



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Leah J. Bonich, Thomas Sims, Ellen Wolfson, Lawrence Lyman, Lisa Tinker Marsh

Absent

Ginny Enstad, Robert Bendick

Staff Present

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

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Leah Bonich at 5:01pm

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of June 24, 2024 meeting

Motion made by Lawrence Lyman, seconded by Thomas Sims, to approve the June 24, 2024 minutes.

Motion passes 5-0.

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

No public comment

4. Action Items

- a. Rotary Club of Winter Park Fee Waiver Request

Mr. Seeley presented a brief summary of the Rotary Club fee waiver request and asked for elaboration on what charities the proceeds support.

Ms. Ali deMaria spoke on behalf of the event and stated that while not all the charities are within the city of Winter Park, they all serve the citizens of Winter Park. Mr. Seeley followed up with details of prior support and fee waiver approvals for the event. The additional amount being requested by the Rotary Club

Motion made by Thomas Sims, seconded by Lawrence Lyman, to approve the fee waiver.

Motion passes 5-0.

b. Kids Beating Cancer Fee Waiver

Mr. Seeley provided additional information pertaining to the event to the board and clarified that it is not a fundraising event. Mr. Seeley stated that the staff is in support of the event and recommended approval of the fee waiver.

Mr. Sam ???, the event is free for cancer patients and their families to attend. All of their events are free to the patients and their families throughout the year. They do look for sponsors for catering, clothing for the patients to wear to the events, and any other overhead they may incur which is minimal around 5%. 95% of the funds go directly back to the events.

Motion made by Lisa Tinker Marsh, seconded by Lawrence Lyman, to approve the fee waiver.

Motion passes 5-0.

c. WP Chamber of Commerce 2025 Fee Waiver Request

Mr. Seeley presented a list of events the Chamber of Commerce is hosting and that they would like to be considered for fee waivers. The total cost of Chamber of Commerce events is \$33,030.00. Staff has already approved a 50% reduction of \$16,515.00, leaving an outstanding balance of \$16,515.00 due. The board inquired what the cost to the city would be as far as garbage, set-up, breakdown, staffing, overtime, etc. The goal of the board is to make sure the city is not in the red after waiving fees for any or all of the events.

Ms. Betsy Gardner, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce, addressed the board with additional information pertaining to the events in question. She would like to understand where the concerns are coming from, as several of the events are co-sponsored with the city. The goal of the Chamber of Commerce is to shed light on the venues in Winter Park and draw people and businesses to the area, which in turn generates revenue.

Motion made by Lawrence Lyman to approve the fee waivers. A second was not received. Motion fails.

Motion made by Thomas Sims, seconded by Lisa Tinker Marsh, to deny the fee waivers. Motion fails 3-2 with Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Bonich, and Ms. Wolfson opposing.

Motion made by Leah Bonich, seconded by Lawrence Lyman, to approve the fee waivers for the Annual Holiday Parade and Winter on the Avenue. Motion

passes 4-0 with Thomas Sims opposing.

Ms. Gardner provided clarification on the Cheers to You and the Best of Winter Park events. Best of Winter Park is held in the Fall and allows people to vote for the "best of" businesses in Winter Park. Businesses who win these awards look forward to displaying their award showing they are the best in their field. Cheers to You is an event recognizing the volunteers for events such as the Art Festivals. There is an entry fee for those attending. Nominees and award winners attend at no cost. She considers this a marketing opportunity for the city of Winter Park by showcasing the venues.

Motion made by Leah Bonich, seconded by Lawrence Lyman, to approve The Best of Winter Park event. Motion passes 3-0 with Thomas Sims and Lisa Tinker Marsh opposing.

Motion made by Leah Bonich, seconded by Lisa Tinker Marsh, to table the Cheers to You event until the August meeting. Motion passes 5-0.

5. Non-Action Items

a. Fee Waiver Process

Mr. Seeley provided the board with an overview of the fee waiver request process and how the percentages are broken down. He gave examples of events that receive fee waivers, which include Sidewalk Art Festivals, Winter Park Library, Chamber of Commerce, Winter Park High School, Welbourne Day Nursery. Criteria includes being a 501(c)3, hosting an event that benefits residents/taxpayers of Winter Park, and justifying financial need. The board inquired about liability and Mr. Seeley assured the board that organizers must secure and provide a COI as part of the fee waiver application packet.

The board believes appearing to present their request should be mandatory for applicants. The board would also like to suggest that staff provide more information on the residential impact, how much the organizations are giving back to the community, and which charities the organizations are supporting.

Mr. Seeley stated he would prefer to present the information and applicants to the board without a recommendation to allow the board to come to their own conclusions

6. Staff Updates

a. 2024/25 Parks and Recreation Budget Presentation

Mr. Seeley included the budget presentation in the agenda packet for the board to review and, in the interest of time, return next month with any questions or feedback.

b. 2024 Strategic Action Plan Update July 24

Information pertaining to this item was included in the agenda packet for board members to review.

7. Board Comments

Mr. Sims commented on Robert's Rules of Orders used in the Board of Adjustments meetings. Mr. Lyman pointed out that Board of Adjustments is a quasi-judicial board and follows different parameters. Mr. Sims would like better clarification of rules to appear more professional and for staff to have better control over the structure of the meetings.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

Cheers to You Fee Waiver

9. Adjournment

Motion adjourned at 7:41pm

Approved by the Board on August 21, 2024
/s/ Laura Halsey, Recreation Coordinator