SPENCER NORTH CAROLINA *Rowan's Original Gateway.*	**AGENDA** **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board** **Regular Meeting** **10:30 a.m.**	**DATE** August 6, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bob Pendergrass**
2. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 6, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes**
4. **PRAB BY-LAWS REPORT**
5. **GREAT TRAILS STATE GRANT**
6. **FY26 RECREATION FUND BUDGET**
7. **RACE TO THE RIVER**
8. **OTHER BUSINESS**
    - Updates on Spencer Town Park
    - Spencer Town Park Dedication Ceremony
    - Updates on Summer Youth Activity Program
    - Updates on Trail Signage
    - Updates on 8th Street Ballpark
    - Updates on Library Maintenance
    - Outdoor Economy Conference and Scholarships
9. **NEXT MEETING DATE – September 3, 2025, 10:30 a.m. in Town Hall**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES
Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2025

The Town of Spencer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) met in regular session in the Hilda B. Palmer Board Room at the Spencer Town Hall on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 10:35 a.m.

Present were: Chair Bob Pendergrass
Vice Chair Dionne Dixon
Secretary Vivian Koontz
Member Jack Moore

Also present were: Alderwoman Erin Moody, Special Projects Planner Joe Morris, and Planning & Zoning Administrator Steve Blount.

Members Jim Gobbel and Phip Sparger were absent.

Chair Pendergrass called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

Vice Chair Dixon moved to adopt the minutes for the May 7, 2025, meeting as presented. Secretary Koontz seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 3 – 0. Member Moore arrived after this vote had taken place.

AGENDA UPDATES

Special Projects Planner Morris will include on future agendas an option for the Board to add to the meeting agenda.

GRANTS CREEK GREENWAY PRESENTATION

Planning & Zoning Administrator Blount gave a presentation on the Grants Creek Greenway, Preserve, and Park and answered questions from the Board. Topics discussed included tax incentives for landowners who may choose to donate their land to the project.

PRAB BY-LAWS ADOPTION REPORT

Special Projects Planner Morris emailed a copy of the PRAB By-Laws to the Board during the meeting. He noted that the By-Laws had also been submitted to and adopted by the Town of Spencer Board of Aldermen.

TRAIL SIGNAGE STUDY

Special Projects Planner Morris provided some examples and pricing to the Board and will provide more information at the next scheduled meeting. Chair Pendergrass submitted his review of the Stanback Forest Trails, including the quantity and location of signs and pylons that he feels would be needed.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Vice Chair Dixon requested to create a plan for the 8th Street Ballpark and the Summer Activity Program regarding overall planning and funding to help inform the Board's planning and progress.

DRAFT

She will proceed with this. Special Projects Planner Morris advised that he is available for support as needed.

- Special Projects Planner Morris updated the Board on the Town Park Capital Campaign, which will be reinvigorated upon the opening of the park. An additional $50,000 will be sought to improve parking and add landscaping between the Town Hall entrance and the park pavilion.
- Special Projects Planner Morris advised that the Town Park Opening Ceremony will be held on June 28, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
- Special Projects Planner Morris noted that the Town is exploring several candidates for the Active Living Coordinator position, but that no hire has been made at this time.
- Member Moore suggested that the Board develop a list, to include improving bathroom facilities at 8th Street Ballpark. The Board discussed the need for a memorandum of understanding between the ballpark and the league. Secretary Koontz will provide an example of such an MOU for Board reference.
- Special Projects Planner Morris advised that he has a meeting scheduled for this coming Monday to explore the Summer Activity Program further.
- Alderwoman Moody encouraged the Board to attend upcoming town meetings to inform their understanding better as the annual budget is finalized. Special Projects Planner Morris will send out an email with meeting information at the request of Vice Chair Dixon.
- Special Projects Planner Morris advised that information regarding the Great Trails State Grant will be known by the end of the month.
- Chair Pendergrass noted the diverse group in PRAB, including a member of the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department. He commended Secretary Koontz on her excellent work related to the recent Cheerwine Festival.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The Board discussed typical schedules surrounding holidays. Vice Chair Dixon was excused from the meeting.

Action

Member Moore moved to hold the next regular meeting in August. Secretary Koontz seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 3 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Koontz seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 3 – 0. The meeting stood adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Approved by:	Attest:
Bob Pendergrass, Chair	Anna Kanode Ward, Town Clerk

DRAFT

704-633-2231
spencernc.gov

SPENCER
NORTH CAROLINA
Rowan's Original Gateway.

Post Office Box 45
Spencer, NC 28159-0045

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

BY-LAWS

(A) Town of Spencer Ordinance - 25-03.01, as adopted by Town of Spencer Board of Aldermen establishes a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board ("Board") under the authority of G.S. Ch. 160D-306. {§ 160D-306. Other advisory boards. A local government may by ordinance establish additional advisory boards as deemed appropriate. The ordinance establishing such boards shall specify the composition and duties of such boards. (2019-111, s. 2.4; 2020-3, s. 4.33(a); 2020-25, s. 51(a), (b), (d).}

(B) The Board shall consist of 6 member members appointed by the Board of Aldermen. All members shall reside within the planning and zoning jurisdiction of Spencer. A majority of the members of the board shall have demonstrated special interest, experience, or education in parks, recreation, special events, planning, land stewardship, natural history or related fields. The Board shall serve without compensation. The Board may appoint advisory bodies and committees as appropriate.

