



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2024 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Michael Perelman, Michael Dively, Craig Russell, Leah J. Bonich, Robert Bendick, Shannon Sarkariti

Absent

Staff Present

Director Jason Seeley, Assistant Directors Cathleen Daus and Mike McCosker, Recreation Coordinator Laura Halsey

1. Call to Order

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of November 15, 2023

Motion made by Michael Dively, seconded by Shannon Sarkarati, to approve the minutes. Motion passes 6-0.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda): Three minutes allowed for each speaker

4. Action Items

- a. Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 30m

Mr. Seeley presented the 5-year strategic plan to the Board with the four major focus areas: Parks, Programming, Facilities & Venues, and Operational Strategy. The board expressed interest in the connectivity of the city parks to promote and support community walkability, sustainability, habitat restoration. The board requested staff return with a plan that does not include tasks and instead, return to the board with a separate document for the 2024 tasks.

- b. Winter Park Historic Society Fee Waiver Request 5m

Jason Seeley, Parks & Recreation Director, presented the fee waiver request of \$472.50

to the board.

Motion made by Michael Dively, seconded by Shannon Sarkarati, to approve the request. Motion passes 6-0.

Discussion ensued regarding the fee waiver request process and eligibility requirements of the applicants.

Motion made by Michael Dively to review the current fee waiver request process. No second was obtained, therefore the motion failed.

5. Non-Action Items

6. Staff Updates

- a. Update from Mead Botanical Gardens Inc 5m

Cynthia Hasenau, Mead Botanical Gardens, provided the board with a 2023 Recap. She provided background and history of the garden itself along with the primary work and accomplishments of the organization. She provided hard copy packets to the board members outlining their strategic plan. The Mead Botanical Garden organization has over 7,000 volunteer hours each year.

Photographs and updates on the current improvements were also provided and discussed with the board. Some of those updates are the new picnic pavilion, new pathways, greenhouse upgrades, and lodge landscaping.

- b. Parks and Recreation Project Update 5m

Mr. Seeley provided the board with updates on the current projects including the Pineywood Columbarium, Cady Way Pool Filtration Replacement, Mead Pavilion, Ward Concession stand, MLK Unity Corner & Shady Park Art Installations, 7 Oaks, and Mead ADA Loop. John Clarke, Recreation & Family Services Manager, provided additional insight on the pool closures and progress.

Chairperson Perelman asked Jason to speak about the budget changes that were presented to the City Commission. Mr. Seeley informed the board that the additional funding was approved. Chairperson Perelman inquired about the park signage and Ms. Daus, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, stated the signage is on the project list, but she does not have an exact date of completion.

Mr. Seeley informed the board of upcoming events: Fiddler's green 5K, Run 4 Love, Senior Prom, St. Patrick's Day Parade, Florida Youth Symphony Orchestra, Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival, Spring Break Camp, Splash, Float, Swim program, and Easter in the Park.

7. Board Comments

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:47pm

Approved by the Board on
/s/ Laura Halsey, Recreation Coordinator

ATTEST: