Approved

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

January 14, 2026
4:00 PM
Joplin Athletic Complex
3301 West 1st Street
Joplin, MO 64801

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Greg Matzer, Dustin Parker, Brad McIntyre, Drew Roy, Heather Ogden and Michael Gilpin were present.
ABSENT:	Mariah Kraft
GUESTS:	Paul Bloomberg, Director Greg Bertoncino, Assistant Director Charles Copple, Liaison
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:	Dustin Parker called the regular meeting to order.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:	Drew Roy made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Michael Gilpin.
OLD BUSINESS:	Paul mentioned that Ewert Park Construction in bath house has started now that they have all the permits. He told the board that he meets Branco and Olsson bi-weekly for a meeting. We will be running gas lines to the skating rink area and bath house. This will help us with the portable firepits we will have for events. Paul said the Recreation Trails Grant was awarded and we will start working on this project. This project will be in twelve of our parks as soon as we get the green light from DNR. This will allow us to get 80 park benches, tire fix it stations, bike racks, and Trail/Park Way finding Signs. He gave some updates on the Grand Falls Trail and told the board on February 2nd he is going to City

Council about purchasing land across the street for a parking lot. They have spoken to the Mattlock family which owns this property and they are willing to sell it to the city for a parking lot. (Attached) He also told the board that the Mattlock family asked if we could install a Trailhead sign on the trail in honor of Dr. Mark Matlock. He was a huge supporter of the outdoors.
Michael made a motion to move forward with putting a sign at the Grand Fall Trails in honor to Dr. Mark Matlock, 2nd by Greg. All yea.
Paul stated that we do have an RFP going out next week for Tree Removal in that area. Then in May the RFP's will go out for the construction for parking lot and overlook.

Joplin Industrial Electric won the RFP for Security Lighting. Nine parks will be getting cameras and lighting. Garvin, Landreth, Cunningham, DORA, Parr Hill, Humphery, Ewert, Grand Falls, and Mercy. They have started putting the racks up for the electrical panels. TEC will be ordering the cameras next week.

Paul let the board know that Rec Tec has been awarded the bid for a new software program at the Complex. We will start training on the new software, but the current software is paid for through September.

He stated that Mid-American was approved by City Council to replace the Astro Turf at Joe Becker and Wendell Redden Stadiums. We will also be getting Astro Turf at the Gene Baseman Softball Complex. They have an 8-year warranty on their turf, and this is the same company that Joplin School District used.

NEW BUSINESS:

Paul mentioned that we will be having the Momentum Bike Park Grand Opening on May 2nd. We will have food vendors, live music, and professional bike riders.

He told the board that the lifeguarding recruitment has been going very well this year. As of right now we have over 100 lifeguards that have applied. Lifeguard training will start next week.

He updated the board on the museum project. The Museum is closed during these renovations to the Circus Room and will reopen in February. Our Parks Maintenance staff is doing most of the work on this project.

Paul told the board that we are working on an RFP for a new lease agreement for the ballfields since Parkwood lease agreement is up this year. We will be taking over all the maintenance again to the stadiums. Paul said he would bring it to the Parks Board for approval before taking it to City Council.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

