



**Kent County Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Notice and Agenda
1683 New Burton Road
Dover, Delaware 19904
B & G Conference Center
Thursday, March 12, 2026**

6:15 PM, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Call to Order and Roll Call

- Kevin Zimmerman, Chairman (District 4)
- John Stant, III, Vice-Chairman (District 2)
- Walter Carroll (District 6)
- Edward Coker (District 1)
- James Long (District 5)
- Brian Michalski (At Large)
- Walter Waite, Jr., (District 3)

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes

Department Staff Reports

Department Staff Reports

Old Business

New Business

Public Comments

Commission Comments

29 Del.C. §10004(e)(2). The Agenda items as listed may not be considered in sequence. This Agenda is subject to change to include additional items including Executive Sessions or the deletion of items including Executive Sessions, which arise at the time of the meeting.



Item Cover Page

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: March 12, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Marissa Warren, Community Services

ITEM TYPE: Minutes

AGENDA SECTION: Approval of Minutes

SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:
[Feb 12 2026 Minutes-KCPR Commission Meeting.pdf](#)

KENT COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
February 12, 2026

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Zimmerman called the meeting to order at **6:15 p.m.**

Present:

Kevin Zimmerman, Chairman
Walter Carroll
Ed Coker
James Long
Brian Michalski

Also Present:

Jeremy Sheppard
Michael Rigby
Marissa Warren

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Long made a motion to approve the minutes for the January Commission meeting, seconded by Mr. Carroll. Motion passed.

DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORTS:

Mr. Rigby's detailed report on Parks and Recreation items is attached to the meeting minutes.

Mr. Sheppard stated brief comment in the events section that's not there, that's why I'm going to comment on it, up until a couple of weeks ago we had a potential for a club volleyball or travel volleyball tournament here we were trying to partner with the local club kind of like we do for futsal and they just didn't get very good registration, so we had planned on 4 different levels, which would have taken up 4 individual days or 2 weekends and it's just done, it's gone, they didn't get registration and it's an area that I think them as a club, it's new, it's a new thing for them and I don't know that they – I haven't had a follow up yet but I'm not sure that they may have done the work necessary in order to get something like that started but that being said when you're doing something for the first time it is sometimes difficult to get people to change what they normally would do, so it is disappointing because really wanted to see a youth volleyball tournament in here and maybe when we do get a chance to talk about it we'll see if it's something for next year - I think it's definitely something that we want to do is just we got to figure out how to sell it better I guess, so wanted to let you know that wasn't happening.

Mr. Sheppard stated the club plays within an organization and they have regional sections of that organization, so what I've learned is that you have to request to have a tournament, they're not trying to schedule on top of tournaments, so they were able to find these open weekends and then they got approved for the tournament, so that's how it started. Typically, they have priorities of tournaments, so CHRVA which is the Chesapeake Region is what it's called will make one tournament the priority, then if there is a secondary tournament they'll make it a sub priority, which means that if the priority tournament isn't having good registration they'll block out the

lower priority tournament, so that everybody has to go to the priority tournament and the problem with our dates is there were no other tournaments, so people weren't traveling, so it's a new thing that we'll try to figure out what the nuance is, so that we can be more successful hopefully next year but we'll see.

Mr. Zimmerman stated on another note the room that you guys are re-doing over there is it going to be this size.

Mr. Sheppard stated yeah, maybe a little bit wider, with two smaller tables, not a big one like this and our tv will be bigger, so when the room is done, we'll have the meetings in there.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Sheppard: I want to draw your attention to the sheet of paper I sent around - I told you in the past I was asked to come up with kind of a 5 year outlook for Capital improvements not only in our parks but here and the library, so everything is kind of included here and this is a draft, so it's not necessarily in concrete but some of these things are definitely things that we you know really want to improve upon, as you look through this you'll see some notations like in parentheses FY27 that stands for fiscal year 27, which is what we're preparing for July 1, so we're budgeting for now. If there's a plus there that means that I put it in the system to be considered and I haven't put everything in because it's just a lot and I didn't want to scare people but if we can just kind of go down this list just to kind of get your input and any questions about some of these projects I'd much appreciated.

