

Recreation Advisory Group of Peachtree City
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 9, 2026
8:00 AM

Call to Order

Chairwoman Erin McDowell called the monthly meeting of the Recreation Advisory Group to order at 8:00. In attendance were members Stacey Clarke, Rohit Nanda, Mike Pappas, Jordan Childress, and newest member Joe Tesoriero, along with Recreation & Special Events Director Harold Layton and Assistant Director Michelle Johnson. Tommy Johnson was absent. Additionally, Chris Helton, Chad Austin, and Assistant City Manager Chris Hobby were there.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes

A. February 9 ,2026 Recreation Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Nanda made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 9th meeting. Childress seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

A. Introduction of New Member

Joe Tesoriero was introduced to the group as the newest member. He will be filling the term of Michael Polacek, who resigned his seat upon being sworn in as a City Council member.

B. 2026 Recreation and Special Events Maintenance presentation

Layton introduced Recreation Facilities Supervisor Chris Helton. He leads a crew of 8 responsible for year-round maintenance of all parks, playgrounds, tot lots, and facilities, including Meade Field, the PAC, Glenloch, Shakerag, the Tennis Center, Riley Field, and Kedron. They maintain over 25 playgrounds and tot lots, as well as 10 nature areas. Sanitation and janitorial services are under their purview. The City hosts approximately 60 special events which they assist with, along with the concerts at the Fred. Finally, Helton said, they have special projects that come up during the year that this crew has to do, such as replacing basketball goals, putting up new swings, etc.

Austin, the Athletic Facilities Supervisor, informed the group that his team of 14 people are responsible for mowing, blowing, dredging the clay, lining and painting the fields, and general upkeep and maintenance of 27 ball fields in the City. Other tasks that these crews do are verification, de-thatching, sod replacement, pest management, just to name a few.

Nanda commented that people come from all over and are very complimentary of our facilities.

Tesoriero asked what the biggest areas of need are. Austin replied that

summertime staffing is always an issue, while Helton mentioned getting the Fred ready for the upcoming concert season. Johnson closed by saying it is hard to maintain buy-in from the residents.

C. Playground and Tot Lot List

Layton tasked the group to provide feedback on the conditions of the playgrounds and tot lots. Clarke asked if we would remove or replace and was told that Placer AI can track the number of visitors at each location.

D. Tennis Center Light Discussion

Pappas spoke to the group about the issues with lights at the Tennis Center. There are currently four lights out on the courts. Additionally, when the bulbs were replaced about four years ago, the lumens are different, which causes shadows to appear. Many people are on the courts during the evening hours. He asked if it were possible to balance the lights. Layton said that they could take a look at it, but there may be budgetary restrictions.

E. Mission Statement

Clarke made the motion to approve the mission statement as read, with the inclusion of the word accessibility. Childress seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Clarke also mentioned that wheelchair tennis will be starting in March.

Adjourn

Chris Ratledge asked if there were vending machines at Kedron. He was told that the City was currently working on an RFP for vending.

With no more business to come before the group, Tesoriero made a motion to adjourn. Clarke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.



Stacey Collins, Deputy City Clerk



Erin McDowell, Chairwoman