(C) Members of the Board shall serve terms of four years. Terms shall be staggered. A member may be reappointed for a second consecutive term, but after two consecutive terms a member shall be ineligible for reappointment until one calendar year has elapsed from the date of the termination of his or her second term.

Section 1, MEETINGS.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM at Spencer Town Hall, and more often as it shall, determine and require. All meetings of the Board shall be open to the public and reasonable notice of the time and place thereof shall be given to the public. All meetings shall conform to the North Carolina Open Meetings Law, G.S. § 143-33B.

Section 2, ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS.

Any member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board who misses more than three consecutive regular meetings or more than half the regular meetings in a calendar year shall lose his or her status as a member of the Commission and shall be replaced or reappointed by the Board of Aldermen. Absence due to sickness, death or other emergencies of like nature shall be recognized as approved absences and shall not affect the member's status on the Board except that in the event of a long illness or other such cause for prolonged absence, the member shall be replaced.

Section 3, RULES OF PROCEDURE / BY-LAWS.
Prior to any official action the Board shall adopt and publish rules of procedure (By-Laws) governing its meetings and the conduct of official business and bylaws governing the appointment of members, terms of office/ the election of officers and related matters.

Section 4, MEETING MINUTES.
The Board shall keep permanent minutes of all its meetings. The minutes shall record attendance of its members, its resolutions, findings, recommendations, and actions.

Section 5, BOARD ADVISORY CAPACITY.
The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is authorized and empowered to advise the Board of Aldermen on matters related to Parks and Recreation and, in coordination with town administration, undertake actions reasonably necessary to the discharge and conduct of its duties and responsibilities as outlined in this chapter and G.S. Ch. 160D – 306, including but not limited to the following:

(A) Coordinate and recommend strategies and policies to effectively forward the purpose and intent of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies Strategic Plan, and other recreation-based plans and directives initiated by the Town Administration and /or the Board of Aldermen;

(B) Recommend to the Board of Aldermen an annual recreation workplan to include opportunities and priorities for improvements to recreational facilities, to explore strategies for coordination with community groups for events and activities and identify prospects for the continuous advancement of a recreation-based economy

(C) Review and recommend proposals for the addition or alteration of recreation properties to advance recreational programming, improve access to recreational facilities and to serve the public interest by way of enhanced environmental health and community wellness through physical activities and the availability of managed outdoor recreation space;

(D) Conduct educational program with respect to parks, recreation, and community wellness, within its jurisdiction;

(E) Cooperate with the state, Federal and local government, in pursuance of the purposes of this ordinance; to offer or request technical assistance, funding through grants or direct appropriation, guidance or advice concerning matters under its purview or of mutual interest. The Board of Aldermen, or the Board, when authorized by the Board of Aldermen, may contract with the State or the United States, or any agency of either, or with any other organization provided the terms are not inconsistent with state or Federal law;

An official website of the State of North Carolina How you know

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

Governor Stein Announces Nearly $11 Million for Great Trails State Program Projects in the Piedmont

RALEIGH, NC

Today, Governor Josh Stein announced that the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources has awarded nearly $11 million to trail development and restoration projects in the Piedmont. The General Assembly authorized these funds as part of the Great Trails State Program.

“The Piedmont is known for its cities and world-class universities, but from Pilot Mountain to the Haw River, it’s also home to some of our state’s most amazing wildlife and natural wonders,” **said Governor Stein.** “This funding will spur local tourism and encourage more people to explore North Carolina’s incredible beauty.”

“Trails bring outstanding benefits to both urban and rural communities, boosting tourism and economic development,” **said Pamela B. Cashwell, secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.** “This generous funding, made possible by the N.C. General Assembly, will help transform the state trails system in the Great Trails State.”

The General Assembly established the Great Trails State Program in 2023, representing a historic investment of $25 million in North Carolina trails. The program offers matching grants to North Carolina local governments, public authorities, NC Regional Councils of Government, and nonprofit organizations.

These awards include projects at more than 70 local trails throughout the state, helping to solidify North Carolina as the Great Trails State. In the Piedmont, 37 local trail projects will benefit from

$10,923,111 in Great Trails State Program funding, including improvements to the Haw River State Trail and maintenance on the American Tobacco Trail. Governor Stein previously announced more than $13 million in funding to create and restore trails in western (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgovernor.nc.gov%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2F2025%2F07%2F17%2Fgovernor-stein-announces-more-11-million-great-trails-state-program-projects-western-north-carolina&data=05%7C02%7Clogan.saito%40nc.gov%7C56602a8c6f124d863f9608ddd04124ca%7C7a7681dcb9d0449a85c3ec and eastern (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgovernor.nc.gov%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2F2025%2F07%2F23%2Fgovernor-stein-announces-more-2-million-great-trails-state-program-projects-eastern-north-carolina&data=05%7C02%7Clogan.saito%40nc.gov%7C56602a8c6f124d863f9608ddd04124ca%7C7a7681dcb9d0449a85c3ec North Carolina.

