



City of Pensacola

222 West Main Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

Meeting Minutes 3 - Final

Parks and Recreation Board

Thursday, May 19, 2022

8:00 AM

Hagler-Mason Conference Room

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person. City Council encourages those not fully vaccinated to wear face coverings that cover their nose and mouth.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hicks

Chairperson Hicks read a statement to the public about the time delay and how they can participate in the board meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Chairperson Rand Hicks, Antonio Bruni, David Del Gallo, Alejandra Escobar-Ryan, Michael Wolf, and Renee Borden
Absent 1 - Leah Harrison

1. SWEARING IN OF NEW AND/OR RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS

Assistant City Clerk Tice asked Vice Chair Maranda Sword to stand and raise her right hand. She was re-appointed by Council to serve an additional three-year term. Assistant City Clerk Tice administered the oath. She agreed to serve.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Attachments: [22-4-21 Minutes Uapproved](#)

A motion was made by Sword, seconded by Del Gallo, that this Minutes be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chairperson Hicks, Sword, Bruni, Del Gallo, Escobar-Ryan, Wolf, and Borden

Absent: 2 - O'Donovan, and Harrison

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attachments: [22-5-19 Director's Report Parks and Recreation Board](#)
[Tech Park Land to Soccer Fields](#)

Chairperson Hicks asked the board members if they had any questions concerning the Director's Report.

*Member Borden inquired about the soccer participation numbers. She asked if these numbers only encompass the city's recreation programs. Athletics Superintendent Fox explained the numbers only include the Pensacola Youth Soccer League. The travel teams are outside of these numbers.

*Member Bruni inquired about the youth programs. He asked if scholarships offset the revenue collected. Athletics Superintendent Fox stated yes it does. Member Bruni asked about the accounting of programs and requested documentation of payment. Discussion continued in regards to registration and the collection of revenue received.

*Member Del Gallo asked for an update on the Roger Scott Tennis Courts Project. Interim Director Stills reported the project will go back out to bid the end of May.

*Member Escobar-Ryan inquired about the status of trees being planted. Interim Director reported the City arborist will advise on the care for the trees during this dry season.

*Chairperson Hicks asked board members to reach out to the neighborhood associations and to ask for community involvement. Discussion continued.

*Member Borden inquired about the trees to be planted in Technology Park. Interim Director Stills explained the specs received from Geosyntec did include Technology Park to have trees planted but that has not taken place.

*Member Borden inquired about the exhibit presented to board for the possibility of turning the technology park into practice fields. Interim Director Stills reported he is working on the possibility to have access to part of the park as practice soccer fields.

STAFF REPORTS

4.

Attachments: [Board PR All Funds Financial Summary](#)

Budget and Planning Specialist Kendra Weekley brought before the board a report that reflects the financials for the second quarter ending in March with a three years comparison. Kendra asked the board if they had any questions in reference to the report that was included in the agenda packet.

*Member Borden asked where would revenue received from resource centers show in the report. Budget and Planning Specialist Weekley stated those numbers will show in line item titled Recreation/Athletic Fund. She added the funds are low at this time because the busiest season does not

start until April the next quarterly report will show those revenues.

*Member Borden asked the tennis fund revenue received is the same as the expenditures is this correct. Budget and Planning Specialist Weekley stated yes that is correct the revenue that exceeds the budget will go to other programs. The expenditures from the tennis fund only encompasses the minor repairs. Major repairs are handled through Parks and Recreation LOST fund.

*Member Borden asked if revenue is collected for the concessions at the tennis center. Budget and Planning Specialist Weekley stated revenue is collected from Pro Shop and would have to look into concession sales.

5. TONYA BYRD - SUMMER PROGRAMS

Recreation Superintendent Tonya Byrd brought before board Summer Camp Programs. The registration for Summer Camps started April 4th and within a half hour most outdoor camps were full. As far as the other camps, they were reaching full level which we had to limit the number of registration at a couple of centers because of the issue with being under staffed. The ratio is 1/25 and we do separate the kids into age groups as well. Having enough staff to cover 7:00 to 6:00 with breaks has been a struggle. We do need one more bus driver with a CDL license if anyone knows of a driver please contact her. Training starts this Saturday at Fricker Center from 9:00 to 12:00 for new and returning staff. They will come in for a refresher and receive shirts to be ready May 31st. Two new camps this year. We were able to work with Breathe Yoga to bring two yoga camps at Gull Point.

*Member Del Gallo suggested reaching out to the Escambia County School Board for drivers. Recreation Superintendent Byrd confirmed she has contacted them and is working on the possibility of sharing a driver.

* Member Del Gallo suggested recruiting juniors and seniors from the high schools to help staff at the summer camps. Recreation Superintendent Byrd confirmed she has contacted the school board and also Kelsey Powell who runs the Summer Youth Employment Program with the City of Pensacola has the job descriptions and has received three applications through the program.

*Member Bruni inquired as to the reason the registrations fills up so quickly is it related to a staffing issue. Recreation Superintendent Byrd reported a greater demand is there vs staffing, resources and budget.

*Member Bruni inquired if the summer camps are revenue neutral. Recreation Superintendent Byrd responded that the outdoor camps are revenue positive. Discussion followed.

*Member Bruni inquired as to the break down of city residents vs county residents that who register for the summer camps. Recreation Superintendent Byrd responded that she does not have that information she would need to look at the registrations.

*Member Bruni suggested city residents should have priority to register first for summer camps.

NEW BUSINESS

6. PARK AMENITY DEDICATION REQUEST - PUMPKIN ASH TREE - LIONS PARK

Attachments: [Pumpkin Ash Tree - Lions Park](#)

Dawn Cagle brought before the board a presentation to request a park amenity dedication of a Pumpkin Ash Tree at Lions Park for the memory of Morgan V. Riley. Ms. Cagle told the board that Carmen Jones is a dear friend who unbeknown to her submitted the dedicated request for the Pumpkin Ash Tree. Ms. Cagle informed the board she is the mother of Morgan V. Riley. Ms. Cagle enlightened the board that Morgan V. Riley was a beautiful beautiful man who had committed suicide on March 18, 2022 losing his battle to depression. Ms. Cagle continued to say that Morgan, her granddaughter, and I would go to Lions Park a lot as it is close to where I live. One of the symbolic meanings of the Pumpkin Ash Tree in Ireland is that it is the tree of life and of immortality.

A motion was made by Bruni, seconded by Escobar-Ryan, that this Park Amenity be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chairperson Hicks, Sword, Bruni, Del Gallo, Escobar-Ryan, Wolf, and Borden

Absent: 2 - O'Donovan, and Harrison

7. PARK AMENITY DEDICATION REQUEST - THE GARDEN OF PEACE AND HOPE - A MEMORIAL FOR HOMICIDE VICTIMS

Attachments: [The Garden of Peace and Hope - Corrine Jones Park](#)

Alyson Yarbough Clay, Angela Mixon, and Lavon Brown brought before the board a presentation to request a park amenity dedication for a garden of peace and hope - a memorial for homicide victims.

Alyson Yarbough Clay, began the presentation to the board.

Ms. Yarbough Clay is a board member for (PAIN) Parents Against Injustice and Negligence which is a non-profits 501c3 organization that advocates and assist families of homicide victims in the local area. One way to do so is to create a park The Garden of Peace and Hope that would honor those who have lost their lives to homicide. The homicide victims to be honored are those that have fallen to the violence that has plagued our community. These honorees had lives that were cut short by the hands of others leaving families and friends to mourn the unexpected loss. This location will be an opportunity to honor the memory of those who have fallen. This location promotes healing, hope and peace in the lives of those impacted by a homicide in our community and the community at large.

Ms. Mixon, began the presentation by telling the board her 22 year old daughter was murdered on February 17, 2011 and placed in a shallow grave by the Navy Base. The park is a place that is close by to where I live

and I can stand on my front porch and look at the park. The park is where I go to reflect on the memories of her and it offers me a place of peace and tranquility instead of going to the site and remembering what happened there that day. The park is a place that I can take her two sons to remember her and this is the area where she grew up we had been living in this area since 1994. Ms. Mixon thanked the board for taking the time to listen today. Ms. Brown, President of Parents Against Injustice and Negligence. I am a mother of has been affected by a homicide. I am a survivor. On October 22, 2012, I received a call saying my son had been shot. Upon the arrival at the location which I was directed by the caller, I encountered my son who was covered by a white sheet immediately I knew a mothers worse fear had found me, my son was dead. The crime scene tape was placed and I could not appear any further. Every emotion you could image grabbed me and I began to run and holler until suddenly a peace fell upon me. With this peace, I was able to start comforting others at the scene. A nugget of my ability to comfort others in distress was increased at the most worse tragedy that I could ever think of. This is why I support the development of The Garden of Peace and Hope that our area is lacking in support for survivors families of homicide victims. This is very important we began working on this since 2014 and we are looking forward to come fruition this year. The name is very important for this spot. Currently we have meetings now in the Corrine Jones Park in the area where we have been allotted this area to have the Garden of Peace and Hope this area that is very peaceful. This is for anyone who is suffering a tragedy this is a place for healing a place for peace and a place to reflect on good memories and good time. Many people go to the cemetery or the crime scene where is not a good place where you can think on good memories. We want this place to be a reflection of good memories and we can smile, talk and laugh and we can have peace. I know what peace is. Ms. Brown thanked the board for everything that is being done.

Chairperson Hicks asked Ms. Brown for a clearer idea of what it is she wants to specifically do at the site. Ms. Brown stated she wants to set up a place where there is a concrete slab, benches, flowers, a wall, and some pavers with names and dates as a memorial. Each family would be responsible for purchasing the pavers. Ms. Brown showed a rendering of the idea.

Member Del Gallo offered his services for the concrete work.

A motion was made by Borden, seconded by Sword, that this Park Amentiy be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chairperson Hicks, Sword, Bruni, Del Gallo, Escobar-Ryan, Wolf, and Borden

Absent: 2 - O'Donovan, and Harrison

OLD BUSINESS

8. DISCUSSION - PARKS AND RECREATION REQUEST FOR MASTER PLAN

Attachments: [Link to City of Gainesville Master Plan](#)
[Orange County Florida - Table of Contents](#)
[Master Plan Ideas - Contents for Discussion](#)
[Template for Creating Your Own Master Planning Request for Proposal](#)
[UWF - COP Parks Needs Assessment 12-1-2016](#)

Chairperson Hicks reported to the board that he has reached out to Dr. Song who is an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator, Sports Management at the University of West Florida. He had spoken to him about the needs assessment completed by the university in 2016 and asked him if he would like to repeat that performance. Dr. Song said absolutely. They would like to come and provide for us a needs assessment regarded as a step towards or equivalent to a master plan. They would like to do this for the good of the community for the good of Pensacola and as a gift to our city. Dr. Song wants to suggest is that this be a permanent/semi-permanent relationship that this would be something that University of West Florida can continue to do as needed years coming forward.

*Member Wolf asked if a fee was involved. Chairperson Hicks responded no fee.

*Member Del Gallo asked if they would be able to and willing to meet with board members to talk about processes. Chairperson Hicks responded that Dr. Song is interested in coming to and participating at the board meetings and also at public engagement meetings and all of us will be invited to attend.

Discussion continued.

*Chairperson Hicks asked for comments from the Interim Director and the Deputy City Administrator. Interim Director Stills commented that this is very exciting news. Soccer fields for games and practices are at great demand right now and if the needs assessment can help that would be a great benefit to expanding the program.

*Member Wolf asked the Deputy City Administrator Forte if city council would need to approve the involvement with University of West Florida and them producing a needs assessment. Deputy City Administrator Forte responded that a interlocal agreement would to be entered into with University of West Florida drafted by legal outlining the perimeters and responsibilities.

Discussion continued.

9. MEMBERSHIP - NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Attachments: [Links - National Recreation and Park Association Publications - April & May](#)

Chairperson Hicks announced that all board members have been added to the National Recreation and Park Association membership and will start receiving monthly publications.

OPEN FORUM

Chairperson Hicks announced that Michael O'Donovan has resigned from the Parks and Recreation Board.

Member Bruni made a motion to encourage the Council to give extra consideration to appoint a nominee to the Parks and Recreation board from District 7 in order to encourage the diversity of the group.

A motion was made by Bruni, seconded by Del Gallo, that this be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chairperson Hicks, Bruni, Del Gallo, Wolf, and Borden

Absent: 4 - O'Donovan, Sword, Escobar-Ryan, and Harrison

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Pensacola adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable accommodations for access to City services, programs and activities. Please call 435-1606 (or TDD 435-1666) for further information. Request must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the event in order to allow the City time to provide the requested services.