

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
DOROTHY L. HUKILL CITY CENTER ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOM
1395 DUNLAWTON AVENUE
PORT ORANGE, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 17, 2023

THE REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING of the City of Port Orange was called to order by Chairman Mark Bowling at 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

Present:

Mark Bowling, Chair
Robert Ball, Vice Chair
Maria Mills-Benat
Shawn Holmes
Michael Navarra
John Cameron, Jr.

Absent:

James Richard, Jr. (unexcused)

Also Present:

Susan Lovallo, Parks & Rec
Director
Jennifer Sisk, Athletics Director
Tracee Cody, Deputy City Clerk

DISCUSSION/ACTION

2. Consideration of Minutes

April 18, 2023 – Regular Meeting
July 17, 2023 – Special Meeting

John Cameron, Jr. corrected that he was present at the July 17, 2023 special meeting but his name was not reflected on the roll call.

Motion to approve the April 18, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented and July 17, 2023 special meeting minutes as adjusted was made by Member Michael Navarra and seconded by Member Maria Mills-Benat. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

3. Bond Update

Susan Lovallo, Parks & Recreation Director, explained that the polls were sent out to

registered voters within the city and data showed that well over sixty percent of voters are willing to spend up to \$5.00 a month per household on the bond. There will be a presentation on the bond initiative at the November 14th Council meeting. Ms. Lovallo wanted to make the board aware that the project list has changed because of funds, particularly the Coraci 100-acre expansion, because the City doesn't own the land. The remaining projects on the list include the Train Depot Park renovations, White Place Park renovations, a community center on the west side out by Airport Road, two multi-purpose soccer fields by Willow Run behind Horizon Elementary school, and possibly branding trails. Ms. Lovallo also explained that there are still grants and other funding (state and county) that could be used for projects. With the bond put on the August 2024 ballot, the projects most likely wouldn't even start for two to three years out.

4. Soccer Field at Coraci Park Update

This is a soccer club, which is a partner, and Ms. Lovallo said staff could try to work with them to increase netting but the fence can't be made higher. Staff will look into it further.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The new budget started October 2023 and some projects included for the new fiscal year are: restrooms around City Center fields, disc golf holes at Buschman Park with a volunteer group, replacing lights on the fishing piers at Causeway Park, replacing gym floors 2 & 3 at the Rec, amphitheater seating replacement and lighting, and replacing the playground and adding a large pavilion for parties at City Center.

Ongoing projects that are still in progress are: Parks office building, Spruce Creek restroom replacement, playground replacement at Southwinds, and new scoreboard, clay, sod, and lighting at the City Center ball field. Memorial Park piers are in design and will be started soon and replacing the boat ramps at Causeway Park that were damaged from the hurricane.

Ms. Lovallo explained the soccer field on the hill was deemed unsafe to play on by an engineer after a large hole was discovered. The field has been closed down for three months but the cause is still being looked into and how to fix it.

Jennifer Sisk, Athletics Manager, spoke about programs for special events, youth and adult sports. Ms. Lovallo also noted there have been 38,000 swipes at the Rec since opening (in five months).

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

To be added after the bond update at Council on the 11/14

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

BOARD COMMENTS

Member Michael Navarra commented that there have been a lot of complaints about teenagers being disruptive at All Children's Park. Ms. Lovallo and another member said they have heard the same at Airport Road Park. People need to call the police and staff has spoken to HOAs. Vice Chair Ball commented that he is glad to see the amphitheater seating being done.

ADJOURNMENT – 6:07 p.m.

5. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 @ 5:15 p.m.
6. Board Report to City Council: Tuesday, November 7, 2023



Chairman Mark Bowling