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CITY OF LAKE ALFRED

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AGENDA

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD PUBLIC WORKS TRAINING FACILITY

Monday, May 11, 2026

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: CHAIRPERSON SHEILAN RUNNELS

INVOCATION: CHAIRPERSON SHEILAN RUNNELS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: CHAIRPERSON SHEILAN RUNNELS

ROLL CALL: PARKS AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ANAELI QUINONES

ANNOUNCEMENTS: DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS: ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: 2/9/26

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Citizens Academy Updates
- 2) Summer Camp Updates
- 3) Central Park Fitness Court Update
- 4) Landscaping Plans

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS: (PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO 5 MINUTES.)

ADJOURN

AGENDA
LAKE ALFRED PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
May 11, 2026

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
CITY HALL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Runnels
Invocation: Vice Chair Widener
Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Runnels

Roll Call: Those in attendance were Chair Sheilan Runnels (6:06pm), Vice Chair Don Widener (6:02pm), Board Member Diane Pereira and new Alternate Board Member Mario Aguirre Jr.

Also in attendance were Parks Director Emily Deal, Administrative Assistant Anaeli Quinones, and Event Coordinator Jessica McGuire.

Meeting began at 6:08pm.

Parks Director Deal introduced new alternate board member Mario Aguirre Jr., and he spoke a little bit about himself.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

Board Member Pereira made a motion to approve the minutes for September 8, 2025; seconded by **Vice Chair Widener** and motion was approved.

Chair Runnels moved on to the next item on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Light Up Lake Alfred Recap

Parks Director Deal went over the Christmas parade event that took place. She said there were new floats, along with a commission float. It is a very well attended parade, without knowing an exact number of people that show up. She explained where the parade starts, at Central Park, and ends at Gardner Park with the tree lighting along with food truck vendors, Santa Claus visits, and different activities led by the Library staff. She spoke about letters to Santa as well. More food trucks were added this year because of the amount of people and not enough food trucks last year. A dj was hired, and had a bigger stage, and looking forward to 2026, which will be on December 12, 2026. It should be a lot of fun.

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She asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Parks Director Deal moved on to the next item on the agenda.

2) 2025 Project Overview

Parks Director Deal talked about the different projects that took place during 2025: dock at Lions Park was removed due to unsafe foundation; the new monument at Gardner Park; landscaping project at Mackay where the hedge that is right behind the house was removed due to it being dead, and new landscaping was added. The back of the library was also another project, with the secret garden area which now is a Florida friendly certified garden. The Lake Alfred entrance signs were also part of the projects that department worked on. At Central Park, one of the field goals was fixed and repainted so the football league was able to use it. The Master Plan was finished which includes the new playground at Central Park, landscaping, brickwork and it was the biggest project of 2025.

She asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Parks Director Deal moved on to the next item on the agenda.

3) 2026 Project Plans

Parks Director Deal spoke about the foundation for the Gardner House and the work that is being done there to maintain the historic aspects of it; then the electrical work will be worked on. Also trying to come up with good solutions for the Mackay trail along the road because there are no actual lights. The City was awarded a grant for America 250 and it will be an event on July 3rd to celebrate along with a boulder that was received with the grant. The Lake Haines boat ramp was redone as to accommodate ADA. The dock at Mackay will get replaced this year; and the sidewalk that goes to that dock as well. The landscaping at the old bank building is something that the parks department has been assisting with as well.

Vice Chair Widener asked what the bank building will be used for.

Parks Director Deal explained that it will be for utility billing, using the drive thru to be able to make payments; the finance department, I/T, and community development will also go to that building.

She asked if there were any questions.

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There were none.

Parks Director Deal moved on to the next item on the agenda.

4) Central Park Wall Updates

Parks Director Deal went over the photos that were attached to the agenda for this business item. She explained that the façade was falling off the wall, and therefore, it had to be removed from the wall because it was a safety hazard. It will not be replaced with stone but with stucco in a brick pattern that will match the brick on the playground. That is something that is being worked on currently. A mural will also be added.

Vice Chair Widener asked about a gutter system with grates on top of the wall to run the water down instead of over the wall.

Parks Director Deal said that it will be an awning over the wall, so it doesn't straight onto the wall. She also said that the railroad ties on the sides will be replaced as well.

Vice Chair Widener asked if the mural would go around the stone part and be built around it or up to the artist.

Parks Director Deal answered that it would be a little bit of both. It depends on the options that the artists have.

Parks Director Deal moved on to the next item on the agenda.

5) 2026 Event Schedule

Parks Director Deal listed all the upcoming events that were on the agenda. Starting with black history event at the Albertus Maulsby Community Center, the jet ski shows at Lions Park, the TedX event at Mackay, the heritage festival, paws in the park at Twin Lakes Park, citizens academy which is new, library events, community BBQs, summer camp, America 250, Thursdays at Central Park, back to school bash, car show, fire fest, Halloween, veterans day, and Christmas parade.

She asked if there were any questions.

Chair Runnels asked where the community BBQs were going to take place.

Parks Director Deal said that we're working with the police department on that since parking would need to be considered for those people driving to it.

She asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

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Parks Director Deal moved on to the next item on the agenda.

6) Staffing Updates

Parks Director Deal talked about losing one of the part-time workers due to having two jobs and it being too much but gaining a full-time position and now being fully staffed.

She asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Vice Chair Widener made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Board Member Pereira**. Motion was approved by unanimous voice call vote.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anaeli Quinones
Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant

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New Business No. 1 Citizens Academy Updates

ISSUE: Review our new program.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A

ANALYSIS: Review and update progress on our newest program addition, Citizens Academy. Registration, feedback, and schedule.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No vote needed, just a recap of the events.

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New Business No. 2 **Summer Camp Updates**

ISSUE: Review summer camp plans.

ATTACHMENT(S): n/a

ANALYSIS: Sharing the plans for upcoming summer camp including field trips, staff, and schedules.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No vote needed, just a recap of projects.

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New Business No. 3 Central Park Fitness Court Update

ISSUE: The Board will get an update from Parks Director Emily Deal on the project approved by the commission in the last meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S): n/a

ANALYSIS: Parks Director Deal will speak about the planned projects for the Central Park.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No vote needed, just a review of projects planned.

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New Business No. 4 Landscaping Plans

ISSUE: The Board will get an update from Parks Director Emily Deal on the city landscaping plans.

ATTACHMENT(S): n/a

ANALYSIS: Parks Director will talk about the post freeze replanting status.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No vote needed, just a review of the construction.