



**Town of Southwest Ranches
Parks, Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources
Advisory Board Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday,
September 9, 2025

Town Hall
13400 Griffin Road
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

Board Members

Chris Brownlow, Dena Butler, Debbie Green,
Ron Martinez, Laurie Morse

Council Liaison

Gary Jablonski

Staff Liaison

December Lauretano-Haines

A. ROLL CALL

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. AGENDA AS FOLLOWS

D. NEW BUSINESS:

- Adopt Town of Southwest Ranches Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for June 2025.
- December 9th: optional meeting; conflict with other events; to meet or not to meet, this is the question!

E. OLD BUSINESS:

- Follow up/Maintenance report attached for the Board's review and discussion.

F. AGENDA PREP FOR NEXT MEETING

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- H.** Quote of the month: September 4th is National Wildlife Day
National Wildlife Day, celebrated on September 4th, serves to draw attention to species in need and promote conservation efforts for wildlife.

"The continued existence of wildlife and wilderness is important to the quality of life of humans."

- Jim Fowler

I. STAFF COMMENTS

J. HOA/PUBLIC COMMENTS

K. ADJOURNMENT



Town of Southwest Ranches Parks, Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board Minutes

June 10, 2025
7:00 pm

Board Members

Chris Brownlow, Dena Butler, Debbie Green, Ron Martinez, Laurie Morse

Council Liaison

Gary Jablonski

Staff Liaison

December Lauretano-Haines

Members present:

Dena Butler
Debbie Green
Ron Martinez
Laurie Morse

RFNRAB Members absent:

Chris Brownlow

Staff present:

December Lauretano-Haines

Council present:

Bob Hartmann
Steve Breitkreuz
Gary Jablonski
Jim Allbritton

Others present:

Call to order at 7:03 PM

The members present reviewed the minutes of the May 2025 meeting.

Ron motioned to approve the May 2025 minutes. Dena seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Staff gave maintenance report. Staff is looking for a better Sign Language message board for Country Estates Park. December has reached out to local schools and others that have active ASL programs.

In the Fall, the I9 Program will continue Saturdays and add Sunday programs. Town will continue to mow the field weekly through the summer. Gary recommended that we mow the park at the higher level to try to help make the grass more cushiony. At the Equestrian Park, the playground upgrade items will begin next week. Work expected to be completed by the end of July. At the Rolling Oaks Park, the lightning-stricken Oak tree has been transformed. The chainsaw artist completed his work. The Parks Foundation would like to put something surrounding the tree to protect against any harm to the artwork or vandalism. A suggestion was to perhaps put a rock border, similar to what's around the small landscape area in front of the barn. Plans paint the interior of the Barn. A suggestion was made for future town events, to plan to have landfill, recycle, and compost containers next to each other at the event. Ground has been broken at Southwest Meadows Park. There will be a Groundbreaking Ceremony on Thursday, June 12th at 6 prior to the Town Council Meeting. Still hoping to get feedback for the Town Calendar of Events.

Events – Farmers Market is ongoing on Saturdays, Bingo at the Barn September 27th, Mayor Chess Challenge October 18th. The Parks Foundation is planning Food Truck Event the first Tuesday of the Month from 4pm – 9pm. Staff is looking for dates for the Bird Tours in our Parks with Councilman Hartmann. He would like to organize bird tours quarterly; early in the morning (8-10am) on the weekend in different parks in Town. Would like to organize groups of no more than 15 people. There is interest in starting a monthly or quarterly

event for Veterans. Request made again to add pickleball courts in some of our parks. Suggestion made that Country Estates Park and Rolling Oaks Park may be good sites.

Broward Solid Waste Authority meeting to share the draft master plan to all elected officials and city/town staff at Broward Theatre of Performing Arts on Wednesday, June 12th at 9am and another meeting to discuss the plan with residents at Tree Tops Park on Monday, June 16th.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.



**Town of Southwest Ranches
Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board
Follow up/Maintenance Report**

September 9, 2025

Board Members

Chris Brownlow, Dena Butler, Debbie Green,
Ron Martinez, Laurie Morse

Council Liaison

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December Lauretano-Haines

CALUSA CORNERS PARK

- **Playground Surface material replenishment:** Staff anticipates work to be completed within the fiscal year.

COUNTRY ESTATES PARK

- **Therapeutic Recreation Elements / Communication Board:** Staff has a design draft and is working with local sign company to fabricate the sign.
- **Youth Sports Program:** Fall programs on Saturdays and Sundays begin on October 4th for the Fall season. Weekend reservations will be suspended during program seasons.
- **Playground Surface material replenishment:** Staff anticipates work to be completed within the fiscal year.
- **Irrigation shed:** Demolition work will soon be completed.

EQUESTRIAN PARK

- **Playground Surface material replenishment:** Staff anticipates work to be completed within the fiscal year.

ROLLING OAKS PARK

- **Lightning Struck Oak:** Decorative fencing was installed in August. A plaque has been ordered and will be installed upon delivery
- **Interior Painting Project:** Project is complete.

SOUTHWEST MEADOWS SANCTUARY PARK AND PRESERVE

- **New Construction:** Work has been delayed by permitting issues with SFWMD, completion anticipated within FY 2026.
- **Historic Home:** This structure has significant deterioration; it will be offered as-is to anyone who wishes to remove it.

OTHER PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:

- **Townwide Invasive Exotics Removal:** Work anticipated to be complete within the fiscal year.
- **Townwide Tree pruning:** Project is substantially complete.

EVENTS CALENDAR, UPCOMING and PROPOSED

Please ask your groups to provide input to Staff to ensure cooperation among all park users and to eliminate user conflicts, which abound!

- **Southwest Ranches Farmers Market:** Saturdays at Southwest Meadows Preserve, 10am - 3pm. (Sunday program begins September 21st).
- **AARP Fraud Workshop** Wednesday, September 17, Town Hall 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- **Aster Knight Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation Bingo at the Barn:** Saturday, September 27th, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale.
- **Mayor's Chess Challenge** event will be on Saturday October 18th at Town Hall.
- **Aster Knight Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation Monthly food truck event** at Southwest Meadows Preserve – First Tuesday of each month from 4 pm to 9 pm.
- **Aster Knight Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation Pumpkin Patch Event** at Southwest Meadows Preserve – October 16th -19th
 Thursday and Friday: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm
 Sunday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
- **Wings Over the Ranches:** Quarterly birding tour led by VM Hartmann –
 Saturdays, 8:00 am – 10:30 am
 Nov 22, 2025 Sunshine Ranches Equestrian Park
 Jan 10, 2026 Rolling Oaks Park
 Mar 14, 2026 Country Estates Park
 Aug 15, 2026 Southwest Meadows Sanctuary & Calusa Corners

OTHER PROPOSED NEW EVENTS UPCOMING:

- Monthly or bimonthly **Veterans Social Café** with chess, checkers, dominoes, Bridge, or cards. We are collecting contact information for veterans who live in Town who may wish to participate.