Town of Kure Beach
Community Center Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2026

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM by Ellen Owens. Other committee members in attendance were Christine Burrows, Jim Fitzgerald, John Pride, Alice Gilliiland, and Mike McMahon. Town Council Commissioner Connie Mearkle, Recreation Department Director Nikki Keely were also present.

Approval of minutes: The June committee minutes were approved. (John, Mike)

Town News:

Connie Mearkle gave a brief update on town council activities. Nikki shared some updates about the Disney filming permit application in process for filming a pilot.

Facility Update [Recreation Department]:

Nikki provided an update on recreational activities and the state of community center bookings. Things are busy with very high rental rates.

Community Center Old Business:

Volunteering Lecture: June 15th @3p with Becky Doherty (New Hanover County Senior Resource Center) gave a lecture on how the Center can help coordinate volunteer opportunities. It went well with about 10 in attendance, and Becky Doherty will connect with attendees to help them find good matches for their volunteering interest.

Genealogy Interest Group (GIG): GIG continues to meet monthly on the first Thursday of the month. July's class went well with 3 attendees. Disney has the community center the first full week of August (July 31, Aug 3-7), so the next class needs to be either rescheduled or moved to the Town Hall.

Community Center Continued Business:

Landscaping: Ellen and John met with Ryan, and Ryan plans to help with the landscaping at the community center. Will schedule another follow up with him in September.

Artificial Intelligence Round Table Discussion: Proposed monthly event from 7-8:30p. Plan is to have a September start date as a standing 2nd Tuesday monthly event for the next six months for now (9/8, 10/6, 11/10, 12/8, 1/12, 2/9). The best initial topic will be an invited expert overview, and Mike and Shelley are looking at options for a presenter.

Pasta classes: A second class was held on July 12th. We are looking at August 23rd or 30th for the next class, and we will settle on a date this week. Nikki will help set up a Cognito sign up registration for the next class.

Neighbor Nights:

Community Center Committee can participate (every Thursday at 6:30 – 7:30p through August 13th) – our committee will plan to participate next summer.

Sandy Stitches: proposed once a month, 3rd Wednesday of the month (August 19th).

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:35AM and the next meeting will be held on August 11th, 2026, at 9:30AM in the town hall.