Mr. Sheppard: Starting up North that Big Oak Park – (a) One of our first projects that we want to complete is to add a loop trail in the southeastern section of the park, so that's what we call the 60 space parking lot if you come into the park take the right like you would normally do it's that first parking area, so it's our multi-purpose area and there's not a lot of stuff that happens out there I know people let their dogs off leash there, which they shouldn't but they do and it's also currently in area for model airplanes and drone use, so we intend on putting a loop trail around that. (b) All trail paving, our parks guys have really requested paving most of our walking trails except for like inside woods areas just from a maintenance standpoint they're always replacing stone dust and controlling washouts and things like that, so they're interested in that. (c) We're going to have to replace outdated playground equipment, we have made some recent repairs and maintenance to both Browns Branch and Big Oak but as our insurance carrier says these things are usually done between 20-25 years, so we have to start preparing for that. (d) Then pickleball courts with the conversations there's so much interest in having outdoor pickleball courts in our parks, I believe that Big Oak Park presents the best opportunity from a space standpoint. It would be located likely in that southeastern section that we were putting the loop trail around and I believe we should put a comfort station with it just like we did at the ball fields because I don't want to put in a nice pickleball facility and then people complain that they got to walk a couple 100 yards through the to the bathroom, so I think that that's best, it doesn't have to be a big restroom just like the ones we have, 2 unisex over there by the ball field, so kind of like the same type of facility.

Mr. Sheppard: Moving to Brecknock – (a) Which has got a lot more FY27 stuff still we're going to be working on Piccadilly playground replacement that's a given (b) Again all trail paving. (c) One of the things the staff would like to have is have the maintenance building parking lot paved, so if you go in there and you go to the left right, right off and go into the maintenance building you'll notice that there's pavement and in the front of it but then it just it's no longer paved after that now there's a reason why it wasn't all paved was because we need to wash down equipment and if you wash down equipment on pavement it just makes a mess anyways, so we've compromised and we're going to pave some of it and leave some of it unpaved, so that's a project hopefully we can get done next year. (d) The next one is the red barn renovation I'm no longer actually calling it the red barn I'm going to be calling it verbally the gray barn because it's really not red anymore it needs to be revamped and there's some concern that, not the foundation

Mr. Rigby: The sill plate.

Mr. Sheppard: yeah, so that's what we need to take care of that before something bad happens there. It's going to need all siding, roofing, cupola and hopefully a foundation I think it would be best to put a concrete slab underneath it, so that it doesn't have the moisture coming up inside the building either so. (e) Ball field fencing renovation, so the little youth softball fields out there that fencing has been there for a long time, probably one of the first things.

Mr. Rigby: Yeah, it's been 27 - 28 years ago.

Mr. Sheppard: It's had its share of use, I remember all the wasp nests getting in the pipes and stuff like that, we had to try to fill the pipes and it's okay, but it could use being renovated.

Mr. Sheppard: One of the other things that we had considered, as most of you know, we did lose 2 parks worker and of course Robert Probst, Denny Clark and we'd always kind of wanted to have something for them in the park, so we thought renovating those, then putting up a memorial for both of those guys there would be a good idea, so that's all part of that project. (f) Demo the tenant house this could be controversial in a sense because there are people out there who just don't believe you should demo old houses but it's they're doing nothing for us, like we don't use it anymore, we took all the wreck stuff out of there and it's just going to continue to become dilapidated and I don't believe that Levy Court is going to want to spend money like they're putting in the Goggin house to make that one viable.

Mr. Rigby: There is no historical significance with that house either.

Mr. Sheppard: (g) Final one there replacement of a split rail fencing, so this project is going to help us on 2 fronts, first it's going to really just replace all the fencing that's there make it look the same because we've maintained it when something breaks we put new piece in, so it some good pieces in it and there's some not so good pieces in there, so but the purpose is to just tear it all out put it all back in and then whatever stock is that's good is leftover we'll keep that somewhere, so that we can replace stuff at all the parks, so that's that project so that's a lot of fencing, we did a take-off number in the amount of about \$20,000.00 but it a lot of split rails out there.

