

Apalachicola Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Attendees:

Members (5/7)

Torben Madson, presiding
Faye Gibson
Donna Ingle
Mark Milliken
Elinor Mount-Simmons
Lynn Wilder

Guests

Despina George, City Commission
Leslie Glaze, City Grants Coordinator
Val Webb
Avery Glaze
Emily Glaze
Alexandria Aitken, Tree Committee

I. Call to order

Torben Madson called to order the regular meeting of the Apalachicola Parks and Recreation committee at 5:33 PM on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at the Apalachicola City meeting annex building on 6th Street.

II. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes from the January 15, 2026, meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Mark Milliken, seconded by Elinor Mount-Simmons, and passed unanimously.

III. Business Matters

- A. Val Webb presented information on the condition of the 6th Street parks surrounding Holy Family and asked what plans there are to make improvements
 1. Tennis courts need repair. They could be converted to pickleball.
 2. There are broken swings
 3. Trash remains in the area where there had been the day care center.

Due to the lack of a parks and recreation budget, committee suggestions included the Adopt-A-Park program where private citizens take responsibility for the work.
- B. There was discussion about the need to revitalize the park plans and prioritize repairs in anticipation of future funding opportunities.
- C. The Adopt-A-Park program is to be promoted at the 2026 Earth Day.
- D. The committee looked through proposed signage designs and selected a dimensional wood look sign that would have the name of the park, the city logo with a changeable place for the park's adoptee.
- E. Creating recreational opportunities was discussed and Leslie Glaze volunteered to coordinate events. Committee members are to send her suggestions of events. Additional suggestions for recreation included:

1. Game night such as checkers and chess
2. Shuffle board
3. Movie nights at the to-be-developed Commerce Park

Mark Milliken suggested that rules be posted to keep the activities family-friendly and to set up the guidelines for alcohol consumption and clean-up. Elinor Mount Simmons made a motion that the committee approve the City moving forward with developing a program for recreation and Mark seconded. The motion passed.

IV. Announcements

Earth Day will be celebrated April 22 from 10 to 2 to Riverfront Park. It's a great opportunity to promote the Adopt-a-Park program.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM