

Minutes of the Mt. Vernon-Black Township Parks and Recreation Board June 17th, 2026.

The Mt. Vernon-Black Township Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday June 17th, 2026, at Mt. Vernon City Hall 520 Main Street. Parks Board members in attendance were Park Board President Sarah Brown-Spurgeon, Adam Brothers, Willie Clark, Parks Director Michael Harshbarger, and Administrative Assistant Carly Carter. Unable to attend this month's meeting is Jessica Zirkelbach and Bob Stemple.

Recommended Actions

1. **SIGN CLAIMS-** The motion to authorize claims was made by Adam Brothers and seconded by Willie Clark. Motion Carried.
2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING-** The motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Adam Brothers and seconded by Willie Clark. Motion carried.
3. **BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS-** The motion to approve the balance of accounts to be entered into the minutes subject for the audit for May was made by Adam Brothers seconded by Willie Clark. Motion carried.

Updates:

Fitness court event

The grand opening Fitness Court Event went well. Dustin Boyer put on a class and demonstrated how to use the equipment. Michael told the board that it was cool to see how it worked.

Fall sports

Tackle Sign Ups are open and online to get kids signed up before school gets out. To be able to practice through the summer. New equipment has been ordered. The middle of July the other fall sports registration will open. Forms will go out in the first week of school.

Jasper pool visit

Michael and Dilean visited the jasper pool. They are one year in with a new pool. Jasper also worked with Hafer. Their pool design is very similar to ours. They have a high dive with a platform, ninja course, and a swimming area that's similar. Michael and Dilean were able to go through the pump room and see how they have it set up. They had their pump room expert there to answer questions. They were also able to tell them what they would do differently. Michael and Dilean liked the design of the office area and the chemical system. The Jasper pool also has an area to rent for parties throughout the day. Hafer will take all the feedback and make updates to the design.

Market nights

The first Markets Nights at the Riverfront went well. There were close to 15 vendors that attended. The original first night was rained out. Other vendors saw the attendance with the pictures posted online and expressed interest in coming to the other nights scheduled.

Hageman/Brittlebank

Updates from Mayor Loehr to the work on the Hageman events center have started. Workers have put up the steel frame. Now that this has started the building is starting to take shape.

Work on the Pickleball courts will start when they are finished with the events center.

It will be \$53,000 for a new pond liner. Looking for a grant to repair the pond. We will be speaking with the county about helping with funding since repairs and projects at Hageman and Brittlebank benefit everyone in the county. The pond isn't visibly leaking, and a new playground has been put in next to it. This playground is fenced in and for kids 2-year-old to 5-year-old.

A representative with the tree board will be planting trees at Avery's Place along the walking trails. Mayor Loehr would like to have LED Lights put in on the trails. Mayor Loehr and Michael will continue to keep the board updated on these matters.

Old business:

Hafer/Pool

Updated designs were sent by Hafer addressing some suggestions Michael and Dilean had after the visit to the Jasper pool. These were sent on to the board members. Everyone agreed they looked good and things are continuing to proceed.

CenterPoint Grant

The CenterPoint grant is strictly for 501c3 groups. We have an organization that's 501c3 that is separate from the city. Amber Thorne runs this organization, and Michael will be reaching out to her. This grant is open throughout July.

Michael is waiting to hear about the grant with the Indiana Conservation. This will be a matching grant for rural areas. There is a lot of information needed to apply for this grant, but we should have everything that we need.

Michael had the meeting with the financial team set up for the pool project. They asked a lot of questions about what we have and what we will look into as far as our options for funding. This is a county wide project so we will be looking into Tiff and any other grant options available.

Michael will keep the board updated on this situation.

New Business:

County meeting

Mayor Leohr and Michael will be meeting with county council member Heather Allen to discuss financial help with the Hageman/Brittlebank projects from the county. They will be meeting with her next Thursday, and two board members can attend if they would like. Michael will keep the board updated on this situation.

The next Parks and Recreation Board meeting is scheduled for July 20th, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. Mt. Vernon City Hall. 520 Main St.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Adam Brothers and seconded by Willie Clark. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

MICHAEL HARSHBARGER _____

SARAH BROWN-SPURGEON _____