Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2023 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present
Michael Perelman, Michael Dively, Shannon Sarkarati, Robert Bendick, Krystal Dawkins, Leah J. Bonich

Absent
Craig Russell

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 October 18, 2023

Motion made by Michael Dively to approve the agenda item; seconded by Michael Perelman. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote. (Leah Bonich arrived at 5:33, after the approval of the minutes)

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

4. Action Items

a. Winter Park Rotary Club Fee Waiver Request - 13th Annual Denim & Dazzle Fundraiser

Mr. Seeley, Parks & Recreation Director, reviewed the fee waiver request with the board. Mr. Butch Margraf, Former Chairperson, and Ms. Jean Fuhrman, Current Chairperson of the Rotary Club spoke on behalf of the event. They explained that the Denim & Dazzle event is an upgraded version of their prior Chili for Charities event. Ms. Fuhrman discussed some of the charities that their event supports and what prompted the changes to the original event. All the funds that would have gone towards the facility rental will go towards the charities should they be granted a fee waiver. Mr. Seeley recommended approval of the fee waiver with the caveat that the Rotary be responsible for any hard costs incurred for the event.

Motion made by Michael Dively to approve the agenda item; seconded by Shannon Sarkarati. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

b. Peace and Justice Institute Fee Waiver Request - 2024 Creating a Resilient Community Conference

Mr. Seeley reviewed the fee waiver request with the board and provided an outline of the costs for the event. Ms. Sofiya Asedrem of the Peace and Justice Institute provided additional information on the event and answered the board's questions. The event benefits the residents through their resilience network and the theme is to create resilient communities covering items such as community safety and mental health.

Motion made by Michael Dively to approve the agenda item ; seconded by Michael Perelman. Motion carried with a 5-1 vote with Krystal Dawkins opposing.

c. Winter Park Library Fee Waiver Request - Great Decisions

Mr. Seeley reviewed the fee waiver request with the board providing details of the event. There were not any representatives present on the library's behalf. Ms. Daus, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director, stated the organization was happy with any location that was available for the 8 weeks and the only location with availability for 8 consecutive weeks was at the Farmer's Market.

Motion made by Michael Perelman to approve the agenda item; seconded by Shannon Sarkarati. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

d. PRAB Recommendation for Comprehensive Plan language related to Open Space component of Comprehensive Plan update. 15m

Mr. Seeley discussed the definitions used within the comp plan and feels the changes bring clarification and will prevent confusion moving forward for anyone reading the comp plan." Green space" shall be defined as publicly-owned passive or active recreational land and land left in its natural state for conservation purposes. Mr. Perelman suggested city parkland be changed to city greenspace.

Motion made by Michael Perelman to approve Jason's comp plan language recommendations; seconded by Shannon Sarkarati . Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

e. Florida Youth Symphony Orchestra Fee Waiver and Central Park Use Request 5m

Mr. Seeley reviewed the fee waiver request with the board. Ms. Tran, Executive Director, and Ms. Frye, Development Coordinator, spoke on behalf of the Symphony and provided background for their event.Their organization serves Orange County with a large part of those coming from Winter Park. They serve about 300 students. All seven orchestras will perform at the event and will be offered as a free event for the students to perform and families to attend. The event will take place on a Saturday during the Farmer's Market event, which will also provide entertainment for patrons at the Market.

Motion made by Michael Perelman to approve the agenda item; seconded by Michael Dively. Motion carried unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

5. Non-Action Items

a. Strategic Plan 2023-2028

Mr. Seeley provided detailed information for the board to review and suggested the strategic plan be discussed at the December 20, 2023 meeting. Mr. Perelman suggested the board members review the plan and send any inquiries to Mr. Seeley or Ms. Halsey no later than Tuesday December 12, 2023, to allow staff time to review and prepare to share with the board. Mr. Bendick conveyed his concern about the timing of the meeting limiting public participation due to the holiday and his intended absence at the December 20, 2023 meeting. Mr. Perelman requested an excel sheet of the presentation be sent to the board members, Mr. Seeley will email it to board members.

6. Staff Updates

a. Holiday Lights and Event Schedule

b. Parks and Recreation Project Updates 5m

Mr. Seeley gave the board a brief update on the current projects, which included the columbarium, mead pavilion, ward concession, MLK and Unity Corner, 7 Oaks, and the Mead ADA loop. Ms. Daus also informed the board that the train station project has been completed.

7. Board Comments

Mr. Dively inquired about the cancellation of the night Farmer's Market. Mr. Seeley informed the board that the majority of vendors canceled due to inclement weather, so it had to be canceled, but stated he would like to see it become a monthly event.

Mr. Perelman asked who would be responsible for the grass after the Cows & Cabs event. Mr. Seeley informed the board that the organization does pay a deposit for such instances. Ms. Daus added that it does not appear it will be a huge cost as most of it will recover on its own.

Mr. Dively expressed his support of the long-range strategic plan and the exploration of a 10-25 year master-plan to provide for long-term opportunities.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Approved by the Board on 01/31/24
/s/ Laura Halsey, Recreation Coordinator