"The 125 member organizations of the Great Trails State Coalition thank the North Carolina General Assembly for creating and funding the Great Trails State Program," **said Palmer McIntyre, director of the N.C. Great Trails State Coalition.** "This visionary investment in all types of trails across the state will deliver transformative economic, health, and quality-of-life benefits for communities of all sizes. The Coalition will continue to work alongside N.C. State Parks to support this program."

Local communities applied for grants to fund new trail development or to extend existing trails. This includes paved trails or greenways, natural surface trails, biking trails, equestrian trails, and any other type of trail the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources recognizes. Projects could include planning and feasibility studies, design and engineering, acquisition of land for trail development, trail construction, and maintenance of existing trails. Applicants were required to provide matching funds, based on their county tier designation. The N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation received 89 applications requesting $28 million, and 79 projects were selected. More than $44.5 million was provided in matching funds for a total trails investment exceeding $69.3 million.

Piedmont North Carolina grant recipients and amounts:

- **Alamance County:** Alamance County, $150,000 for HRST - Riverwide Enhancements
- **Alamance County:** Alamance County, $190,000 for Shallow Ford Expansion and Enhancements
- **Cabarrus County:** City of Concord, $500,000 for Concord McEachern Greenway Extension
- **Cabarrus County:** City of Kannapolis, $145,000 for Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway Phase 2
- **Chatham County:** Chatham County, $251,294 for Haw River State Trail Pegg Tract Improvements
- **Chatham County:** Chatham County, $75,000 for Deep River State Trail Feasibility Study for Chatham County
- **Davidson County:** City of Thomasville, $100,000 for Memorial Park Drive Greenway Expansion Design & Engineering
- **Durham County:** City of Durham, $500,000 for American Tobacco Trail Maintenance
- **Durham County:** Durham County, $500,000 for Durham-to-Roxboro Rail Trail Corridor Acquisition
- **Durham and Wake County:** Triangle Land Conservancy, $137,092 for Old Creedmoor Trail System
- **Forsyth County:** Piedmont Triad Regional Council, $500,000 for Piedmont Greenway: Triad Park/Reedy Fork Segment - Phases 1 and 2
- **Franklin County:** Town of Franklinton, $500,000 for Franklinton Nature Preserve
- **Franklin County:** Town of Louisburg, $100,000 for Joyner Park Trail Project
- **Granville County:** Town of Butner, $500,000 for East Lyon Station Greenway Extension
- **Guilford County:** Town of Summerfield, $500,000 for Bandera Farms Park Trails: Piedmont Greenway + Equestrian Trails
- **Harnett County:** Harnett County, $230,538 for South River Road Greenway - Phase 1
- **Hoke County:** City of Raeford, $175,480 for City Pond Trails and Park Design and Engineering
- **Johnston County:** Town of Selma, $500,000 for Selma MST Nature Preserve Trail Phase I
- **Johnston County:** Johnston County, $225,000 for Neuse River Trail - Talton Property
- **Orange County:** Town of Chapel Hill, $399,000 for Construction of Tanyard Branch Trail Neighborhood Connector

- **Orange County:** Orange County, $101,178 for Seven Mile Creek Natural Area Mountains-to-Sea Trail Expansion
- **Randolph County:** City of Asheboro, $134,000 for North Asheboro Greenway Design and Engineering
- **Randolph County:** Randolph County, $175,000 for DRST Harlan Creek Bridge Design/Engineering
- **Randolph County:** Randolph County, $172,000 for Randleman Dam to Randleman Blueway/Paddleway
- **Randolph County:** City of Archdale, $143,250 for Hope Valley Road Trail Extension
- **Rockingham County:** Town of Mayodan, $251,185 for Farris Memorial Park Trail
- **Rockingham County:** Rockingham County Tourism Development Authority, $298,872 for Hogan's Creek Trail
- **Rowan County:** Town of Spencer, $460,000 for Stanback Educational Forest - Rocky Branch Loop Trail
- **Union County:** Village of Marvin, $491,925 for Marvin Loop Greenway Completion Project
- **Union County:** Town of Waxhaw, $250,000 for Twelve Mile Creek Greenway - Prescot Connector
- **Wake County:** Town of Holly Springs, $300,000 for Middle Creek to Camp Branch Greenway
- **Wake County:** City of Raleigh, $350,000 for Forest Ridge Park Mountain Bike Trail Extension Project
- **Wake County:** City of Raleigh, $400,000 for Marsh Creek Trail Corridor Planning & Feasibility Study
- **Wake County:** Town of Apex, $200,000 for Design and Engineering for Reedy Branch Greenway
- **Wake County:** Town of Wendell, $500,000 for Buffalo Creek Greenway Phase I
- **Wake County:** Town of Morrisville, $417,297 for Sawmill Creek Greenway
- **Warren County:** Warren County, $100,000 for Buck Spring Trail Accessibility Improvements

Related Topics:

- Environment (/press-release-terms/environment)

CONTACT

govpress@nc.gov (mailto:govpress@nc.gov)