



Recreation and Parks Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2026, 12:00pm

Alamance Parks Admin Office 3916 R Dean Coleman Dr. Burlington, NC 27215

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Chair Ms. Lisa Wolff, Vice-Chair Mr. Peter Dahl, Commissioner Ed Priola, Dr. Charles Parker, Mr. David Woody, Ms. Kelly Ronnow, Mr. Mike Dunning, Ms. Elizabeth Read, Dr. Harold Kernodle, Mr. Lee Isley, Dr. Janet MacFall

ALAMANCE PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Jamie Merchel – Director, Chase Parrish – Grants & Communications Coordinator, Michael Scott – Parks Superintendent

1) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Call to Order and Establish Quorum
 - Meeting called to order at 12:00, Quorum established
- b) Review and approval of the April 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve by Peter Dahl, seconded by Janet MacFall, Motion passed

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Evan Hoffer, an intern for Alamance County Manager's office, introduced himself as he sits in on this meeting to get familiar with the purpose and process of the board meeting.

3) REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

- a) No new updates from Chair Lisa Wolff

4) REPORT OF STAFF

- a) Directors Update
 - ALCOVETS Balloon Festival was a success this year. Balloon launches happened for all windows except for 1. Over the course of the 3 days, there were about 96,000 park visitors (including vendors, staff etc.) ALCOVETS made improvements to the park in the form of electrical additions/upgrades in the value of about \$20,000.
 - Budget presentation for 26-27 was presented at the most recent county commissioner's meeting. It is available to watch online.
 - Jamie gave an overview of upcoming events and programs
 - A meeting was held recently with a contact that may be interested in an equestrian partnership for the Cedarock Equestrian Center. Hopefully this conversation continues, updates will be shared as they become available.
 - ½ mile of hiking trail has been added in Saxapahaw at the landfill. It is not ready for public access despite some visitors already using it.

5) OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

- a) No old business/updates

6) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Nate Halubka, Mc Gill Associates – Master Plan Exercise
 - Nate introduced himself to the board and provided background information on his career. Nate provided information on how the comprehensive master plan process works and what stage of the process we are in.
 - Nate instructed the group on an activity known as a SWAT analysis. This activity

gathers information from the group such as strengths of Alamance Parks or other parks and recreation departments throughout Alamance County, weaknesses within Alamance Parks or other parks and recreation departments throughout Alamance County, parks and recreation opportunities for the future in Alamance County, and potential threats for Alamance Parks.

- Feedback will be consolidated and summarized so that director Jamie Merchel can see the results to share with the group. Nate will continue to be in touch with updates on public input and the rest of the process as it moves along.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Upcoming Programs and Events

- May 16th-17th Camp n Clean – cancelled due to extremely low water levels
- May 30th BEJ Renovation Completion Celebration 9:00am – 12:00pm (10:30am ceremony)
- June 11th Alamance Outdoors Exotic Creatures Expedition – Registration FULL
- Summer Camps Registration Live Now
 - June 15th – 19th Outdoor Adventure (CRP)
 - July 6th – 9th Volleyball (AO or Eli Whitney)
 - July 13th – 17th COED Sports Camp (PG)
 - July 20th – 24th Chopped Cooking Camp (PG)

b) Upcoming Public Input Sessions – Master Plan

- May 28th Elon Farmers Market 3pm – 6pm
- May 30th Saturdays in Sax 5pm – 8pm

8) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm

Next Meeting Tuesday June 16th 6pm – Alamance Parks Admin Office