



**City of Pensacola**  
**Parks and Recreation Board**

**Agenda**

---

September 17, 2020

8:00 am

Microsoft Teams/Council Chambers

---

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, PROJECT UPDATES**

Paul Pipes – Volunteer and Outdoor Pursuits Coordinator

**NEW BUSINESS**

David Forte – SUN Trail update

Phil Nickinson – Pensacola Youth Soccer

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Board Members and Neighborhood Associations
2. Capital Improvement Projects Update
3. Board Member Park Visitation Program

**OPEN FORUM**

**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 436-5682 (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.

**City of Pensacola****Parks and Recreation Board****Unapproved Meeting Minutes**

August 20, 2020

8:00 am

Council Chambers

**Members Present:** Rand Hicks (Chairperson), Maranda Sword (Vice-Chair), Antonio Bruni, David Del Gallo (left at 8:57), Alejandra Escobar-Ryan, Leah Harrison (via Teams), Jarah Jacquay and Michael Wolf

**Members Absent:** Gabriela Garza

**City Staff Present:** Brian Cooper (Parks and Recreation Director), Deja Dowdell (Marketing Coordinator), and Heidi Thorsen (Assistant to the Director)

To limit the potential spread of COVID-19, some Board Members could attend by telephonic conferencing (Microsoft Teams), and members of the public had the opportunity to attend and participate only via live stream or phone. This change in format was consistent with Executive Order 20-179 issued by Gov. Ron DeSantis and had been adopted at the direction of Council President Jewel Cannada-Wynn in consultation with the City Attorney. Public participation was available as follows:

Members of the public could attend and participate via live stream and/or phone.

- To watch the meeting live, visit [cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video](https://www.cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video).
- To provide input –
  - o For Open Forum, (for items not on the agenda): citizens may submit an online form here <https://www.cityofpensacola.com/ParksInput> beginning at 7:00 A.M. until 8:30 A.M. only to indicate they wish to speak during Open Forum and include a phone number. Staff will call the person at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the Parks and Recreation Board using a telephone held up to a microphone.
  - o For agenda items: citizens may submit an online form here <https://www.cityofpensacola.com/ParksInput> beginning at 7:00 A.M. until that agenda item has been voted upon to indicate they wish to speak to a specific item on the agenda and include a phone number. Staff will call the person at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the Parks and Recreation Board using a telephone held up to a microphone. Any form received after an agenda item has been voted upon will not be considered.

**CALL TO ORDER – 8:04 AM**

Chairperson Hicks read a message about there being about a one-minute delay when the meeting is viewed via the live stream on the City's website.

**ROLL CALL** – An oral roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Del Gallo made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2020 meeting. Member Escobar-Ryan made a motion to second. The minutes were approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

[None]

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Board Members and Neighborhood Associations**

Chair Hicks asked if the assignments to the Neighborhood Associations (NA's), which was emailed to the Board members by Assistant Thorsen, are acceptable with the Board members. After a year of service, they may be reassigned.

Questions were raised about what is expected of the Board members at these meetings. They are expected to participate in the meetings that are usually monthly or quarterly; some NA's have paused meeting during the pandemic, others have moved to virtual meetings. Director Cooper thought attending every month may be too often, maybe consider every three or six months, but let them know that the Board member is available if they have an issue with a park. Chair Hicks mentioned that that may be okay for the Director, but he is expecting them to be active participants, and thus attend most of the NA meetings.

Member Jacquay mentioned that someone he knew tried to send all of the members on the Board an email, but their email addresses were not available on the City's website. If someone wants to contact all of the board members, they need to email Assistant Thorsen whose contact information is on the website (<https://www.cityofpensacola.com/282/Parks-Recreation-Board>). This is done in order to avoid any Sunshine Law violations.

Member Bruni mentioned that he feels their first NA should be the one closest to their home, and the second should be furthest so that they can see the differences. Member Escobar-Ryan liked that idea, and was willing to trade one of hers with someone else. (The list of assigned NA's is attached on the page following the minutes.)

#### **Capital Improvement Projects Update**

[None]

### **DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, PROJECT UPDATES**

Director Cooper brought the following updates:

- The resource centers are still closed. We will not operate in sync with the schools but will set our own schedule. We want to provide afterschool care, but we want to be responsible and not spread the virus. We are looking at opening back up the end of September or the first part of October, based on the Mayor's directive.

- Special event permits for more than 50 people are still not being issued until the end of September (subject to change).
- The City has had quite a few staff or their families who have been affected by COVID. We are working with other departments to be sure everyone's jobs are done.
- The bids on the Hitzman Optimist soccer fields came back about \$300,000 less than before. Hopefully, this will be enough that we can complete the project. It is still over budget, but Director Cooper is looking for ways to fund the project.
- Legion Field press box is under construction. The splash pad is going to Council on September 10 for approval.
- The new Bayview Resource Center is nearing completion. The Bayou Hills run has been moved to a virtual run, and we have postponed the ribbon cutting on the new facility until a later date.

Vice-chair Sword mentioned that she is aware of a wedding reception that is scheduled for October 4 at Sanders Beach, and the center has not contacted the organizers as to whether or not they can have their event. She asked that someone please follow up with all of the events that are scheduled for the first part of October. Director Cooper said he will be sure that the staff follows-up.

Member Escobar-Ryan asked about fall sports. Per Director Cooper, football is cancelled, soccer has not been decided yet. At this point the City has allowed trainings and drills, but with no contact. We are still evaluating baseball. No indoor sports are being allowed yet.

Director Cooper mentioned that we took out the benches at M.L.K. Plaza; they are being refurbished in-house. The benches should be complete by Thanksgiving. We may not put all of them back. Palafox Market has mentioned that if there were some removed, they could expand by a few more booths.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Board Member Park Visitation Program**

The following parks were presented: Bay Bluffs Park, East Pensacola Heights Club House, Greenwood Park, McNealy Park, M.L. King Plaza, and Pintado Park.

## **OPEN FORUM**

- Discussion of park visitation checklist -- Member Wolf and Director Cooper came up with similar checklists. Member Escobar-Ryan found another one, which we could adapt to our parks and recreation facilities. Member Wolf's checklist was more subjective and useful for submitting issues with the parks. The one that Member Escobar-Ryan found is the Community Park Audit Tool produced by Kansas State University. It is less subjective, and provides more details about the amenities at each park.

## **ADJOURNMENT – 9:10 AM**

**Neighborhood Association Assignments\***

<b>Belmont-DeVilliers</b>	Rand Hicks, Chair
<b>Pineglades</b>	Rand Hicks, Chair
<b>Cordova Park on the Bayou</b>	Maranda Sword, Vice-Chair
<b>Northeast</b>	Maranda Sword, Vice-Chair
<b>Scenic Heights</b>	Antonio Bruni
<b>Tanyard</b>	Antonio Bruni
<b>East Hill</b>	David Del Gallo
<b>North Hill</b>	David Del Gallo
<b>Cordova Park</b>	Alejandra Escobar-Ryan
<b>Seville Historic</b>	Alejandra Escobar-Ryan
<b>Eastside</b>	Gabriela Garza
<b>Old East Hill</b>	Gabriela Garza
<b>East Pensacola Heights</b>	Leah Harrison
<b>Woodland Heights</b>	Leah Harrison
<b>Brownsville</b>	Jarah Jacquay
<b>Cordova Farms</b>	Jarah Jacquay
<b>Sanders Beach</b>	Michael Wolf
<b>Westside Garden District</b>	Michael Wolf

\*Participation is voluntary for the purpose of assisting, supporting, and answering questions. Assignments or choices may rotate over time.