Mr. Sheppard: Moving South to Browns Branch – (a) I'd like a loop trail completed there and of course we have a lot of trail down there and people do walk along the roadway usually underneath the trees or just inside the fence but we don't have an official trail there and I think originally maybe Mike you can speak to this the trail was intended to go underneath the trees outside the fence but the roots of all those trees make that just not really a great idea and more so some of those trees have come down on their own so we probably don't want to do that, so we'll figure out another way just to make it a full loop trail there I think is a good goal to have people love just to walk around in circles. (b) This is something that was talked about years ago when Carl was here but adding an additional parking lot to that facility I think will be a good idea, something to plan for the at least if not build but at least get a design and engineered stamped construction package would be a good idea. My idea is or the previous idea was to put a blade parking lot, which the entrance road would come and then you would take a right hand turn and then they would be a parking lot up on that little ridge there - I don't like the idea of just having a roadway and parking lots everywhere, so I think it would be a good idea if we just mirrored the current parking lot on top of the entrance roadway, so when you came in you would go through the parking lot on the mirrored parking lot on that side and then come around the bend and come back through the current parking lot that way you're not taking up a ridiculous amount of additional green space on the northside there. (c) We need to plan for the replacement of the outdated playground equipment just like Big Oak, it's really the same, then we did a lot of work there I mean staff did a great job of renovating that but we still need to start planning for that, it's gotta be part of our what we're doing in the next 5 years.

Mr. Sheppard: Tidbury – (a) We are currently trying to, we'll eventually get to mill and repaving of that driveway and parking lot there it was planned to be CTF project but we're also planning on the parking lot here being CTF, so it's just going to the priority is going to be this building over Tidbury at that point. (b) We're also going to need to replace the updated playground equipment there - be a very good idea because that playground equipment Mike we got from South Dover elementary school.

Mr. Rigby: That's correct, it's a hand me down.

Mr. Sheppard: Yeah, so it's a hand me down, so it's probably something that we need to move on from it. (c) C is my idea upon rehabilitation when Carl when he was here he tried to do some things to make sure that the hydrilla, which is the weeds at the bottom coming up had some sort bio - essentially he had filled it with grass carp and they're supposed to eat that I mean all my years here I never saw him eat them, they either died or whatever people fished him out I don't know but I can't believe that they're still there I don't know that they did the job when they were there - did you notice anything there.

Mr. Rigby: Summertime when the water level is down you can still see the hydrilla in the shallower areas.

Mr. Sheppard: to use fish to do that is you know ecologically sensitive way of doing it they have chemicals that do the same thing probably a lot quicker and that's how Carl swung, so that's fine but it would be nice to make sure that it's still is a good fishing pond for the community, and

we would enlist the help of professionals in that endeavor anyways. DNREC does have a program and there's other w just go back with fish there are definitely fisheries that have grass carp that we can buy. (d) Last thing under Tidbury is the pavilion and I don't even know when this pavilion went in, do you know.

Mr. Rigby: Back in the 70's I'm assuming.

Mr. Sheppard: Okay, that's old and we're still kind of discussing between Mike and I do we renovate it or do we just replace it so we're not sure at this point but definitely going to need some attention at some point.

Mr. Sheppard: (a) Moving over to Hunn, we have again trail paving where available and I mean this because some of the trails out there should not be paved because it's on top of landfill but maybe the main roadway that goes through there could be paved. (b) The demo of the Manor house again that's just a potential money pit for the County based on my interactions with Levy Court no one 's interested in putting money into that facility, so that one could fall itself if we don't do something proactive about it. (c) Then additional parking at the entrance, so I think that this one 's a reasonable project based on the fact that there are pulse times when that parking lot is full people do love to walk there we definitely want to encourage that and I guess the concept would be to kind of mirror the parking lot that's there by kind of flipping it, so instead of currently you kind of curl off to the left to there's a 13 spots with the handicap 12 or something like that but take that and just kind of flip it towards the other gate, so then that there would just be available parking there too and then eventually you could just drive through to continue along the driveway, so that's conceptual you know the but we do recognize that part can be busy in the nicer months not the not the buggy months but the nicer months.

