

Parks & Recreation Board

Our Vision:

To create a vibrant and prosperous city that is the region's commercial and employment hub and the residential community of choice, marked by safe and pleasant neighborhoods, and diverse recreational, entertainment and enrichment opportunities.



Meeting Agenda

City of Hermitage Municipal Building

800 North Hermitage Road, Hermitage, PA

January 14th, 2026

5:00 pm

- I. General
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Public Comments
 - c. Consideration of Approval of Minutes for November 6th, 2023
- II. Business Meeting
 - a. Earth Day
 - b. Arts Festival
 - c. 2026 Events & Dates
 - d. Summer Camp/Rec
 - e. 2026 Travel Updates
 - f. Park Updates
- III. Director's Report

2026 Meetings:

January 14th, March 11th, May 13th, July 8th, September 9th, November 4th- 5:00 pm

MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION

BOARD MEETING

November 12, 2025

Jessica Gotch, Parks & Recreation Director, began the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Board members in attendance:

Kara Montgomery
Tiffany Boyle
Zach Sarver
Rob Zullo
Terry Shernisky
John Moroco, BOC Representative

Board members not in attendance:

Ryan Lockhart
Bethany Becker
Jessica Gibb
Kelly Kepner
Gianna Flemming, Student Ad Hoc
Louis Squatrito, BOC Representative

Staff members in attendance:

Jessica Gotch
Cathleen Weaver
Gary Gulla, Assistant City Manager

Public Guests in attendance:

None

GENERAL

Kara Montgomery opened the meeting with roll call and a call for public comments. With no public comments received, she requested to waive the reading of September 10, 2025, meeting minutes and proceed with approval. The minutes were accepted by Terry Shernisky, with a second by John Moroco. The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

- **Holiday Light Parade**

Volunteer positions and times were decided and assigned. Arrangements were determined for the pick-up of the coffee and hot chocolate. Seventy-seven participants are confirmed for this year's parade. This year's Grand Marshal is David George from Joy Cone Company. Delahunty Middle School has been added as a second tear-down location for parade floats this year. Garbage receptacles and porta-johns will be placed at each tear down location.

- **Winter Solstice**

Winter solstice is Sunday December 21, 2025, 4:30-7:30 pm. Jane Gregg and Mark Dewalt are the musical entertainment. Big Rail Brewery, Unstable Eats and the Maennechor Club will be the food vendors. The horses will be there for wagon rides and there will be the traditional burning of the Yule Log.

- **2026 Travel**

The Nashville trip has about twenty seats open, and boosted marketing posts will be made after the holidays. Discover America's Cowboy Country has about eighteen registered seats and approximately eight additional openings. There will be a New York City express trip in December 2026.

- **Earth Day**

The event will be on Saturday, April 25, 2026. Possible workshops include Native Plants and Beekeeping. Ruby Mountain Music and The Boom Rockets will be this year's musical entertainment. The Open Kitchen food truck will be joining the event this year, and a second option has not yet been secured. Several potential options were discussed. The very anticipated Art Contest will be returning this year. April Clause, herpetologist, will return with reptiles again this year; her presentation is popular with children.

- **Director's Report**

A new backstop was installed at the 8U infield at the Hermitage Athletic Complex, funded by the Hermitage Girls Softball Association. Field aerification has been completed at Rodney White Park, and the Hermitage Athletic Complex had new cameras and a key fob system installed. Lighting has been approved for the girls' softball fields. The new concession stand and pavilion will be developed with assistance from grants and other funding. The restrooms have been winterized at Hermitage Athletic Complex and Whispering Pines Park. An evaluation of the Baker Avenue Field was discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathleen Weaver

2026 City Events & Programs

March

Nashville: March 20th-22nd

April

Earth Day: April 25th

May

Popsicles in the Park: May 29th

Geneva Wine Tour: May 30th

June

Summer Rec: starts June 8th

Summer Camp: starts June 8th

July

Night Market: July 9th

Summer Rec: ends July 17

Summer Camp: ends July 17

Arts Festival: July 25th & 26th

August

Night Market: August 13

September

Fall Ball Starts: September 13th

Discover America's Cowboy Country: September 1st- 8th.

Night Market/Corn Roast: September 17th

October

Fall Ball Ends: October 25th

November

Holiday Light Parade: November 21

December

NYC Bus Trip: December 5th-6th

Winter Solstice: December 21