

Parks and Athletics Council
Farragut Community Center
Tuesday, August 12, 2025
6:00 PM

Members present: Brian, Joe, Dian, Ayden, Debbie, Bill, Jerry. New members: Jenni Craddick, Bettina Ruffalo, Uday Sujithkumar (new student rep) Drew Burnette (Board Rep)

Staff present: Ron Oestreich, Blake Travis, Rachel Malone

Member absent: Ashley Lynch

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by chair Derek Wright.
2. Several new members were introduced and welcomed to the Council: Bettina Ruffalo, Jenni Craddick, and Uday Sujithkumar (student rep)
3. The minutes of June 17 were approved as written.

4. Rachel apprised the council on the new policy of being able to count hours of volunteer time now when attending committee meetings and working on committee functions and the hours will be counted going back to January 1, 2025. There is a new tracking system of points and manual input. She reminded us that Fun with Farragut's Fleet is Saturday, August 23 at MBLP. The staff is working now on plans for the annual Freaky Friday event at MBLP in October.

Blake explained that the Pickleball Court construction is about three weeks behind due to some unforeseen problems with trenching for burying part of the system. He also let us know there would be a compactable surface area for entering the dog parks and the restrooms. We received an LPRF grant for part of it. But they are trying to cut some costs on the park area. There has also been difficulty with growing grass on the soccer field there due to heat, drought and no true watering system. Drew suggested a water well be constructed at MBLP using zone watering times but it would be a very high cost undertaking.

Campbell Station Inn is being drywalled, painted and the dumbwaiter has been installed. It should be ready in October.

The Beach Party is on 8/23 with music, food trucks and activities at Ralph McGill Plaza.

Party in the Park was a great success with good turnout, good food, good music.

- 5a. Ron reviewed the results of the Intercept Survey and reviewed especially the categories with the "very important" votes. The Community Survey results were very similar. There was possible confusion over the term "Accessible Athletic Field" so it is difficult to know what voters thought the terminology might mean. There will also be focus groups to discuss the ideas and options for development of our new 70 acre parcel
- b. We will elect Board officers at the next meeting.

c. We reviewed our goals for FY26. Ron said the Master Plan was being updated and we will look at coordination of our goals with that plan.

6. The Parks and Athletics Council Meeting Schedule was reviewed. No meetings in July, December or March. 2026 upcoming events were discussed including ArtFest September 14, Freaky Friday October 24, Light the Park November 24, Celebrate the Season December 4. Blake suggested the Parks and Athletics Council host a special event and let Farragut know how much we are involved and play a significant role in our Town activities and programming. Fireworks were suggested but concerns over liability and fire hazards were voiced.

7. No communication from the public

There will be dinner for us at the January meeting.

8. Drew moved to adjourn and Joe seconded. Adjourned at 6:59

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Pinchok, Secretary