

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
DOROTHY L. HUKILL CITY CENTER ANNEX
1395 DUNLAWTON AVENUE
PORT ORANGE, FLORIDA
JULY 21, 2020 AT 5:15 P.M.

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Mark Bowling at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Mark Bowling
Bobby Ball
Maria Mills-Benat
James Richard Jr
Michael Navarra
John Cameron

Also Present: Peter Ferreira, Park and Recreation Deputy Director
Ruth Thayne, Administrative Assistant
Jake Johansson, City Manager

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION

The Board discussed the Gamble Place Update first as Jake Johansson, City Manager, was present to give an update.

2. Consideration of Minutes - January 21, 2020

Motion was made by Member Mark Bowling to approve the minutes from January 21, 2020 as presented and Seconded by Member James Richard Jr. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. Progress of Renovation Projects

Peter Ferreira, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director, provided an overview of the projects completed in the city so far in 2020. There are three major projects currently; the Lakeside Community Center, which is in final inspection phase, Airport Road Park Playground which will go to bid in the coming months, and the Gym Remodel which the City hopes to break ground on in 2021.

Member Mills-Benat asked if COVID has delayed any projects. Mr. Ferreira stated no, most of the funding comes from ECHO grants and City funding.

4. Gamble Place Update

Mr. Johansson gave a brief history on the property. The City has never owned the property, only leased it. There is no current lease or agreement. The Mayor officially opted out of the lease, but there is nothing official to that affect.

Member Mills-Benat stated that she goes out there often and it is very beautiful, but the buildings always appear in shambles. She noticed there is no maintenance of the trails or kayak launch.

Member Cameron inquired how the City knows there is no agreement. Mr. Johansson stated the City does not have an agreement and as early as six months ago there was interest in a new one.

Member Richard asked what the Boards goal is for Gamble Place Chairman Bowling stated that as of now, he does not see Gamble Place as a priority.

5. Letter to Foundation Donors

Mr. Ferreira stated that the Board members had previously discussed drafting a letter to the foundation donors asking if they would like the money returned or if they want to donate that money into the recreation scholarship fund. He said that they had discussed the return of funds with contributors. Letters have been sent out, and checks need to be returned. He said that they want to cut all the checks at one time. One company did not want check back and asked that it be put toward the Youth Scholarship fund. Member Mark Bowling was one of the donors and said he donated the money to Youth Scholarship.

6. Bob Ford Trail Designation for Riverwalk trail

Discussion was held regarding naming the Trail. Mayor Burnette would like to name the trail after the late Councilman Bob Ford. Mr. Ferreira informed the Board a similar item had come before them previously, and then went to Council in the same evening where they voted in favor of it. The trail will be the South Daytona line to Dunlawton. The late Councilman Ford served for District 1 and helped to develop Riverwalk. Mr. Ferreira read the naming policy.

Member Ball requested publication regarding the naming for Riverwalk. This would allow 30 days for the public to submit any comments to Parks and Recreation Director regarding any issues that would cause a red flag for the naming of the Trail.

Motion to rename the trail at Riverwalk after the late Councilman Bob Ford was made by Vice Chairman Bobby Ball and Seconded by Member Maria Mills-Benat. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

C. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ferreira informed the Board maintaining many of the programs has been difficult due to COVID and a number of refunds were provided. Parks and Rec is still maintaining Just Play and Field Day Friday's and is attempting to set up Wii Sports and other tournaments via computers.

Mr. Ferreira informed the Board the 4th of July and Family Days were cancelled. The City is still moving forward with Halloween and Christmas and will discuss The Mayors Golf tournament, scheduled for August 22nd, 2020, at the August 4, 2020 City Council meeting. It will be up to City Council and Cypress Head if they wish to do the tournament or cancel it. Member Cameron spoke regarding possible sponsorship for scholarships for the City to sponsor kids going forward. He believes it should be up to KemperSports to figure out how the tournament can be done.

Member Cameron asked about the budget for Parks and Rec next year. Mr. Ferreira stated that Parks is requesting a new position to be opened, \$60,000 for 2 new vehicles, \$16,000 to replace lights and light fixtures at the Amphitheatre, and \$34,000 for concessions stands. Parks is expecting no reduction in services or staff at this time.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Reinhagen, citizen, spoke regarding the naming of the Riverwalk Trail. He commented that City Council voted on a previous item for naming a place on the same night that the Parks and Recreation board voted on it. Member Mills-Benat replied that the item was already on the City Council Agenda for that evening.

E. BOARD COMMENTS

Chairman Bowling asked if the naming procedures are acceptable to the Board or if they would like to redo procedures. The Board felt good about the naming procedures.

Chairman Bowling previously provided a list of things he wishes to see worked on to City Manager.

Vice Chairman Ball and Member Mills-Benat would like to reschedule the joint meeting with Council that had to be cancelled. Vice Chair Ball is requesting Special Joint Meeting prior to Next meeting date of October 20, 2020.

Member Navarra mentioned the need for property to build more fields. Shuntz road was mentioned as a possible option.

Vice Chairman Ball inquired about a possible proclamation for Doreen Moorehouse. Mr. Ferreira will check on the proclamation.

Member Cameron applauded the Parks and Recreation Department for the innovated thinking and keeping activities going during these unprecedented times.

F. NEXT MEETING DATE

6. Next Meeting Date: October 20, 2020

7. Items for Next Agenda

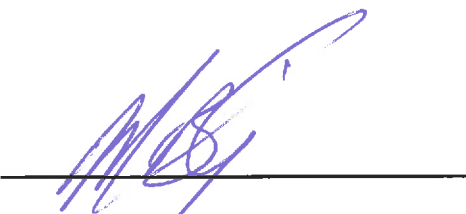
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Briefing on Joint Meeting with Council

G. ADJOURNMENT 6:26 p.m.


Chairman Mark Bowling