



Unified Government Clerk's Office

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NOTICE OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY PARK BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the Wyandotte County Park Board of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, will be conducted in a hybrid format on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

We invite you to view the meeting in person in the 5th-floor conference room, Suite 515, 701 N. 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas, or via a Zoom webinar.

Topic: Meeting of the Wyandotte County Park Board regarding staff updates on various projects.

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Please click this URL to join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84233658085>

Webinar ID: 842 3365 8085

Description: Wyandotte County Park Board Meeting

Or One tap mobile:

+16699009128,87188270404#, *420445# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,87188270404#, *420445# US (Tacoma)

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free)

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UNIFIED GOVERNMENT WYCO/KCK
REGULAR BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Wednesday, December 10th, 2025

City Hall, 701 N. 7th Street, Room 515, KCK 66101

And Via Zoom at 6:00pm

Agenda

Have the proper meeting notices been given? _____

Call to Order, _____ P.M.

Roll Call:

_____ Mario Escobar/Mayor Garner
*Chairman

_____ Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook/District #6

_____ Kevin Mitchell/District #1
*First Vice Chairman

_____ Nathan Brungardt/District #7

_____ Jim Schneweise/District #2

_____ Laura Flores/District #8
*Secretary

_____ Amanda DeVriese-Sebilla/District #3

_____ Andrea Generaux/District #1 at Large

_____ Karen Daniels/District #4
*Second Vice Chairwoman

_____ Sarah Lynch/District #2 at Large

_____ Andrea Behrman/District #5

Non-Voting Members
_____ Samuel Simmons Sr./KCKPS

Administration Present:

_____ Angel Ferrara, Parks and Recreation, Director

_____ Shaya Lockett, Parks & Recreation, Recreation Manager

_____ Vincent Billaci, Parks & Recreation, Parks Manager

_____ Michael Rankin, Counselor

_____ Elizabeth Scrimsher, Administrative Support Specialist

I – PRELIMINARIES

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda is presented for Board review, and consideration for adoption.

Additions:

Visitors:

Board Members:

The Agenda is presented for adoption.

Motion:_____ Seconded:_____ Vote:_____

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

Minutes of the Wednesday, November 12th, 2025 regular Board of Park Commissioners meeting were presented for review and consideration for approval.

Motion:_____ Seconded:_____ Vote:_____

II – Presentations, Hearings, Communications

1. Visitors

Visitors may speak to the Board at this time. As a general rule, the Board will not enter into discussion, but will direct Administration to take under advisement, make necessary responses, and bring items to a future agenda as may be appropriate. Anyone addressing the Park Board must state their name and address for the record. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes for each participant. Per the Commission Rules of Procedure, which are applicable to Park Board meetings, comments should not include any rude or derogatory remarks, reflections as to integrity, abusive comments, and statements as to motives and personalities.

2. Correspondence

- Public Works Projects Update -

III – Old Business

- None to Report -

IV – New Business

- Election of Officers –
 - First Vice Chairman (Currently Kevin Mitchell) –
 - Second Vice Chairman (Currently Karen Daniels) –
 - Secretary (Currently Laura Flores) -
- Employee of the Month Recognition –

V – Other Business

Staff Agenda

- Shaya Lockett –
 - a. Recreation Updates –
- Vincent Billaci –
 - a. Park Updates –
- Angel Ferrara –
 - a. Department Updates -
- **Board Member's Questions or Comments**

3. Adjournment at _____P.M.

Motion:_____ Seconded:_____ Vote:_____

**MINUTES OF THE
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT WYCO/KCK
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Wednesday, November 12th, 2025

The November 12th, 2025, meeting of the Unified Government WyCo/KCK Board of Park Commissioners was held at City Hall, 701 N 7th St Room 515, Kansas City, KS 66101 & Virtually – Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Unified Government Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mario Escobar, Chairman Angel Ferrara, Director, stated proper meeting notice had been given

ROLL CALL:

Members present were recorded for the minutes

Board Members Present:

