



City of Atlantic Beach

## Agenda

### Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee (ARCC) Meeting

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

City Hall, Commission Chamber

800 Seminole Road, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Page(s)

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2.A. Approve minutes of the April 14, 2026 Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee meeting. 3 - 7

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#### 3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4.A. 2026-27 Budget & Programming Discussion  
4.B. Centennial Celebration Planning

#### 5. ONGOING BUSINESS

- 5.A. Tennis Instructor Policy Recommendations  
5.B. Grant Touchpoint & Highlights

#### 6. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 6.A. New Farmer's Market Operator

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Any person wishing to speak to the Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee on any matter at this meeting should submit a Comment Card located at the entrance to Commission Chamber prior to the start of the meeting.

This meeting will be live-streamed and videotaped. The video recording will be posted within four business days on the City's website. To access live or recorded videos, visit [www.coab.us/live](http://www.coab.us/live).

In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26 of the Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this

meeting should contact City Clerk Donna Bartle at (904) 247-5809 or Deputy City Clerk Ladayija Nichols at (904) 247-5821 or at City Hall, 800 Seminole Road, Atlantic Beach, Florida not less than three (3) business days prior to the date of this meeting.



**MINUTES**  
**Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee (ARCC)**  
**Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2026 - 6:00 PM**  
**City Hall, Commission Chamber**

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**Present:** Hillary Hickam, Member  
Curtis Winter, Member  
Ingrid McCawley, Member  
Josué Cruz, Member  
Desmond Demps-Brooks, Member  
Kaylene Maddox, Member  
Sondra Goldschmidt, Member

**Absent:** Lisa Goodrich,  
Joseph Schwarz

**Also Present:** Jordan Leslie, Recreation Manager

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Curtis Winter called the Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie conducted roll call with the following results:

Present: Curtis Winter, Kaylene Maddox, Desmond Demps Brooks, Josué Cruz, Ingrid McCawley, Sondra Goldschmidt, Hillary Hickam

Absent: Joseph Schwarz (stepping down from committee)

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Approve minutes of the March 10, 2026 Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee meeting.**

Approve minutes of the March 10, 2026 Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee meeting

Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 Arts, Recreation, and Culture Committee meeting. Motion was made by Hillary Hickam and Seconded by Sondra Goldschmidt. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No visitors were present for public comments.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. ARCC Member Update**

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Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie provided an update on committee membership. He reported that all committee members present at the meeting were accounted for, with Joseph Schwarz stepping down from his position. Lisa Goodrich had already stepped down effective March 31st. This leaves 7 of the 9 positions filled on the committee.

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie explained that they would need to conduct a board member review committee meeting to fill the vacancies. He had sent an email requesting that committee members share opportunities within their networks, as there were not enough applications to fill the open positions. Once sufficient applications are received, they will be sent to the board member review committee, which includes Chair Josue Cruz, for the interview and selection process.

One gentleman had attended the previous board member review committee meeting, but Chair Josue Cruz was unable to attend, so they decided to delay the interview until the next meeting to ensure proper representation.

**B. 2026-27 Priority Setting**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie presented the commission's parks and programming priorities from a recent workshop where commissioners indicated their preferences by circling items. The top commission priorities included enhancing Donner Park, with several items receiving multiple votes.

From the committee's preliminary discussions, Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie reported that signage and community garden were consistently mentioned as important priorities. Beach volleyball courts and a community pool were also mentioned by committee members.

Sondra Goldschmidt proposed adding monthly social events for Atlantic Beach residents aged 21 and older, featuring local food and beverage establishments to provide networking opportunities for residents. She described these as similar to pop-up shop events.

Hillary Hickam reiterated her continued interest in a community pool. Curtis Winter suggested rehabilitating the racquetball courts, noting they were currently unusable due to foundation issues and suggesting they could be converted to three-wall racquetball courts to make them more accessible and deter inappropriate activities.

Ingrid McCawley expressed strong support for a community garden and suggested incorporating fruit tree education, similar to programs in Durham that teach residents about growing fruit trees as part of the urban canopy.

Chair Josue Cruz suggested using QR codes at strategic locations like stop signs to provide residents with information about city activities, though the committee discussed potential safety concerns with this approach.

The discussion evolved into broader marketing and awareness needs, with committee

members recognizing that while the city has social media channels, residents need better ways to discover and follow them. The committee discussed the need for a focused marketing awareness campaign.

