

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Committee Members Present: Jerrica Cecil, Adam Clark, Jamie Rowe, Melinda Sweeney, Vicki Windham

Guests Present: None

1, 2. Call to Order/Roll Call: The board president announces that the meeting is to begin and determines the presence or absence of committee members. President Vicki Windham called the meeting to order on **Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 5:30pm.**

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Vicki reviewed the minutes from the January meeting. The committee approved the minutes as presented.

4. Public Comments: There were no public comments made.

5. Old Business:

- a. Non-Profit Report
 - i. Non-Profit Coordinator Melinda Sweeney reported that all non-profit paperwork and reports are up to date.
- b. Story Walk update
 - i. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe reported that the Story Walk project will move forward as soon as the new concrete work is completed at Boon Park.
 - ii. Vicki stated that the story walk in Joplin has twenty pedestals; when a book doesn't have twenty pages, they have added cute artwork or advertisements such as a QR code or "For more cute books like this, visit the library."
 - iii. Melinda suggested a large-scale "grand opening" for the story walk when it is completed, with a themed party based around the first book chosen. She asked if the library has a list of books that could be available. Secretary Adam Clark also serves on the library board, he stated that he would check with library director Jordan Myers.
- c. Super Bowl fundraiser wrap-up
 - i. Jamie reported that the fundraiser went well. Committee members sold \$370 in goods to Corner Cottage. Kim Williams donated \$150 of the proceeds back to Friends of the Park. We are grateful to Corner Cottage and the Williams family for hosting the fundraiser and their continued support of Friends of the Park!

6. New Business

- a. Communications Director position
 - i. An opening currently exists on the executive committee for the position of Communications Director. At this time, Park Liaison Jamie Rowe will serve as Interim Communications Director and will operate the Facebook page until the committee can identify someone to take over that position.

b. Officer Elections

- i. With an open position and with Vicki's move out of the area, the committee discussed filling the open positions for the remainder of the term. The new officer slate is as follows:
 1. President: Jerrica Cecil
 2. Vice President: Amy Moon
 3. Secretary: Adam Clark
 4. Treasurer: Jennifer Brown
 5. Communications Director: Jamie Rowe (interim)
 6. Non-Profit Coordinator: Melinda Sweeney
 7. Park Liaison: Jamie Rowe
- ii. These officers will serve until annual elections are held at the June meeting,

7. Discussion Items

a. Ongoing fundraising plans

i. Blacklight Bingo

1. Melinda reported that she has reached out to several different people to try to partner for the blacklight bingo fundraiser with no success. The logistics of running this without a supporting group are more than the committee wants to try, so for the time being the blacklight bingo fundraiser is on the back burner.

ii. Galentine's Day Fundraiser

1. Vice President Jerrica Cecil reported that she had talked with Ashley Vancil, owner of Authentic Arts, about the fundraiser and that we would receive profits collected from the paint party. They have asked for volunteers to help with the party from 5:00-8:00pm. Jerrica plans to be there. The event is set for Friday, February 13.
2. Jamie reported that Rachel Strickland is working on a donation jar for the committee to leave at Authentic Arts.
3. Adam will send an email to everyone asking for more volunteers.

b. Dexter Parks and Recreation project updates

i. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe updated the committee on projects occurring at the city parks:

1. Boon Park's teeter-totter is still on the agenda. Jamie has determined the safe fall zone and will be using some material that is being used at Eden Park.
2. Jamie has spoken to some potential donors about adding tall water play towers to some of the area parks. They would have a button to press to start the water flowing, then it would rain down on whoever walked under it.
3. Community Garden: registration is open for the community garden.
4. Farmer's Market: registration is open for this year's farmer's market.

c. Social Media Update

- i. Jamie asked about having the committee sponsor one person's entry fee for a spring sport as a way to generate "likes" and "shares" on the Friends of the Park Facebook page, much as we have done with gift baskets and other giveaways. The committee agreed to the plan.

d. Financial Update

- i. There was no financial update provided tonight. January's account balance was \$35,852.05.

e. New Fundraiser Ideas

- i. There were no new fundraiser ideas presented at tonight's meeting.

f. Other Business

- i. Jamie has created an advertisement to run in the DPR Recreation Guide, which goes to every student at Dexter Public Schools, sharing information about Friends of the Park as a kind of membership push. The advertisement mentions what we do, when we meet, and encourages anyone interested to contact us to join us.

Our next scheduled meeting will be **Wednesday, March 4 at 5:30pm**. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" and last name "Clark" clearly distinguishable.

Adam Clark
Secretary