

City of Lamar Park Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Present: Alan Ray, Becky Blackford, Sami Peine. Donna Arnold, Amy Ryder, Becca Chesnut, Mayor Mike Hull, Parks & Recreation Director Heidi Johnson, guests including alderman Curt Roland

Absent: Ryan Lock, Marlee Mathia, Jamie Hammons

Next meeting: March 2, 2026

Meeting called to order by Alan Ray at 5:31 p.m.

1. Agenda reviewed. Sami moves to approve agenda. Becky seconds. All approve.
2. Minutes from January were reviewed. Sami moved to approve. Donna seconded. All approve.

3. Public Good and Welfare – none

Debbie Little discussed the meeting with the hospital about the MAHA grant program. She talked about the Park Board sharing with the hospital about all the things we are already doing to promote well-care in the area. Will meet again later with another county to discuss how we can work together when those groups are formed.

4. Parks & Rec Director Report

- The big yellow slide in the playground has been removed, as well as the metal slide by Shelter 4. Plan for replacement will be discussed during the Playground Committee's report.
- Basketball games have gone well. Unfortunately we had one of our home weekends cancelled. We are making up 70 percent of those games this week. Its been a difficult puzzle, but we are getting done what we can. We have a big home weekend this weekend against New Heights with games starting at 8 a.m. Saturday and the last game getting done around 8 p.m. if we can stay on time. February 14 we are hosting the 5th grade girls tournament here. There will be 8 teams in the tournament.
- We are getting ready to start summer ball sign ups.
- Guys are working on restoring picnic tables and other indoor projects.
- We cleaned off Thiebaud sidewalks after the snow.
- Thanks to the street department for helping remove snow from the streets in the park and to Judd Davis for clearing Thiebaud Parking lot

5. Reports for Committees

- a. Flowers shrubs and landscaping – No report.
- b. Playground equipment/buildings – Can't replace the slide in the playground, due to applying for the LWCF Grant. The committee looked at making improvements to two other areas of the park. They looked at two different slides for the areas by Shelter 4 and by Fields 7 & 8. Becca moves to approve the purchase of a slide for by Shelter 4. Donna seconds. All approve.
- c. i. Amy moves to apply for the SB40 grant. Donna seconds. All approve.
- d. ii. Becky makes a motion to apply for the Missouri scrap tire grant. Amy seconds. All approve
- e. iii. Becca makes a motion to start improving a playground by fields 7 & 8. Sami seconds. All approve.
- f. Trees/grounds – No report.
- g. Streets/Signs/Parking – Met to discuss street names. Steven Kaderly is working on an ordinance. Jim Buzzard is working on things that need addresses.
- h. Events Committee – Time to discuss Picnic in the Park truck recruiting. .

6. Old Business

- a. Discussion of what priorities are for budget. Discussed pros and cons of projects including fully enclosing the enclosed shelter, rebuilding bathrooms/concessions at fields 3 & 4, adding RV hookups at the park & lake. Mayor Hull said upgrades to the RV hookups could be taken out of electric and/or water. Other smaller items include refinishing the stage, new locks at Thiebaud, aeration at Wheeler Pond. Will make decision on these after getting some pricing in the March meeting.
- b. Mayor Hull discussed the potential of the lake trail. He eventually would like to see the trail go around the whole lake. Missouri has a Recreational Trails Grant program

7. New Business

- a. Becca talked about bike trails and if there was a way to connect the park to the lake through some trails and roads.

Adjourned at 6:37 p.m.-