MINUTES
City Council Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee

Wednesday, October 15th, 2025 - 3:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present:	Aaron Baker, Chair, Council Member Lauren Wise, Vice Chair, Council Member Daniel Jesse, Citizen Member Jackson Tate, Citizen Member JD Powers, Citizen Member Mayor Maureen Copelof, Ex-Officio
Members Absent:	Reba Osborne, Citizen Member Howie Granat, Citizen Member
Staff Present:	David Todd, Assistant City Manager Wesley Shook, Public Works Director Becky McCann, Communications Coordinator Madalin Baker, Administrative Services Manager

A. Welcome & Call to Order

A. Baker welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

B. Certification of Quorum

A quorum was certified by M. Baker.

C. Approval of Agenda

D. Jessee made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by J. Tate. All voted in favor.

D. Approval of Minutes – September 17th, 2025

L. Wise made a motion to approve the minutes, and D. Jessee seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

E. Updates

Mayor Copelof shared she is in conversation with a Lake Toxaway resident interested in funding efforts benefiting children in Brevard, and shared a preliminary design of a potential picnic shelter to be constructed in Silversteen Park. She noted the park was

built in phases as funding was secured, and that a picnic shelter, as well as a splash pad and restroom, had been planned in the initial phases of the park development.

1. **Bracken Trail Update**
   D. Todd provided a funding update regarding a meeting held the week before. He shared the next phase of the Bracken Trail project is $3k short of the current bid price, but that they expect to make up the difference at the scheduled fundraiser at the Co-Ed Theater this week. The bid in question would bring about 1.2 miles of new trail. Some grant applications that could go towards the project are pending responses as well.

   L. Wise asked if the updated trail layout had been finalized, and D. Todd shared it's coming soon. A. Baker asked about the construction timeline, which D. Todd shared contractors estimate will be a 4-week construction process, dependent on weather.

2. **Estatoe Trail Update**
   D. Todd shared updates regarding the status of the Estatoe trail. He shared the current trail will meet Rosman Hwy and cross featuring a full stop crosswalk—the crosswalk will be installed by NCDOT, while the City is constructing the sidewalk and already making good progress. The trail alignment falls under the City's work as well. A. Baker asked about NCDOT's timeline regarding the crosswalk, and D. Todd said he is hopeful the install will take place before the end of the year. D. Todd shared the trail from Cashiers' Valley Rd. through the Tannery site and comes out at the garden area behind the Skate Park will be built by NCDOT, with bids opening on March 2nd, and construction on the trail set to begin by June of 2026.

3. **Estatoe Boardwalk Update**
   D. Todd shared the temporary trail surface is complete up to Pender Ln, including the install of privacy fencing. The planned split rail fence at the temporary trail will be installed ASAP. And then the trail will open back up officially. D. Todd shared some potential path considerations for the Pender Rd. trail route and Fisher Rd. crosswalk, citing aspects of Pender Rd (drainage, trees) that could prove challenging.

   Mayor Copelof shared there is a group interested in creating a Friends of Franklin Park organization, who desire to perform small park maintenance tasks, raise funds for park projects, etc.

F. Public Comment

None.

G. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for November 19th, 2025 at 3:30pm.

H. Adjourn

L. Wise made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by D. Jessee. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 4:24pm.

Approved: November 19, 2025

Aaron Baker, Chair or
Lauren Wise, Vice Chair

Madalin Baker
Administrative Services Manager