Mario Escobar, Chairman
Kevin Mitchell, Member
Amanda DeVriese-Sebilla, Member
Karen Daniel, Second Vice-Chairwoman
Andrea Behrman, Member
Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook, Member
Nathan Brungardt, Member
Laura Flores, Secretary
Andera Generaux, Member
Sarah Lynch, Member
Samuel Simmons Sr /KCKPS-Non-Voting Member

Board Members Absent:

Jim Schneweise, Member

Administration Present:

Angel Ferrara, Director of Parks and Recreation
Shaya Lockett, Recreation Assistant Director
Vincent Billaci, Manager of Recreation
Keath Rankin, Counselor
Elizabeth Scrimsher, Administrative Support Specialist

I – PRELIMINARIES

- **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made by Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook to adopt November 12th, 2025, Agenda and seconded by Kevin Mitchell

Motion carried (Ayes 7, Nays 0)

- **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of Wednesday, October 8th, 2025, regular Board of Park Commissioners, were presented for review and consideration for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook and seconded by Karen Daniels

Motion carried (Ayes 7, Nays 0)

II- PRESENTATIONS, HEARINGS, COMMUNICATIONS

- **Visitors** – None to Report

Visitors may speak to the Board at this time

As a general rule, the Board will not enter discussion, but will direct Administration to take under advisement, make necessary response and bring items to a future agenda as may be appropriate

(Andrea Generaux entered the meeting at 6:06pm)

- **Correspondence** – None to Report

- **Public Works Project Update-** Angel Ferrara, stated memo was sent out to the Park Board on the Public Works Projects Status Memo from Troy Shaw, Director of Public Works/County Engineer, on the Stormwater Project Improvements, the update with project status and financial situation was Funding Status Notification-Enterprise Debt Budget Authority, on November 3rd 2025, Finance Department decided to exclude requested stormwater and sanitary sewer capital debt funding from the 2025. ARPA-funded park amenities will still be installed. Stormwater's assets will be on hold until bonded funds become available. Upper Splitlog and Northrup Improvements. This project

continues to be on hold since Q4 of 2024, until funding becomes available, estimated date March 1st, 2026, completion anticipated by fall of 2027
(Amanda DeVriese-Sebilla entered the meeting at 6:09pm, Sarah Lynch joined the meeting at 6:10pm)

III– OLD BUSINESS

None to Report

IV- NEW BUSINESS

- Request to Rename the Heathwood Park baseball field in Remembrance of Deputy Elijah Ming
 - Angel Ferrara - Introduced J.D. Rios, from Mayor Garner office. The item is being brought forward through the mayor's office. (Park Board received a copy of the Renaming Policy)
- Mr. J.D. Rios stated they received a request from family members and fellow deputies who worked beside Deputy Elijah Ming, who gave his life in the line of duty, the family shared that he had an attachment to the Heathwood Park baseball field as a child, and as he developed his athletic skills, which actually led him to receive a scholarship, he also helped with the upkeep of the park, as well as becoming a coach to give some history.
 - Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook – Asked if there would be a plaque with his name on it
- Angel Ferrara – Responded that it would be a wood sign like the other park signs
- Mario Escobar – Asked the Park Board for approval to name the baseball field after Elijah Ming
- Counselor Keath Rankin – Stated that the Parks Board should make a motion to rename the baseball field
- Mario Escobar made the motion made to rename the baseball field the Eligah Ming Baseball Field at Heathwood Park
- Amanda DeVriese - Sebilla seconded the motion.
Park Board voted (Ayes 10, Nays 0)
- Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook – I wanted to confirm how his name will appear on the sign
 - Mr. J.D. Rios – Answered that he would confirm with the family, he thought they just wanted his name on the plaque. Once he confirms, he will update the Parks and Recreation Department on the family's wishes. He thanked the Park Board for their support on behalf of Mayor Garner

- Angel Ferrara - Stated that this item request will go in front of the Full Commission on November 20th
- Employee of the Month Recognition – Shaya Lockett shared Parks and Recreation Department's October Employee of the Month was Lizbeth Valdez-Leyva, who is one of our Recreation Specialists, who was nominated for going above and beyond, and hard work and dedication in everything she does at the Armourdale Community Center

V - OTHER BUSINESS

Staff Agenda

Shaya Lockett - Recreation Updates

- Monthly report on the Community Center Participation numbers for the community centers with the Park Board
- Shared with the Park Board that the Recreation Department is wrapping up outdoor sports for the season
- Halloween Festival had a great turnout, estimated 730 attendees, kids with their costumes, and staff provided games and treats
- Registration for Winter basketball is open until January 2nd and will begin January 17th we will have teams from kindergarten through 6th grade, Please send anyone interested in volunteering to be a coach our way
- The department is once again receiving applications and are in the process of interviewing and hiring Recreation Specialists and a Program Coordinators over Sports
 - Kevin Mitchell – Asked about our plans for opening the Earl Watson Community Center.
 - Shaya Lockett – We previously discussed being on a hiring pause, which means we need to focus on increasing our staffing levels. Our goal is to have at least two staff members at each community center. We have five centers operating with a total of nine full-time employees. To help fill some gaps, we are utilizing our part-time staff. Additionally, we have assigned supervisors to work in these facilities.
- Karen Daniels – Ask if Parks & Recreation will be holding any holiday events at Beatrice L. Lee or Kensington

- Shaya Lockett – Stated there will be an event, Sugar Cookie Studio, on December 23rd at 5 pm, at Beatrice L. Lee, Kensington, will be busy holding a futsal league. We will send out the flyer for this event

Vincent Billaci - Park Updates

- Kensington Park – Last week, the sod was laid, and it is beginning to resemble a soccer field. The fence for the future soccer fields has been installed, and the trail is complete, except for the rubber surfacing, which will be installed in early spring; it's currently too cold for installation. We are having a celebration this Friday, November 15th, for the Klamm Park trail at 3:00 pm, and from there, we will do a celebration at Kensington by 4:00 pm. We will have a special guest, Sharice Davids, United States Representative for the Kansas 3rd Congressional District, who will attend the celebrations, as she dedicated Congressional funding for both projects
- The Welburn Dog Park project was presented to the Park Board several months ago by former students at Washington High School. Under the guidance of Dr. Philbrook, these students also collaborated with the Hollywood Casino Grant Board and the Turf Committee. Additionally, they worked with the Parks Foundation. It's impressive to note that the project was fully funded without using any department dollars. It's encouraging to see this initiative come together and to witness the students' dedication even after graduating from high school. We will be celebrating that ribbon cutting on Monday, November 17th, at 12:15 pm
- Wyandotte County Lake - We received bids for the rock wall project last week and are currently reviewing them. We'll select a contractor soon to get the work done during the winter months. Please note that Wyandotte County Lake will close for boating and fishing on November 30th
 - Mario Escobar – Inquired about the absence of the porta-potty at Vega Park and whether a replacement will be installed, and wanted to bring it to the department's attention
 - Vincent Billaci – Stated he will have to investigate this and get back to him. He advised that the tree at Vega Park would be replaced in the spring

Angel Ferrara- Department Updates

- Discussed the accomplishment at Klamm Park and Kensington Park, the ribbon cutting celebrations are set to take place this Friday. These two projects were funded with 95% grants, meaning that very little came from local budget dollars. Parks & Recreation is

pleased to bring the soccer fields and trails to the inner city, as this is one of the largest programs, and will help the community access these amenities without needing transportation. We recognize that there are numerous needs across our parks, including upgrades to baseball fields and the addition of more basketball courts. We hope to address these issues in the future. This project serves as a great example of how we can utilize grant funding or federal resources to make meaningful investments

- Transient Guest Tax (TGT), we wanted to provide an update to the Park Board regarding this item, this was brought back to Full Commission this past Thursday and has been postponed for another 30 days. It will return to the Standing Committee for further decision. We want to keep the Park Board informed about this development. I know several of you have submitted letters of support advocating for the Parks and Recreation to receive the TGT Tax, which is always appreciated. There may be more opportunities to advocate on this issue if any of you are interested.
- Shared that Mayor Tyrone Garner presented a Proclamation recognizing, October 30th 2025 as Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas Parks and Recreation Day. Adding that over the last four years, we have invested in our parks. Many of these projects have not received investment in several years; this is largely due to the support and advocacy we have received from the Park Board, our commissioners, and especially our mayor. They understand how important our services and department are to the quality of life in our community. We hope to continue making progress in this direction. While there is still much work to be done, which is encouraging, I want to emphasize how monumental the Park Board has been to our success over the past few years. I look forward to continuing our collaboration on budget processes and exploring additional grant opportunities
- Board of Officers elections will be held at the December 10th Park Board Meeting

VI - BOARD MEMBER'S QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

- Andrea Generaux – Asked if it would be possible for Parks and Recreation to collaborate with the Communications Department to create a video featuring the youth from the Welborn Dog Park Project, their experiences, and their perspectives. I believe this could help the community better understand their journey and how they can advocate for similar initiatives
 - Shaya Lockett – We have already begun the video, and seeing the process through, but there will be a video with the students' perspectives
- Karen Daniels – Wanted to let the Park Board know what a great marketing job Ethan Haines has done while in his position

- Dr. Philbrook Winkler - Asked Angel Ferrara to let the Park Board know what the (TGT) means for Parks and Recreation, and the monies and taxes were talking about
 - Angel Ferrara - Answered Unified Government, Board of Commissioners have been discussing a portion of the Transient Guest Tax be given to the Parks and Recreation Department and that it would be a substantial amount of money for the department upwards of \$1.8 million
- Nathan Brungardt – Shared with the Park Board that Kansas Recreation and Parks Association will be giving multiple awards to the Unified Government of WYCO/KCK Parks and Recreation Department. The work that you guys do is recognized at both the state and national levels. Please keep it up

VII – ADJOURNMENT

- Mario Escobar - Chairman requested to adjourn; Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook made a motion, Kevin Mitchell seconded the motion, meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM.
Motion

Carried (Ayes 10, Nays 0)

Mario Escobar/Chairman



**PARKS &
RECREATION**

December
13
2025



DONUTS WITH SANTA



9 am - 12 pm

Fun for all, activities include inflatables, face painting, holiday crafts, donuts and hot chocolate, and pictures with Santa. (While supplies last)

MEMORIAL HALL

600 N 7TH ST., KANSAS CITY, KS 66101
913-573-8327 | WWW.WYCOKCK.ORG/PARKS

Sponsored by:



Wyandotte County/KCK Parks and Recreation



**WYANDOTTE COUNTY
PARKS FOUNDATION**

STORY TIME WITH MRS CLAUS



DECEMBER 17

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Armourdale Community Center
730 Osage Ave
Kansas City, KS 66105

Enjoy some sweet treats with our special guest, Mrs Claus while listening to a wonderful Christmas Story!

For more information contact (913) 573-8134 or lvleyva@wycokck.org



**PARKS &
RECREATION**

KINDLY JOIN US FOR

SUGAR

COOKIE

STUDIO

DEC

23

5 PM

*BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND JOIN US FOR A
FREE AND FUN COOKIE DECORATING EVENT!
GET CREATIVE WITH FROSTING, SPRINKLES,
AND ALL YOUR FAVORITE TOPPINGS.*

**BEATRICE LEE
COMMUNITY CENTER
1210 N 10TH
KANSAS CITY, KS 66102**

913-551-0438



**PARKS &
RECREATION**

BAKE, SWAP, ENJOY: **THE ULTIMATE COOKIE EXCHANGE**

Bring 20 of your best homemade cookies to give out, and in return, you'll go home with a delicious variety of treats made by others. Plus, everyone will share copies of their recipes so you can try out new cookie creations at home! Please don't forget to bring your own container to carry your sweet haul home.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20
12:00 PM
FOR AGES: 18+
ARGENTINE COMMUNITY CENTER
2810 METROPOLITAN AVE

913-261-4382

WWW.WYCOKCK.ORG/WYCOPARKS

