



**TOWN OF HARRISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA  
HARRISBURG TOWN HALL  
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**October 20, 2025  
6:00 PM**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. AGENDA ADOPTION

1. Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2025

B. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Harrisburg Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee Update

C. PUBLIC COMMENT - Anyone wishing to address the Board may do so during the Public Comment section. Please state your name and address for the record, be courteous and do not repeat what has already been said. Please keep your comments about the subject and not personal in nature.

D. PUBLIC ACCESS TO LIVE MEETING VIA YOUTUBE

Harrisburg Town Hall's Council Chambers will be open for the public to attend the meeting in person. The public has the option to watch the meeting virtually via the YouTube platform using the link below or attend in person.

**All persons wishing to address the Board for public comment or speak to a specific agenda item must do so in person.**

<https://www.youtube.com/@HarrisburgNC/streams>

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Project Updates
- B. Farmer's Market Sub-Committee Update

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Department Updates
  - 1) Jim Spina - Parks and Recreation Director
  - 2) Shawn Marble - Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**5. ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES**

**6. COUNCIL UPDATES**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

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**Vision Statement**

Harrisburg will be a distinctive, family-focused community where memories are made.

**Mission Statement**

Together, we enhance our quality of life by collaborating, planning, and investing to create our community of choice.

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# MINUTES

## Harrisburg Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

*Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:04p.m. in Town Chambers. Meeting called to order in person by Zach Bowman*

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### In Attendance

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**Present:** Zach BOWMAN, Fred BRILLIANTE, Hannah BUTLER, Courtney HAYNES, Mohammed IDLIBI, Jim SPINA

**Absent:** Cheryl BAKER, Micah CASH, Brett CROSBY, Shawn MARBLE

**Board Administrators Present:** NONE

**Council Member(s) Present:** Chris FAW (TC)

**Planning and Zoning Member(s) Present:** NONE.

**Harrisburg Arts, Culture and Heritage (HACH) Member(s) Present:** Dwayne LOTT

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### Agenda Adoption

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Motion was made to adopt agenda as prepared by Mohammed Idlibi; Seconded by Fred Brillante – all in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

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### Special Presentations/Public Comment

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A. HACH –

1) Dwayne Lott:

- a. Multicultural Festival this Saturday (9/20) from 10am-2pm.
- b. Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Fall open-mic night behind town hall (for increased visibility at 6pm – Shawn has flyer to share. Discussing expanding time to help increase participation (ex. from 5 minutes to 20, etc.)
- c. Beginning discussions about possibility having Fitness Classes/Yoga at the park. Currently looking into possible liability issues before moving forward with formal planning. Conversations ongoing.

B. Public Comment: NONE.

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### Approval of Minutes

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- A. Motion was made to adopt minutes from August 2025 by Hannah Butler, seconded by Mohammed. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

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### Old Business

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A. JIM: Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update:

- 1) Going forward this will serve as project updates.
- 2) Harrisburg Park – burn and steps complete. New turf is going in between breezeway and playground and will be installed by EOW. New playground equipment will arrive on

Wednesday (9/17). By end of month, the project will be nearly complete, currently well ahead of schedule – shade awnings will be in mid-October.

- 3) Veteran’s Park – new landscaping is in, including sod (up the hill). Red, white, blue flowers planted along the beds; monuments will be installed tomorrow, followed by stamping. Reopening/Rededication Ceremony is targeted for late October (and possibly a ceremony on Veterans Day too – planning on going)
- 4) Turf Project – put out RFQ with 6 responses. 3-4 of submissions stand out and are prepping pitch presentations next week. Next week is target negotiations in hopes that November TC can vote and begin install ahead of spring sports. Need to hit many benchmarks to make it happen but well on the way.
- 5) Historic Pharr Mill Project – planning with McGill ongoing. Based on feedback, possibility of putting in a multipurpose/celebratory space but maintaining historical importance of the property, as well as walking trails and water access. Renderings presented to TC and currently being massaged into a final vision.
- 6) Pharr Mill Park – planning for the expansion of playground into lower area along with installing pickleball court(s) in. In process of getting topographical information to builders. It is ongoing and target for completion is November.
  - 7) Discussions about bathroom planning at Holcomb, along with cabin at Harris Depot will begin later this month.
- 8) FRED – what’s the status of the tunnel/bridge project in Harrisburg Park?
  - o JIM – planning for the **feasibility study**; not at the design phase. It’ll be pricey, but the future impacts for the community are HUGE. Really drive the connectivity theme outlined in MP.

B. Farmer’s Market Sub-Committee Update New Business

- 1) Pushing for \$50K from TC to jump start formal upgrade planning.
  - o Overall goal: pushing for improvement by changing date and location. Ideally a weeknight evening on Main Street. Not only seeking farmers/vendors, but also local artisans, food trucks, performances (live music, etc.). Really want to create an established and popular market that most of Harrisburg frequents.

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## New Business

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A. Department Updates – JIM –

- 1) Hired new Parks Superintendent – Nathan Striffe. In Air Force Reserves – previously Region 3 Director of Mecklenburg Nature Reserves and Arborist. He has OSHA training. Been a huge addition to the team – he has the perfect blend of administration and hands-on understanding and skill.
- 2) Currently have opening on Maintenance team – interviewed individual last week. Once filled, the department will be fully staffed for the first time in months. Really exciting!
- 3) Currently, actively looking at property(-ies). Hoping to make purchase(s) within the next few months.

B. Additional Updates:

- 1) September Rockin the Burg – approx.. 5000 attendees.
- 2) Multicultural Festival this weekend
- 3) Bags in the Burg – October 4<sup>th</sup>
- 4) October 11<sup>th</sup> – final Rockin’ the Burg – The Docksiders plus fireworks.
- 5) Halloween Trick or Treat event is October 24<sup>th</sup>

- 6) December 5<sup>th</sup> – Christmas tree lighting and market.
- 7) CivicRec system has been glitchy and have seen multiple issues with records and registrations. If board sees/hears anything, contact office so staff can ensure residents record/registration is accurate.

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### Advisory Board Updates

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- A. JIM – YMCA update – September 20<sup>th</sup> is soft opening, grand opening on the 22<sup>nd</sup> ribbon cutting the 30<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Will monitor impact of gates being opened longer due to YMCA hours.

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### Council Updates

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- A. Chris FAW – Master Plan has been so helpful in community planning, and we need to keep it dusted off and forward facing.

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### Adjournment

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Motion made to go into closed session by Hannah Butler and seconded by Mohammed Idlibi.

Meeting was adjourned Monday, September 15, 2025.

**Next Meeting:** meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6pm in Town Chambers

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Chair

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Secretary



**TOWN OF HARRISBURG**

**Agenda Item Details**

**Title:**

Project Updates

**Presenting Personnel:**

**Suggested Motion or Action:**

**Description/Background:**

**Recommendation:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

None



**TOWN OF HARRISBURG**

**Agenda Item Details**

**Title:**

Farmer's Market Sub-Committee Update

**Presenting Personnel:**

**Suggested Motion or Action:**

**Description/Background:**

**Recommendation:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

None



**TOWN OF HARRISBURG**

**Agenda Item Details**

**Title:**

Department Updates

- 1) Jim Spina - Parks and Recreation Director
- 2) Shawn Marble - Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**Presenting Personnel:**

**Suggested Motion or Action:**

**Description/Background:**

**Recommendation:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Attachments:**

None