Mr. Sheppard: (a) Moving to Lebanon landing we'll need to mill and repave that one eventually too basically what we wanted to do all our parks at some point just to make sure that we keep the parking lots looking good. Then the fishing pier renovation may or may not be a capital project, we'll see, so it's not that it doesn't need to happen it's just how much does it need to happen do we really need to redo the whole thing or is it just a maintenance thing.

Mr. Sheppard: (a) Moving over here to Kesselring we are hoping to put in an aga well, an irrigation system for water real irrigation system for the south part of the park, some summers we get enough rain and most summers we don't, so if we want to keep that grass viable for athletics twice a year we're going to need to irrigate it, so we previously, Mike previously did a lot of work on getting some contractors to give us price for underground irrigation and we were in the \$300,000.00 range.

Mr. Rigby: 5 years ago

Mr. Sheppard: In our experience with irrigation is a love, hate, right, we love it because when it works it's great it doesn't take as many people, it doesn't take as much time it's programmable, that's great but the hate part is it breaks all of the time and it's requires maintenance, time, energy and money for that, so we think that maybe a water reel system here could be good, it takes more time, it takes more people but it's a little bit less maintenance heavy, as the other. (b) Then

additional path paved pathways we could pave them here too, if you wanted to and if we wanted to make any more staff rec staff have an idea if you walk to the turf field you go of course go on the asphalt path but it ends at the end, yet we have fields that support athletics down on the south side and if you're not as able whether you're truly disabled or if you're just older it's difficult to walk across the grass sometimes, so the concept is to provide another stub towards the south side in order to kind of help people get to where they're going.

Mr. Sheppard: Equipment needs are we're trying to schedule those we have 2 trucks in the park system there are 2008's, so pretty soon there'll be 20 years old, ones at Big Oak, ones at Brecknock, we also have 2 bat wings mowers that we pull behind that have required a lot of maintenance over the years, so it's just time to update those things because they do a lion share of cutting our big spaces. (e) Here at the Rec Center, it's something I'm preaching a lot lately is that we soon we've been here for a decade, so the RTV has got a lot more hours than even our park RTVS because it gets used quite a bit more, so it's time to look at replacing that. (f) The Rec truck is this kind of gold colored bronze colored truck out back that was the 2006, so it is 20 years old, so it doesn't have a ton of miles on it but it's yeah, it's seen its day. (g) Then something that's very important, one of our highest priorities is that we have a floor machine that cleans the floor, it's a ride on floor machine that Rafael uses virtually every morning and we've repaired that thing a number of times - Brent almost died once, it was serious but not that serious but the battery exploded on him, so yeah trying to do stuff, we've replaced batteries on that.

Mr. Rigby: I gotta replace them next week.

Mr. Sheppard: There you go, so it's time for that thing to be replaced and updated it and that's the expensive proposition because that thing when we bought it new 10 years ago and it was a wasn't the nicest model, it was 17 almost \$18,000.00, so I'm asking for \$40,000.00 dollars this this time, so I that's more expensive than the van I bought 4 years ago.

Mr. Sheppard: Library that's not pertinent here.

Mr. Sheppard: Getting down to the Rec Center, so let's see the fieldhouse addition obviously we know about that one but regardless of that both the turf field and this rec center floor will need to be renovated in the next 5 years, so I'm letting Levy Court know immediately, look start planning for this. The turf field is fine, we're going to have it maintained but it's out of warranty and eventually it just needs to be replaced, so not the entire, just the artificial grass and stuff like that, so that needs to happen. Then the floor out there it's not bad but it's got some few gouges and scratches and there's some worn spots, and when we first designed what was painted on the floor was before we got in here, so we learned how to operate differently once we got in here the number one thing is of course pickleball lines there are put down with tape and tape gets pulled up, tape gets messy, it gums up the floor, we have to tape over other lines, which causes other issues with certain sports that sort of thing another thing is that we only put volleyball courts on one side and then the 3 pickleball courts we did put on were on the other side thinking that if we had to do more than we'd just tape those down, well those pickleball courts come out the ones that we do now will go in and then we'll put volleyball and all on both sides, so and we may

make some other small adjustments on just how we've learned to play in this space right, so those are some things that we need to do here.