After extensive discussion, the committee developed a prioritized list:

- Programming at the community garden (already happening, but needs educational programming)
- Signage and marketing awareness campaign for city events
- Beach volleyball court setup
- Monthly social programming for adults
- Racquetball court rehabilitation
- Senior activities programming at Marsh Oaks
- Community pool (stretch goal)

Motion by Ingrid McCawley that ARCC recommends the priority list in order of importance: community garden engagement classes, signage and marketing awareness campaign, beach volleyball courts, monthly social events for 21+ residents, racquetball court rehab, senior activities programming, and community pool as stretch goal. Seconded by Kaylene Maddox. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee agreed to develop more detailed descriptions of each priority, with Chair Josue Cruz committing to create a document for committee input by April 23rd to prepare for presentation to the commission on April 27th. Sondra Goldschmidt volunteered to develop details for the monthly social events priority.

### **C. Awards Banquet**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie announced that all committee members are invited to a volunteer appreciation banquet on May 7th at 6:00 PM at Adele Grange. The event will include food and social activities to thank volunteers and committee members, though it will not include formal awards presentations. Invitations will be sent from the City Manager's office.

## **5. ONGOING BUSINESS**

### **A. Film Series**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie reported that the next film series event is scheduled for May 28th. The Environmental Stewardship Committee requested to switch the title to "The Biggest Little Farm," and the license has been obtained. Sondra Goldschmidt is coordinating the November film screening.

### **B. Marsh Oaks Update**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie provided a construction update, reporting that Marsh Oaks Community Center should be completed by July. The parking lot will take longer due to additional renovations, so the interior will be finished several months before the parking lot.

The committee will proceed with their July 11th centennial celebration event, though they will wait for full completion including the garden and parking lot before holding an official grand opening, likely in the fall. Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie offered site visits for interested committee members.

**C. Grant Touchpoint & Highlights**

Chair Josue Cruz introduced this as a new ongoing agenda item for committee liaisons to report on their assigned grantees. He reported positive updates from Beaches Fine Arts Series, which has successfully used ARCC funds for educational programming including a 2026 program celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, with programming planned for Atlantic Beach Elementary School. The grantee has included the City of Atlantic Beach logo on promotional materials.

Chair Josue Cruz also reported on Yoga in the Park, which has averaged about 50 participants per session and has only missed two Sunday sessions due to weather - one in 2025 and one in 2026. The funds were used to purchase wireless headset equipment.

Ingrid McCawley visited Beaches Museum and Possibilities Plus. At Beaches Museum, she reviewed the Atlantic Beach historical panels, describing them as beautiful, creative, and well-researched, covering the city's history including information about the first teacher. At Possibilities Plus, she observed the space being used by the disabled community and was impressed by the participants' gratitude for having access to the facility, including Connor's Garden for plant activities.

Sondra Goldschmidt noted upcoming visits to the canvas paint workshop and planned to report back on the comedy event scheduled for late May.

**6. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. Arts in the Park 4/18**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie reported that Arts in the Park is scheduled for this weekend with around 50 artists signed up and three judges confirmed: Sondra Goldschmidt, Ingrid McCawley, and Claudia, former chair Goodrich's colleague. The event runs from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Johansen Park with music provided by North Florida Folk Network.

**B. Jack Russell Park Tennis Court Resurfacing**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie announced the tennis court resurfacing project, emphasizing improved communication based on lessons learned from the playground equipment project. The resurfacing is anticipated to start May 15th, beginning with the basketball court, which is in poor condition, followed by all six tennis courts simultaneously. The courts will be offline for approximately one month, though they hope to reopen sooner.

A comprehensive communication plan includes emails to tennis players and instructors, and social media campaigns to provide adequate notice and over-

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communicate the timeline.

**C. City Tennis Professional**

Recreation Manager Jordan Leslie announced the selection of Bill McConnell as the city's tennis professional through the RFQ process. McConnell previously ran the successful summer camp program.

Upcoming programming includes a tennis social on May 2nd before resurfacing begins, followed by mid-June events including a round robin social, doubles 101 clinic, live ball social, and intro to tennis clinic through August. The youth summer camp will run for three weeks in mid-July at \$25 per week, while all adult programming will be free.

The committee discussed additional agenda items, including the success of sewing classes that used bright pink door-to-door flyers for promotion, and concerns about programming timing that accommodates working residents. Desmond Brooks noted that many programs occur during daytime hours when working people cannot attend, suggesting the need for more evening and weekend programming options.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

With no additional agenda items, Chair Josue Cruz adjourned the meeting.

Attest:

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Jordan Leslie, Recreation Manager

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Josué Cruz, Chair

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