

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 28, 2025

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON
NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held October 28, 2025 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Patrick Halfhill at 6:01 p.m.

Roll call was taken with six board members present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President - Patrick Halfhill; Vice-President - Zac Wilkins; Secretary - Kyle Uptegrove; Sherri Branson-Hurt; Greg Broadbent; Cindy Spellman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brandon Block, Mark Bullimore, Terri Irons

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: absent

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON: Doug Baker

VISITORS: none

STAFF PRESENT: Nate Williams – Director; Drake Pollard – Assistant Director - Recreation/Programs; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Spaces; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant; Alexis Blankenship - Recreation Coordinator

Zac Wilkins made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Kyle Uptegrove made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2025 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Cindy Spellman seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the Financial Reports dated October 22, 2025. Questions were asked and answered.

Kyle Uptegrove made the motion to accept the Financial Reports including the 2025 Balance Sheet dated 10/22/2025 Accounting Period 12/2025, page 1; Detail Budget Report dated 10/22/2025 for Accounting Period 12/2025, pages 1 - 4; Revenue Report dated 10/22/2025 for Accounting Period 12/2025, pages 1 - 2; Nate Williams' 2025 Working Budget through September 2025; and Nate Williams' 2026 Working Budget as presented.

Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 6 – 0. A roll call vote was taken:
Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

STAFF REPORTS

Alexis Blankenship announced for Brennan Kimball that volunteers would be appreciated for the set up, during and tear down of the Fall Fest decorations this Saturday, November 1.

Alexis Blankenship announced that she secured Joel Goldberg, Emmy Award winning sports broadcaster, speaker and author to speak at the Region 1 MPRA Lunch and Learn on November 18, 2025 at The View Community Center in Grandview, MO.

Fall youth sports completed their season.

Youth basketball registration deadline is November 15, 2025.

MLSGO! is being considered for the youth soccer program in the spring.

FEAT is training 20 to 30 athletes.

The Community Center welcomed 265 middle schoolers from Richmond, MO for an incentive day!

COMMITTEE REPORTS - none

OLD BUSINESS

Zac Wilkins announced that the theme for the Piccadilly, scheduled for April 18, 2026, is "Your Prom - Your Era". Presale is January 9, 2026.

Volunteering as servers - Kyle Uptegrove is wearing orange and Drake Pollard will wear blue!

The five butterfly benches for Boundless Backyard have been delivered! They are in storage until time for installation. Thank you to the Parks Foundation for four benches and the Chase Schutte Family for one!!!

NEW BUSINESS

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department was awarded one of six Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants in Missouri. Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a \$500,000 matching grant to be used for the all abilities playground area at Boundless BackYard!

The Parks and Recreation Department was also awarded \$350,000 from Capital Improvements. The Parks Foundation has/will contribute \$100,000 and the Parks and Recreation Department will fund the remaining \$50,000 for the all abilities playground area at Boundless BackYard. These monies will be used to match the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant of \$500,000.

Nate Williams has had meetings with the Parks Committee, Community Advocates, and Robbie Farabee about what their insights are and what features would need to be included in an all abilities playground.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is almost done. Nate Williams will have it reviewed by the Grant Administrator for suggestions and to confirm that it is written to be compliant with the LWCF grant guidelines. After approval, an RFP will then be sent to playground companies.

RFP's to be sent out in November with bids returned and reviewed by the end of the year.

The project has to be completed within two years of the award date, October 1, 2027.

Thanks for the shoutout from Harper's Playground on Facebook and LinkedIn on being awarded the LWCF Grant!

OPEN DISCUSSION

Alexis Blankenship had an article "Building Community, One Event at a Time" published in the Fall issue of the Missouri Parks and Recreation magazine!! The article highlighted Parks and Rec month and the ability of a small town to do big things if

everyone worked together to accomplish it - and she had awesome local sponsors!

Kyle Upegrove asked Doug Baker, ESSD Activities Director, what could improve the working relationship between the ES Parks and Recreation Department and the School District? Doug Baker replied that he is still getting his feet wet and will review the relationship. Sherri Branson-Hurt would like to see the relationship between the ESSD athletes and ES Parks and Recreation programs/participants stronger.

Zac Wilkins made the motion to adjourn the October 28, 2025 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Kyle Uptegrove seconded the motion, passed 6 - 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – 6 – Sherri Branson-Hurt, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Kyle Uptegrove, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The October 28, 2025 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Sherri Branson-Hurt announced that she would bring food to the November meeting!