Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue
Present
Leah J. Bonich, Thomas Sims, Ginny Enstad, Ellen Wolfson, Lawrence Lyman, Lisa Tinker Marsh

Absent
Robert Bendick

Staff Present
Parks and Recreation Director Jason Seeley, Assistant Director Mike McCosker, Recreation Manager John Clarke, Recreation Coordinator Laura Halsey, Recreation Coordinator Denise Eaton

1. Call to Order
   - Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

2. Consent Agenda
 a. Approve the minutes of 8/21/2024
Motion to approve minutes
- Mr. Lawrence Lyman
- Mr. Thomas Sims 2nd motion
Motion approved 6-0. Minutes from 8/21/24 pass.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda): Three minutes allowed for each speaker
a- Ms. Gigi Papa,1440 Hibiscus Ave Winter Park FL 32789, commented on the non-profit and city fee waived for approved events using city residents' money. Highlighted the Rotary at Events Center as well as Peace Day in the Park in Central Park during the same time as the EV Car Show and Saturday Farmers Market in Meadow,

believes having an additional fee waived event during already scheduled city events, seems like a lot.
Mrs. Margaret Moorefield, 350 Carolina Ave, Winter Park FL 32789 asked if there is a criteria for where the events take placed for requests in general. Mr. Seeley explained how the people making the request are requesting the space. We sometimes give alternatives if their original request cannot be met.

4. Action Items
a. Dr. MLK Jr. Park Renovations - Addition of Pickleball Courts and LED Lighting
- Mr. Seeley, discussed the plans for the MLK construction update. When the basketball courts were originally built, they were larger than they need to be.
Mrs. Ellen Wolfson asked how many pickleball courts would the city have with this.
Mr. Seely responded there would be 8 being built at Cady Way, 2 at Phelps only open during the day time, due to not being lit, 1 at Tennis center for lessons and, not a true pickleball, and then proposing 4 at MLK with lighting.
This space at MLK would allow the courts to be open later than other areas of interest due to no neighboring residents.
Mrs. Bonich asked about the amount of other sporting fields/areas there would still be at MLK with this renovation.
Mr. Seeley responded that they are proposing 2 full size basketball courts (4 half courts), 4 pickleball courts with lighting. Landscaping and beautification, as well as the 3 athletic fields.
Mr. Lyman asked if these pickleball courts can be configured for other purposes.
Mr. McCosker explained how the net poles are a permanent fixture of the courts. They CAN be moved, but it wouldn't be easy. Basketball courts would possibly be a better option for multipurpose. Mr. Lyman also addressed the additional parking that would be needed, especially on Friday nights with Flag football and then once the pickleball courts open.
Mr. Sims questioned the 6' fence running north to south, if is high enough to keep a missed ball out of the other courts. Mr. Seeley

made note to potentially raise the fences higher, up to 8'.
Mrs. Bonich asked if Mr. Seeley is asking for a motion to add the 4 pickle ball courts and lighting. Yes.

Mrs. Bonich motioned to approve the addition of pickleball courts and LED lighting to the MLK construction project.
Mr. Lyman 2nd the motion.
Motion approved 6-0.

5. Non-Action Items
a. Discuss currently approved Community Events as well as any events that have had an event granted a fee waiver for consecutive years for consideration of being added to the Community Events list.

- Mr. Seeley provided the list of previously approved fee waived community events. Mrs. Bonich asked if these are all city-sponsored events. Mr. Seely responded "no", Cheers to you and Best of Winter Park, are not.
Mr. Sims asked "Where does the policy and criteria development stand?"
- Mr. Seeley mentioned the one offs, the first time for WP nonprofit fee reduction. The criteria is done for that.
He went on to explain that changing some things for the community events would make us unable to help the events such as the Winter on the Ave, Art Festival etc.
Mr. Sims proposes that criteria for community event should be asked for an updated statement of hardship from each event, every year with possible term limits.

Mr. Sims believes WP Restore the ROAR should use their own facilities and not be given event space which the city in turn loses revenue for a Saturday night. Mr. Seeley asked if the foundation guaranteed they would be giving money back to the stadium each year would he be more inclined to approve this event yearly? Mr. Sims thinks they should fill out the form every year.
Discussion between members about possibly always waiving the WPHS events.
Mrs. Bonich asked if there are other WP schools that ask for the 100%

fee waiver. To current knowledge, there are not. She then believes that allowing Restore the Roar for WPHS as a blanket fee waiver will cause animosity for other schools who may find out that we would require to fill out a new form every year.

Mr. Sims motions there should be no list.
- no one seconds motion
Motion fails.

List of events up for discussion:
Restore the Roar - More discussion from WPHS
Unity Heritage Festival - city event - OK
WP Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting - OK
Holiday Parade - (due to sponsorship Tom disagrees,) more discussion from Chamber
Autumn Art Festival - (Mr. Sims disagrees) - more discussion from Chamber
Cheers to You - more discussion from Chamber
Best of Winter Park - more discussion from Chamber
WP Sports Assoc. WPHS Hall of Fame - more discussion from HS
Rotary Annual Fundraiser - Asked for more discussion
FastStart Track and Field Invitational - OK
Peace and Justice Inst. - Peace Day in the park – Apply every year
FL Symphony Youth Orchestra - OK

We hope to have the organizations in question at the October meeting for more discussion.

6. Staff Updates
a. 2024 Strategic Action Progress Update
- Mr. Seeley went over the City Upcoming Events. 9/21 Central Park/West Meadow: EV Car Show and Peace Day in Park
10/12-10/13 Downtown: WP Fall Art Festival
10/15 Central Park/Park Ave: WP Homecoming Parade
10/26 MLK- Trunk or Treat

Mr. Seeley will send the SAP document to everyone after meeting.

- Mr. Seeley informed the board that the Founders Bust at Shady Park was completed.
- The stadium received new LED lighting at Showalter
- Cady Way 2nd pool going to commission next week
- Pickle Ball at Cady Way should be about end of October/November to finalize.
- Seven Oaks Park should be completed in December. Looking to do a Grand Opening sometime in January.
-Bike Head Connection to South Denning and Orange Ave to Mead Garden out to Orlando Urban trail. 60% construction documents to Department of transportation so far.
-Mead Garden ADA accessible sidewalks are continuing.
Mead Gardens director spoke to board about project and how delighted they are to partner with the city to have this done
- Farmers Market received 10th Best Farmers Market in Central Florida.

b. Upcoming Programs and Events

7. Board Comments
- Mrs. Bonich asked about anything at Lake Howell. Mr. Seely mentioned about the reinforcements for putting in new sea walls. There is a schematic plan to Howell Branch Preserve. Looking to improve area around pong that was inherited from Orange County. Making more appealing to people entering the city. Looking at what resources we have in place and then the City trying to get grants for completion.
-Mrs. Wolfson went over key point from tonight meeting
    -Opposition on fee waived
    - August minutes approved
    - Public comment by 2 citizens about fee waivers for city facilities.
    - Mr. Sims suggestion for higher fence at MLK between pickleball and basketball courts
    - WPHS and Chamber and Commerce to attend next meeting to discuss their fee waiver proposals and prove need for the

funds.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items
9. Adjournment