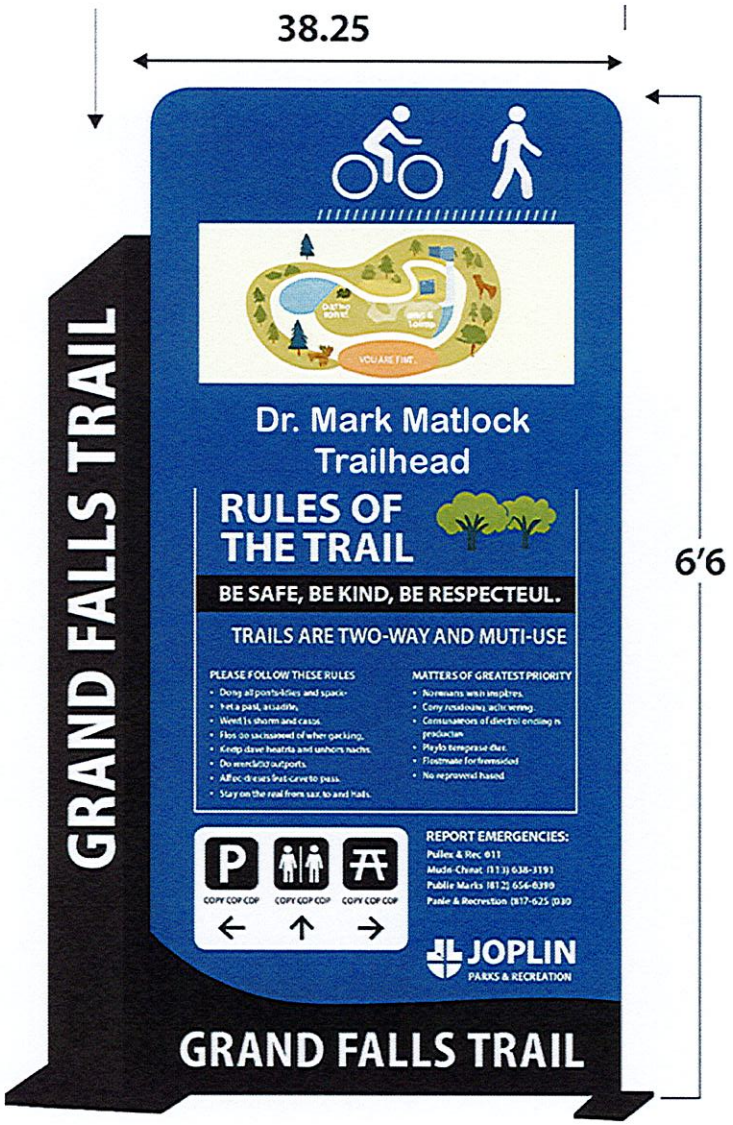
Paul handed out the Recreation reports for the board to review. (Attached)

ADJOURNEMENT:

Dustin Parker made a motion to adjourn, second by Michael Gilpin.

Nakia Endicott, Accounting Specialist

N. Endicott


38.25
6'6
GRAND FALLS TRAIL
Dr. Mark Matlock
Trailhead
RULES OF
THE TRAIL
BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE RESPECTEUL.
TRAILS ARE TWO-WAY AND MUTI-USE
PLEASE FOLLOW THESE RULES
MATTERS OF GREATEST PRIORITY
REPORT EMERGENCIES:
JOPLIN
PARKS & RECREATION
GRAND FALLS TRAIL

JOPLIN
PARKS & RECREATION

Park Board Recreation Update (Sports)
January 14, 2026

Current:

- **Adult Volleyball (Winter)**
  - 12 teams playing
  - Wednesday evenings at the Boys and Girls Club Gym beginning Jan 14th

- **Little Dribblers Basketball**
  - 60 kids registered
  - Tuesday evenings January 6th-January 27th
  - Beginning with this program we now take in house photographs instead of using an outside organization making pictures more affordable. Faster digital delivery and better quality will improve parent experience. Department revenue also increases.

Upcoming:

- **Spring Youth Soccer**
  - Currently taking registration until March 9th
  - Parents pay for $20 digital download photos at time of registration
  - Games begin the first week of April
  -
- **Spring Little Kickers Soccer**
  - Currently taking registration
  - Offered on Mondays with two different sessions at 6p and 7p and on Tuesdays with two different sessions at 6p and 7p

- **Adult Softball**
  - Currently taking registrations
  - Men's Comp and Recreational play on Monday evenings
  - Co-Ed Comp and Recreational play on Wednesday evenings
  - Beginning March 23rd

- **Adult Soccer**
  - Currently taking registration
  - Competitive and Recreational leagues play on Wednesday evenings

JOPLIN
PARKS & RECREATION

Park Board Recreation Update (Special Events)
January 13, 2026

Current:

- **Daddy Daughter Date Night**
  Located at Joplin History and Mineral Museum on February 20 and 21.
  - Dads bring their daughters for a night of dancing, food and fun.
  - Registration open now.

- **Roll and Stroll Challenge**

  - Participants must log at least 5 activity sessions and return their activity log by January 31st to receive a participation prize. Participation prizes for the first 200 participants.

Upcoming:

- **May the Forest be with You**
  - Earth and Arbor Day event with Wildcat Glades April 11th, 10am – 2pm.
  - Portable sawmill demonstration, tree giveaway, scavenger hunt, and many vender booths.

- **Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt**
  - Participants bring a flashlight and bucket and collect easter eggs at night.
  - Registration opens on February 23rd and is $5 per child.
  - Event is March 27th.

Parks Advisory Board 1-14-2026

November

11-4 Took down Main Street Dept Store display

11-6 Set up train layouts for show and in museum

11-8 November Model Train Show (New date!)

11-9 Set up Christmas Blow Mold Display

11-19 Historical Society purchased TVs for new audio/visual display

11-11 Museum sets up mailbox to act ad drop off for Park's Letters to Santa

11-20 Museum hosts Parks-Thanksgiving luncheon

11-22 LEGO Swap Meet

11-26 After multiple contacts with other libraries and museums the older bound newspapers in the basement were deaccessioned by destruction. Parks was unable to burn these items. The Historical Society paid for the papers to be professionally shredded.

December (12/1 – 12/17)

12-2 Annual Rock Club Christmas Party

12-3 Staff met with Carthage Limestone about rental of Cox Hall for training program AND become a museum sponsor and helping develop an exhibit on Carthage Limestone.

12-4 Historical Society Hosed Carl Junction Chamber of Commerce Breakfast.

12-4 CVB booked tour—No Show

12-6 Hosted Park's Breakfast with Santa

12-10 Hosted MAPP Technologies Holiday Luncheon

12-12 Ned was interviewed by Rachel Schnelle about the history of Route 66 in our area

12-13 Historical Society Holiday Open House

12-17 Hosted Park's Christmas Party

12-17 Chris meeting with Chris Huggard on organizing an Mining Conference in Pittsburg. Museum will host a lecture and an evening event.

January (1/1 – 1/14)

Currently the museum is closed for the month of January while it is undergoing renovation.

The Joplin Historical Society (the fundraising arm of the museum) is paying for a complete repaint of the interior of the history wing.

Exhibits are being moved, cleaned, and updated. Visitor flow is being addressed. The tornado exhibit will be moved and updated to increase the visitor impact of this historical event. Both issues being suggestions from the Museum Master Plan.

The Joplin Sports Hall of Fame is being condensed and the inductee plaques taken down, as these are available digitally through the Joplin Sports Authority.

The Circus Roon is being transformed into an Audio/Visual Theater, showcasing historical video content for public viewing.

The museum's main hallway is being transformed into a gallery that will focus on the history of Route 66, both locally, regionally, and across the nation.

Historic photos of miners and the mining process are being added to the labels of the Mineral wing to help illustrate the human element of the local mining industry that is the origin of our city.

It is a daunting list to accomplish in one short month, but it would be impossible without the amazing assistance from the Park's Maintenance Department. Jake and his crew are such an asset to both the museum and the City. The breadth of the skills they bring to this project is truly amazing.

Financial

Date	**Admission #**	**Admission $**	**Giftshop $**
November	774	$822.00	$976.00
December	574	$673.00	$864.00
January (to date)	0	$0	$0
TOTALS	**1,348**	**$1,495.00**	**$1,840.00**
		TOTAL INCOME	**$3,335.00**

Aquatics and Marketing/ Social Media

January 14th, 2026

Marketing/Social Media

- Working with MARCOM team on promoting MOmentum Bike Park
- Preparing for Joplin Business Expo
  - Will be highlighting MOmentum Bike park
- Monthly marketing meetings with MARCOM team about MOmentum bike park

Aquatics

- Opening Date:
  - May 23rd, 2026
  - Recruiting
    - Online
    - School Job Fairs
  - Applicants
    - Supervisors: Need 3
      - Hired 3
    - Managers: Need 6
      - Hired 6
    - Lifeguards: Need ~80-100
      - Applications: 99
        - Signed up for training: 44
      - Interviewed: 54
      - Returning Lifeguards:46
      - New Lifeguards:53
    - Cashiers: Lifeguard will become cashiers, hiring an additional 7 that have worked as cashiers before to make sure things are done consistently and properly.
- Lifeguard Training Dates:
  - Jan 16-18
  - Feb 13-15
  - Mar 14-15
  - Apr 10-12
  - May 1-3
- Pool Closure
  - September 7th

- We will close the pools during the week starting August 16 (school starts August 17th)
- We will see if this works as MSHSSA dead week ends the week before school starts and all athletes, band members, and show choirs are allowed to practice. 95% of my lifeguards are student athletes and/or musicians.

Goals for 2025

- Grown up swimming league
- Lap swim and adult swim meets
- Water Walking
- Early Morning Lap Swim
- Open House at Schifferdecker pool
    - Different Stations
        - Staff
            - Meet the staff
        - Pool Rules and Safety Station
            - Go over rules
            - Go over life jackets
        - Community Partners
            - Invite community members to have a booth at the pool
                - Berzerkers
                - Stingrays
                - Megan Cameron
                - Joplin Family Y
                - JPD and JFD
                - Everybody Fitness
        - Information and Registration station
            - Sell season passes
            - Sign up for dog swim
            - Swim lesson sign ups