Mr. Sheppard: alright that was quite a list, and I don't have prices for all that because I didn't want to scare anybody.

Mr. Coker: That's an awful lot of paving and that has to be done by somebody else, right.

Mr. Sheppard: Absolutely.

Mr. Michalski: I noticed you didn't have a fiscal year for the Piccadilly playground placement.

Mr. Sheppard: It's already in the Capital, so it's already started, I think they started putting money in, so that's why it's already in the budget.

Mr. Sheppard: I overestimated our ability to get through that project, we got a lot of stuff we're doing all the time, so I haven't gotten to creating that committee to look at it, so luckily for us I think when we did a lot of this work our insurance company settled down a little bit about our parks and playgrounds, so we'll keep working on it, it's hard to find the energy to get all that stuff done and we have been completing a lot of projects.

Mr. Rigby: We don't have the funding for it yeah.

Mr. Michalski: You showed all this to Levy Court Commissioners.

Mr. Sheppard: Those are things that I'll be discussing with Levy Court now, typically they're really only initially interested in what's in next year 's budget right, so that will be the gist of the conversation but Commissioner Masten asked me to come up with a 5 year plan so Levy Court could see that, so they'll get the FY27 stuff but they're going to get all of it and they're not going to make a decision on all that they're just going to make a decision on the 27 stuff, so it's not going to be any secret that we're asking for things these are things coming, so be prepared don't say we didn't tell you.

Mr. Michalski: A couple weeks ago, I saw 4 Levy Court Commissioners that asked me when you goanna add on to the gym, when's that coming.

Mr. Sheppard: Yep, I'd love to do it, and I think one of the conversations that the Levy Court will have to have is how to fund this, if they support it, which I'm sure everybody, like yeah that would be nice to have but if they really want it they're going to have to figure out how to pay for it and I think the only way the County truly will be able to pay for what we're proposing is to do a bond, to do a general obligation bond and pay for it over a long period of time, which because we're not we are not as a Parks and Recreation organization being funded like we used to be funded - back in 2000 when I first got here we were getting realty transfer tax money being given to Parks and Recreation for their programs, probably built a lot of the parks with that RTT money right and it slowly started to kind of fade away, as public safety really ramped up and now 100% of the RTT fundings go straight to public safety, so every time we ask for something it's a how much money do we have in the bank issue it's not it's never been okay, we raise taxes to do that, nobody wants to talk about that they will not in election years for sure, so that's their viewpoint

that's fine but they got to accept that there has to be other ways to fund this stuff and clearly other municipalities and Counties around the Country that do bonds, they do it, so they spread that cost out over 25 years and the public pays for it basically the same but just 25 years from now.

Mr. Zimmerman: I think it's Buckson and Lydon Yearick that they're trying to get rid of that for lower income people.

Mr. Sheppard: What the RTTS, yeah, I saw that, I think it's below 300,00, it was the house value under like 330 or something?

Mr. Zimmerman: I thought if your total house income is below 150 you don't pay 300 it's reduced and then it's way up to get full so you guys gonna lose a ton of money there.

Mr. Sheppard: Well, yeah, and then they're going to have to raise taxes to replace it.

Mr. Sheppard: just to look back at Goggin, we did and I'm not sure if I was able to say it last month or not, but we did get the green light from National Park Service on our plan that Barton Ross put together, so we had a meeting with Barton Ross at our finance department to start talking about bidding out the projects right, so and his intention is to bid it out here within the next month I suppose once we get everything in order and the plan is to hire a general contractor, construction manager whatever you want to call it, so it will just makes it a little bit easier of a process in my mind than having every single individual trade being bid out, so it might cost us a little bit more in the end but essentially we need that construction manager to really be there on site doing the supervising the work rather than Mike and myself, so it is what it is and, so when Barton Ross put his construction plan in, now remember Levy Court requested that the only thing that we do is the outside they did not want to go beyond the outside at first, so the unfortunate part is that once Barton estimated the project based on his on his plan it was about 1.1 million dollars, so we're probably going to have to pick and choose to do things depending on how the contract comes in.

Mr. Zimmerman: So, you're still getting the money, I thought the deadline was like 2 years ago.

Mr. Sheppard: We have gotten an extension until next September, so I mean is the work gotta get done.

Mr. Michalski: What's going to be included in the bid package.

Mr. Sheppard: Windows, doors, roof with its chimneys, any foundational work that they're going to be doing, really the entire envelope of the of the facility, so the packet he put together is mind boggling, I should have brought a picture just to show you but the house is red, it was a rust color.

Mr. Sheppard: So that that was going to be a hard one for the public to overcome just like you guys this was shocked right I mean you just get so used to what it looks like now that you really don't remember potentially what it looked like 100 years ago, so they did like Mike said, they did a lot of testing on the house, so their job is to put it back together the way it's supposed to be, so

Mr. Rigby: They're putting the porch on the back again.

Mr. Sheppard: That's right they're putting the porch on the back that's right so there.

Mr. Sheppard: I'm hopeful Barton Ross has talked about their ability to grant right, so I'm sure he wants the work, so if he can help us write a grant for additional grant funding to finish the rest of it that's hopefully will be the plan, so just have to get Levy Court to agree to that, which I think they should, so it would be nice to have one shining example of what we should have done a while ago.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sheppard: You have an unofficial copy though they'll be telling everybody that we're printing these things out because we're not, I just figured it would be nice for you to be able to use it but again we're doing the digital activity guide it's out and about at this point not 100% but we've put out quite a bit of marketing at this point not. We sent out about 15,000 emails through our system, we have the Granicus system, which is called gov delivers, which is probably another 10,000 emails, we did have the video on Facebook that kind of teased people, we have it on the website, we have the link on the registration site, so it's out there and we'll obviously they're starting we've already started taking registration because we don't necessarily have that hard date like we used to have, like we used to say we're mailing this on a on a Friday and Monday morning at 8:00 am that's when you can register, so we're a little bit more loose on that and it works out, so it is what it is. I think we're still doing okay, we'll get some more numbers next month after this goes out to see how it goes.

Mr. Sheppard: I'll just say from a budgetary standpoint one of my priorities for this budget is to sell Levy Court I guess, I'm requesting another Assistant Director and what I mean by that is you and I (Mike Rigby) came to Kent County back in 2001, Keith Mumford was the Recreation Director and Carl Solberg was the Parks Director and I think we need to go back to that model, so that we can get more work done overall, it's a lot and I think that our businesses has changed and it's important to move forward past myself in the next potentially 5 years and I think that that's the best direction for Kent County Parks and Recreation is to go back to that model just allows more things to get accomplished and focused on because it's very difficult to have a whole thing happening at once, it's just a lot.

Mr. Zimmerman: I just thought it was interim when Carl retired and but to go down to 1 and Mumford I just never thought about that - you're working for half the wage man.

Mr. Zimmerman: I got another question, with your dad 's golf course here, I thought IG Burton's crew said there's not going to be any leagues or tournaments scheduled this year.

Mr. Rigby: He hadn't purchased it and he'd been talking with the guy at the golf course and apparently, it's going to be okay for the time being. IG Burton got a bit concerned because of a lawsuit is what Brent told me.

Mr. Michalski: If you have another person to do, just say the Rec side and Parks would that free you up to perhaps explore more grant opportunities or develop a bond – it seems like to me we're missing out on a lot of funding.

Mr. Sheppard: Yeah, I would say that would free me up considerably, I'm not going to say that I'm a very good project person, like that's something that Mike and I think it would allow us to get more done, a lot more done because it's just a lot of administrative paperwork stuff to do, review and there's people calling us every day I mean the number of things that Mike does it's a lot and that was all born out of 2009 when the housing crisis crashed and the County gave the early retirement option Harry and even Carl and 35 people across the County took it and left and then they combine the position and I got that position right and that was an eye opener especially from the park side. Then Wayne McCarty retired he was our facility specialist, so he was another parks worker that did administrative stuff, he was actually kind of the project manager in a sense, so he was doing the bid packs and safety plans, so I mean there's so many things that I think that we have gotten by without and I don't think we should do that anymore. My point is especially with that big old list Capital projects, is that I'm going to tell that Levy Court what we need, as like in the past there was pressure on me not to say that stuff by previous administrators they wanted their plan and they didn't want anybody to basically say like, no we're not going to. that be quiet but it's not that way anymore and I think Levy Court understands that we're pretty far behind because of that attitude, as they're facing some serious funding issues on big projects because a lot of the stuff was just pushed to kick down the street, the type of kick the can down the road type of thing just to make sure they didn't raise taxes for however many years.

Mr. Sheppard: Our parks, the guys do a great job maintaining them but there's stuff that needs to be done, needs to be addressed and we not gonna have the same park for 50 years, stuff's getting older, I'm getting older and whether or not they give it to me or not it's up to them.

Mr. Michalski: Well, everyone that I talked to certainly is supportive of Parks and Rec but with that said 3 to 4 of them I talked to are leaving soon.

Mr. Long made a Motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Carroll, meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.
Motion passed.

Marissa Warren
KCPR Office Administrator



Item Cover Page

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: March 12, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Marissa Warren, Community Services

ITEM TYPE: Report

AGENDA SECTION: Department Staff Reports

SUBJECT: Department Staff Reports

ATTACHMENTS:
[2-12-26 Department Staff Report.pdf](#)

Kent County Parks and Recreation

Recreation Report – February 12, 2026

- January revenue was \$30,423.00
- Winter Revenue from December 8 till February 8 was \$80,665.00.
- Spring revenue starting on February 9 is \$11,910.00
- Punch Card sales from January 8 till today were 252 and the revenue was \$5,040.00.
- Overall Punch Card sales to date are 14,559 and we have generated \$261,580.00 in revenue.

Spring Revenue Per Activity

1. Arts and Crafts – \$705.00 with 8 participants
2. Fitness – \$1,995.00 with 16 participants
3. Music and Dance – \$865.00 with 17 participants
4. Sport Instruction – \$1,810.00 with 27 participants
5. Sport Leagues – \$5,300.00 with 81 participants
6. KYSL – currently has 266 registered

Projects

1. Browns Branch pavilion is currently on hold for another week. The columns are set in concrete, and the next step is to set the trusses and complete the roof.
2. Officials room renovation is moving along. Slight setback with a couple of code revisions. Start time should be in March.
3. Parks signage: Replacement traffic signs have been ordered. Directional signage is in the works. I will be requesting quotes next week.

Kent County Parks and Recreation

4. Becker Morgan revised site plan is getting close to completion. Once we receive the final approved plans we will move forward with the Rec equipment storage building and the expansion of the parking lots.

Parks Report

1. Performing routine park maintenance.
2. Working on various equipment maintenance
3. Plowing snow and removing ice from all the roadways and parking lots at each park. All the parks except for Tidbury are open to the public with limited access to some amenities.
4. Parks Staff has attended the Delaware Horticulture Expo at the Modern Maturity Center and just finished with a two-day OSHA training.

Events

1. Special Olympics Basketball Tournament this Saturday.
2. Futsal Classic Tournament on February 21 and 22 with 120 teams
3. Senior Olympics Pickleball tournament has been approved for August 20, 21, 22 and 23, 2026.
4. Family Emergency Preparedness Day is scheduled for September 12, 2026.

Rentals

1. Townsend Church to practice and hold two tournaments at Big Oak Park this summer.
2. Steel Sports to rent a multipurpose field at Brecknock for the HandiTube four day summer camp.
3. Bayhealth Kickball tournament at Brecknock Park.