



Town of Sykesville

7547 Main Street, Sykesville, MD 21784

p: 410.795.8959 f: 410.795.3818

townofsykesville.org

Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Kavaloski, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2025 REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION

The Sykesville Parks and Recreation (SPARC) meeting was held on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Commissioner Sheets called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Conference Room.

PRESENT: Commissioners Lauren Hanratty, Amy Poet, Nick Sheets, Billy Shifflet, and Eric Valenstein. Council Member Alex Ries

ABSENT: Commissioners Dan Gilbert and Chris Sevick

STAFF: Drew Rittenhouse, Parks and Recreation Coordinator

MINUTES:

- **May 22, 2025**

MOTION: Commissioner Sheets motioned to push the approval of the May 22, 2025, meeting minutes to the next meeting. Commissioner Shifflet seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS:

- **Induction of Lauren Hanratty**
Lauren Hanratty was welcomed as the newest Commissioner.
- **Sponsors**
Commissioner Poet read the sponsors and partners of SPARC.
- **Let Freedom Ring Parade**
Commissioner Sheets announced that the parade begins at 10 A.M., but volunteers should be at Sykesville Middle School between 8:30 and 9:30 A.M. They should wear their new SPARC t-shirts.

Drew Rittenhouse, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, looked at the float, and while it will be usable this year, it is starting to show its age. The decorations from last year are on the float still. Public Works will bring the float to the lineup area. There was a discussion about looking for additional decorations for the float.

Commissioner Sevick has volunteers to ride on the float and to hand out candy. Commissioner Poet will buy candy. She will contact Commissioner Sevick about how much to buy.

- **SPARC Float**

Commissioner Sheets explained that the float will either need to be repaired or replaced for next year. He would like to be part of building a new one. He thinks it would be a good off-season project. Commissioner Shifflett suggested a design that is more parks and recreation themed.

- **Sykesville Cinema and Music Showcase – July Showing and Toy Story**

Despicable Me will be shown on July 12. The Band Shoppe will have a performance from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M., and the movie will start about 30 minutes after that. Volunteers for the concert should arrive by 4:00 P.M.

Mr. Rittenhouse asked for a Commissioner to come to the Town House and identify and pick up what equipment needs to be brought to Millard Cooper Park. Commissioner Shifflett will transport the equipment prior to the event date.

Commissioner Sheets will put out the signs for both the concert and the movie.

There was a discussion of having a trial run to teach newer Commissioners how to set up the equipment.

Commissioner Sheets asked for clarification on a weather cancellation. Typically, the person responsible for setting up the equipment makes the call on whether to cancel. Commissioner Shifflett suggested waiting as long as possible, as the weather can change throughout the day.

There was a discussion about rescheduling Toy Story to next year. There was also discussion about having the different neighborhoods vote on the movies next year. Commissioner Shifflett suggested having voting locations in the sponsor stores.

- **July Farmers' Market**

Commissioner Poet explained that she and Commissioner Gilbert staffed the table at the Farmers' Market. She suggested having something to draw people in, such as stickers, candy, or temporary tattoos. Crafts or activities could also be a good draw.

There was a discussion about a wheel of prizes. Mr. Rittenhouse suggested raffling off a shirt. He asked to not give away free items from the Snack Shack this season, as he is working on determining the cost and sales from the items at the Snack Shack.

There was a discussion about the pricing of the Snack Shack items and donations for Carroll Food Sunday.

Commissioner Sheets and Council Member Ries will staff the table on July 6.

Commissioner Poet and Commissioner Sheets will staff the table on July 20.

There was a discussion about the pamphlet and how to make the table more inviting.

- **Stickers**
Mr. Rittenhouse displayed the sticker that was created for SPARC.

TOWN UPDATES:

- **Volunteer Newsletter**
Mr. Rittenhouse explained that he is hoping to use a volunteer newsletter to give people more information about volunteer opportunities after they have volunteered once.
- **Survey**
Mr. Rittenhouse explained that a survey was posted in the parks and responses have been submitted.
- **Donations and Credit Payments**
Mr. Rittenhouse is working with the Town Treasurer to determine how credit cards can be accepted at the Snack Shack and for donations.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before SPARC, Commissioner Sheets motioned, and Commissioner Valenstein seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski