

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Date: August 19, 2025, 6 p.m., Trousdale County Courthouse

Present: Bubba Gregory, Chris Gregory, Landon Gulley, Lesley Overman, Mark Presley, Linda Sue Bruce

Others Present: Public Works Director Cliff Sallee, Misty Lytle, Jerod Mitchell

Chairman Bubba Gregory called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the April 8, 2025 meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve by Overman, second by Gulley. Motion approved.

Cliff Sallee presented pool numbers from 2025 season with expenses, revenues. Total loss is \$24,338 but will go up with one power bill, one water bill and bonuses to lifeguards still to be counted. Pool averaged 45 people per day, 3,214 total visitors signed in. Busiest day was July 4 with 231 people. B.Gregory noted that rainy May and June hurt attendance numbers.

Pool in terrible shape, per Sallee, won't hold water. Hose had to be kept in pool most days because of leaks. Has been drained now for winterization. No security or staffing issues in 2025, all lifeguards stayed on entire season.

Discussion held on potential renovation to pool, as Sallee said it cannot operate in 2026 in current condition. Previous bids from January-February meetings were \$138,500 from Madison Pools (did not include kiddie pool), estimated \$450,000 if create a wade-in pool as previously discussed. Deck has several cracks as well, fence is deteriorating and needs replacing. Sallee believes there could be a leak in plumbing as well. Gulley asked about condition of kiddie pool; Sallee said tiles are falling off, some stones on edge are busted.

Sallee has asked state inspector about possibility of having county pool be motel-style with no lifeguards and posted accordingly. No response received yet; committee recommended consulting with county attorney.

People have expressed interest in keeping pool open later hours and later through year to multiple commissioners. C.Gregory noted from his experience, citizens will be upset if pool does not open in future. B.Gregory asked if pool parties increased in 2025; Sallee said yes but had no numbers available. Sallee also noted pool parties provide bigger portion of revenue, changing to later hours could hurt party availability. Gulley noted 70 days pool was open at average cost of \$365/day, said would not support renovation unless hours are lengthened. Renovating pool could be done with estimated 3-5 weeks turnaround time, per Sallee.

Motion by C.Gregory to have Sallee obtain updated quotes and report to committee to renovate pool as is, second by Presley. In discussion, Overman noted that money could be spent elsewhere; Presley said hard to make decision without getting quotes first. Sallee noted renovations would have to go through bid process. Gulley noted original bid did not include kiddie pool.

Motion failed on 3-3 tie (C.Gregory, Presley, Bruce yes; B.Gregory, Gulley, Overman no.

C.Gregory noted pool has always lost money but has been a service to community so Commission has accepted it. B.Gregory noted losses used to be \$5,000-8,000; \$25,000 harder to swallow. Sallee said updated pool might also need building addition on north side to accommodate proposed chemical testing system, estimated fixing everything could cost over \$200,000.

Motion by Overman to not open pool in 2026 and look at replacing pool with something else entirely, second by Gulley. In discussion, commissioners asked what might replace pool if it is no longer available. Amy Thomas has resubmitted BlueCross BlueShield grant for parks similar to 2024 filing; should hear something by January. Sallee suggested mud volleyball and expanded exercise equipment. Gulley noted that 2019 park master plan has many of these features on it. Presley asked about fundraising options for park.

Motion failed on 3-3 tie (B.Gregory, Gulley, Overman yes; C.Gregory, Presley, Bruce no).

Motion by Overman to defer any pool decisions until September committee meeting, second by C.Gregory. Motion approved.

Discussion turned to park. Sallee said Trey Park bins, amphitheater have been repainted, new lighting ordered for amphitheater and camera added there. Walking track is failing, has been paved three times previously. Estimate to tear up and redo track is \$46,350 but is two months old. Sallee noted track is very heavily used. Gulley asked if bridge was in that estimate; it is not. Gulley recommended getting that done in fall.

Motion by Gulley to recommend to Budget Committee using money from ARPA to repair track and bridge, second by C.Gregory. Motion approved.

B.Gregory asked about previously discussed grand opening for Trey Park playground, nothing yet per Sallee. Will be spring before more plants added around park. Bad soil required Public Works to reseed and fertilize area around playground. Visitors coming from other counties to use playground, per Sallee.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 18 at 6 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Gulley, second by C.Gregory. Motion approved.

Minutes presented by Chris Gregory.