanOstenbridge seconded the motion, approved by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Valerie VanOstenbridge made a motion to approve June 23, 2026, minutes, Matt Waldon seconded the motion, approved by all.

PUBLIC FORM

Vicki Cannon with Cheatham County Soccer Association attended and provided us with a visual layout of the fields, comparing Spring and Fall layouts. She expressed her concern for the Fall season due to not being able to layout 2 fields (U11 and U13)

PARTNER REPORTS

Renee Cannon reported that CCSA will have Summer Camp next week (July 27th, 28th and 29th from 6pm to 8pm). She reported that they have 194 kids signed up for the Fall season and another 30-40 to expected to sign up once practice starts. They are working on laying out fields the best they can and season will start August 22nd going through October 24th.

Matt Waldron reported that football has started their season, so softball has turned over the concessions stand to them. The AC unit has gone out so softball and football are going to split the cost. The last one installed was in 2018-2019.

PARKS REPORTS

AC Clark reported that spring sports have ended, baseball ended last week. Football started last week.

Work on John's park is still ongoing, with all the rain it has slowed them down a little bit. He reported that they have tilled up the soccer field, they also rented a heavy roller to flatten the area back out. He reported once the grass goes in, the fields should be good.

Phase I of the trail extension has begun the bidding process. Phase II has now moved into the design phase.

The fallen bridge on the trail is still in the paperwork phase with the owner of the property, once they sign it they can start on the construction of the bridge area. A new one is not being put instead they will grade it out and make it a down hill/up hill area.

Michael Smith brought up the idea that we should set up an agreement with all sports that use the city parks so they know what is expected of them and what is expected of the city. He said that leagues need to know that the parks are for use for everyone in the city.

AC Clark reported that he has started looking into how other cities run their sports leagues. To get a better idea of how to proceed with leagues that use the city facilities.

Matt Waldron reported that our city is about 25 years behind for infrastructure compared to other cities. He expressed his concern that we need to as a board or as a city invest in parks to continue to keep and draw people into Ashland City. Valerie VanOstenbridge said we could look more into corporate sponsors to help with events so that the budgeted money can go more toward running the parks department.

Matt Waldron expressed interest in creating a Master Plan (5 & 10 year) for the town and parks. The city council needs to start the process of getting proposals and bidding them out so that we can see how much is needed and at what cost. He said once we have that master plan it will give us an advantage when we go to ask for sponsorship. Brandy King also brought up that these firms need to look at the increase in revenue of doing these projects.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Arts Festival Event (05/15/27) – Valerie VanOstenbridge has been in touch with the Art League; they have shuffled around some leadership. She provided a plan for the next 10 months as well as duties of the board. Cheryl Noe the new president of the Art League attended the meeting and introduced herself. She expressed her desire in the Arts League and the parks board working together on this festival.

AC Clark confirmed that a grant has been submitted in partnership with the Art League. He believes a decision should be made on Friday (8/24/26). He asked Cheryl Noe get in touch with her art world contacts, since this is our first time we don't have those contacts, to get a gauge the interest of the festival.

Cheryl Noe said that storytelling and culinary arts should be thrown into the festival as well. She said she would reach out to her artists to see if she can gauge the interest whether it is 20 or 40.

Parks Advisory Board Discussion – Michael Smith requested this be closed.

EAT to the bEAT in chEATham/Music in the Park (07/25/26) – Renee Cannon reported that 12 originally signed up for the event, there are 8 for this Saturday (This Turkey Here, PV Shaved Ice, Trying Our Best Homestead, Small Town Squeeze, Bearded Ginger Co., A Piece of the South, BeBe's Golden Squeeze and The Sunday House) AC Clark reported that he found a replacement for music the lineup will be, Dillon Vance, Day Dreamer, Living the Dream, Cheap Hill Drifters, and Miller Holler.

Touch A Truck (07/25/26) – Renee Cannon reported 12 vendors (E&E Towing, C.C. Sheriff, STR Towing, JP Truck Company, C.C. EMS, TN Trucking Foundation, Cotton's Specialized Hauling, Kona Ice, Travelin Toms Coffee, Tow Pro and Knight Trucking, Paw Paw's Towing LLC) have signed up (7 vendors in 2025).

NEW BUSINESS

Pig Out in the Park (08/08/2026) – AC Clark reported that 8 vendors have signed up. He has 4 music acts signed up (Dog Soldiers, Sharae Rowland, Andrea Guess and Music City Band).

Music City Triathlon (08/09/2026) – AC Clark reported there is a meeting tomorrow at 1:30. It will start around 7am end around 12pm. The boat ramp will have to be closed Friday and Saturday, opening back up around 12pm on Sunday.

Music on Main (10/03/2026) – Renee Cannon reported that the application is ready and will go live Aug 1. We had 160 entries in 2025. Matt Waldron reported that parking will be allowed at the jail area now as well as Oak Street will be able to be used for bringing vendors in and out. AC Clark reported that the bands are; The Paino Man, Gene Dunlap ft Janell Mosser & the Z Band and No Escape Band

Hall-O-Ween (Trunk or Treat) (10/30/2026 or 10/31/2026) – Renee Cannon reported that we need to pick a date. Valerie VanOstenbridge made a motion that we have the event on 10/31/26 from 3pm to 5pm, Matt Waldron seconded motion.

Renee Cannon reported that some market vendors want to have a market day the same date/time as the Truck or Treat, she will work on getting more details.

Mistletoe Trail (12/3/2026) – AC Clark reported that they met with Valerie Kemp and Melinda Ruffin yesterday. We need to order the trees by the end of August. They usually order 80 trees from a tree farm in McMinnville. They suggested we look around and get some local pricing. They will continue to work on the sponsorship like they have been in previous years and work with us this year through the process.

Christmas Parade (12/5/2026) – AC Clark reported that we need a theme for the parade. Renee Cannon reported we did songs in 2025 and in 2024 we did movies. 3 suggestions AC Clark received were; An Old-Fashioned Christmas, Winter Wonderland or Tender TN Christmas. Valerie VanOstenbridge made a motion to do An Old-Fashioned Christmas, seconded by Brandy King, approved by all.

OTHER

***Outdoor Nerf Party (09/12/2026)** – Renee Cannon reported that applications will go online on Aug 1st (2025 we had 116 sign up). The event will run from 5pm to 7pm.

***US LST 325 Land Ship Tank** – Renee Cannon made a motion to remove it from the agenda since the parks department won't have much to do since it's more of a Chamber event, Matt Waldron seconded the motion, approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT

Brandy King made a motion to adjourn at 7:20pm, Valerie VanOstenbridge seconded motion, approved by all.

Next meeting August 24th at City Hall.

Chairman Michael W. Smith

Recorded by Renee Cannon

Those with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the ADA Coordinator at 615-792-6455, M-F 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The town will make reasonable accommodations for those persons.