



AGENDA
Spencer Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
10:30 a.m.

DATE
January 7, 2026

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Regular meetings focus on action items, departmental reports, and other business. This meeting is open to the public and is held in the Hilda B. Palmer Board Room at Town Hall, located at 460 South Salisbury Avenue. Please find meeting agendas, minutes, and other information at spencernc.gov/town-government-and-services/appointed-boards-and-commissions/parks-recreation-advisory-board.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bob Pendergrass**
- 2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 5, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 4. REVIEW AND FINALIZE – Draft Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 2025 – 2026 Report & Workplan; Special Projects Planner Joe Morris**
- 5. UPDATES ON PROJECTS – Special Projects Planner Joe Morris**
- 6. DETERMINE NEXT MEETING DATE**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES
Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
November 5, 2025

The Town of Spencer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session to conduct a regular meeting in the conference room at the Spencer Town Hall on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 10:47 a.m.

Present were: Chair Bob Pendergrass
Secretary Vivian Koontz
Member Jim Gobbel
Member Jack Moore

Also present were: Town Clerk Anna Kanode Ward and Special Projects Planner Joe Morris.

Vice Chair Dionne Dixon and Member Phip Sparger were absent.

Chair Pendergrass called the meeting to order and declared a quorum.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Action

Member Gobbel moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Member Moore seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 – 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 1, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Action

Member Moore moved to approve the October 1, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Secretary Koontz seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 – 0.

REVIEW – Draft Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 2025-26 Report & Work Plan

Special Projects Planner Morris presented the draft Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 2025 – 2026 Report & Work Plan to the chair and board members and answered their questions. Items discussed included: Great Trail State grant agreement; Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant for the Stanback Forest Center; Connecting Communities to State Parks grant for the Grants Creek Blue Way project, as well as updates on that project.

The board will finalize the work plan in January and submit it to the Spencer Board of Aldermen in February, 2026, for their consideration during the annual planning session.

DETERMINE NEXT MEETING DATE

Special Projects Planner Morris explained the tradition in Spencer of giving commissions and advisory boards a break in the months of July and December due to Independence Day and Christmas, respectively. This is reflected in the listed meeting schedules.

Action

Member Gobbel moved to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the

Hilda B. Palmer Board Room, per the regular schedule. Secretary Koontz seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Moore moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Gobbel seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 – 0. The meeting stood adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Approved by:

Attest:

Bob Pendergrass, Chair

Anna Kanode Ward, Town Clerk

Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

2025 – 2026

REPORT & WORK PLAN

2025 FORMATION

- BOA adopted an ordinance creating the Spencer Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- 6 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members were appointed
- BOA adopted bylaws and rules of Procedure
- Schedule of meeting dates were established (1st Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM)

2025 ACTIVITIES

- PRAB reviewed and endorsed the Stanback Forest Center Master Plan
- Applied for and received the PARTF grant for the Stanback Forest Center
- Spencer Town Park construction was completed and dedicated
- PRAB co-chair, Dionne Dixon, coordinated the “Race to the River” 5K and festival
- Staff and PRAB chair Bob Pendergrass attended Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies Conference (CORE) in Cherokee, NC
- Staff and PRAB member Jim Gobbel attended a regional CORE marketing workshop in Troy, NC

2026 WORK PLAN

- Request funding in the FY26-27 Town of Spencer Budget to hire a full-time Active Living Coordinator to implement recreation programming and projects
- Pursue grant and funding opportunities, including sponsorships and donations to implement the Spencer Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan to include facilities and recreation programs
- Pursue grant and funding opportunities, including sponsorships and donation, to implement the Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies plan
- Review and oversee PARTF grant for Stanback Forest Center project
- Review and oversee Great Trails State Grant trail development project for Stanback Forest
- Review and oversee the Connecting Communities to State Parks grant for the Grants Creek Blueway project

- Review and recommend policies for maintenance and use of the 8th Street Ball Park
- Coordinate with town staff and local organizations to program activities for Spencer Town Park
- Coordinate with local organizations, including the NC Transportation Museum, Spencer Partnership, Rowan County Tourism Development Authority, Rowan County Parks & Recreation, Salisbury Parks and Recreation, Catawba College, Rowan Salisbury Schools, and others, to implement recreational programs and facility improvements
- Coordinate with state and regional organizations, including NC Parks, NC Commerce, Carolina Thread Trail, Piedmont Legacy Trail, Davidson County Parks and Recreation, Yadkin Riverkeeper, and others, to implement recreational programs and facility improvements