



# Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 5:30 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

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## 1. Call to Order

The Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission met in its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the Tom Hardin Room at City Hall.

## 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. McWilliams led the pledge of allegiance.

## 3. Roll Call

Those who were present: Luemma McWilliams, Chairperson; Jacqueline Grandberry, Representative from the City Commission; Larry Patton, Bedford Smith, Kathy Pepe, Loree Knowles (zoom), Members; Phillip Grooms, City Manager; Alyshia Busby, Events Coordinator; Staff and Public.

After the pledge of allegiance, Mr. Grooms performed roll call and there was a quorum for the meeting. Mrs. Grandberry arrived late to the meeting.

## 4. Approval/Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

### A. Regular Meeting - 7/10/2024

Next, Mrs. McWilliams asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the previous meeting, which would have been July 10, 2024.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Patton seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

## 5. Completion/review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

### A. Boys and Girls Club

Ms. Busby stated the Girls & Boys Club have started their second half of their trial period at the community center.

Ms. Busby and Mr. Smith discussed the participants at the Boys and Girls Club and the representatives to oversee the children.

Ms. Pepe asked if there was anything negative with the Boys & Girls Club utilizing the community center for the school children.

Ms. Busby stated they have taken over our storage where the tables and chairs are stored. She added that they had expected that.

### B. Gardenia Park

Ms. Busby reported that Gardenia Park had been vandalized recently. The person or persons flipped the tables underneath the pavilion and trashed the restrooms. Luckily nothing was broken, however, it was disturbing that some person or persons could be so destructive.

Mr. Grooms stated the city is applying for a safety grant that will help us in all our city parks. The police department has stepped up the patrol in the parks and is strictly enforcing no one in the parks after dark.

C. Back to School Bash

Ms. Busby and the Recreation Commission discussed the Back-to-School Bash event.

Ms. McWilliams asked if the plans were to give out school supplies at next year's event. If so, she would be able donate some.

Mr. Smith agreed with Mrs. McWilliams' suggestion at the last meeting. Let's use the funds for school supplies and not worry about back packs.

Mrs. McWilliams suggested that we focus on getting basic school supplies for the middle & high schoolers because there are already organizations that are providing elementary school children with their school supplies.

**6. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable**

Mr. Grooms reported the City has new agenda software that we are in the process of learning and will be using in the future. Today's meeting is being used as a training session. The new agenda format will be used for all city boards.

Mr. Grooms stated he does have a recommendation of a candidate to fill the vacant position on this Recreation Commission vacated by Mrs. Grooms. If this commission does approve then he would recommend this person to the Mayor for his appointment to this Recreation Commission. The person's name is Ms. Anna Arnold who is a math teacher at Mount Pleasant High School. She lives on Iris Drive and has four (4) children who attend school.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Mr. Grooms' recommendation of Ms. Anna Arnold to the Mayor for an appointment to the Recreation Commission. Ms. Pepe seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

**7. New Business**

**(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)**

A. August Event

Ms. Busby reported as of right now there are no events scheduled for August. There is a movie night planned for September.

B. Bathrooms at Arrow Mines Park

Mr. Grooms stated he has gotten our engineers to look at a new restroom facility at Arrow Mines Park. He wanted to get an engineer to design the restroom at Arrow Mines Park. In the past with our other new restrooms, we ended up having to do some change orders to the plans and he wanted to avoid that in the future.

C. Craft Event

Ms. Busby stated the next craft event is scheduled for September. This event normally draws in a lot of people including those from out of town.

D. Slash Pad Shutdown

Ms. Busby reported they will be closing of the Splash Pad is tentatively scheduled after the Labor Day weekend. However, if weather permits, we may consider allowing it to remain open providing it is still be used and the leaves do not become a problem.

Mr. Grooms stated that the City has really been watching our springs. We definitely need some rain. At some point, we may have to go into drought management to make people aware of the water situation.

Ms. Knowles stated she would like to see the splash pad open for the event scheduled on September 14th so the children can enjoy it.

Mr. Grooms stated provided we are not in drought crisis then we should be able to accommodate that.

E. September Event

Ms. Busby stated she was wanting to schedule a Movie Night in September.

Mr. Smith suggested we hold movie night in Gardenia Park. There are restrooms and a power source.

F. Haunted Trails

Ms. Busby stated one of our largest events is our annual Haunted Trail. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2024 with set up will begin at 2 pm. The event will start at 4 pm and end at 6 pm. She said we will have another chili cookoff planned for this year's event. Hopefully, we can get more entries this year.

**8. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)**

Mrs. McWilliams verified there were no citizens present.

**9. Board/Staff Comments/Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pepe seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.