



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Final Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Thursday, January 16, 2020

6:30 PM

City Hall Room 244

1. Call to Order

Chair Short called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

- Present** 7 - Chair Robin Short, Vice Chair Maureen Coble, Board Member Terryl Carl, Board Member James Scheidel, Board Member Cheryl Williamson, Board Member Grayce Oney, and James Hersh
- Absent** 2 - Board Member Macy Thull, and Gail Stevens

Also Present:

Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Tricia Wisner, Staff Liaison, Sarasota County Liaison Ed Exner and Recording Secretary Ida Goodman.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes

- A. [20-2437](#) Approval of the December 19, 2019 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Regular Meeting.
- A motion was made by Board Member Coble, seconded by Board Member Williamson, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on voice vote.*

6. Updates

- A. [19-0158](#) Ed Exner: Sarasota County Athletics Updates
- Ms. Wisner provided an overview of the Sarasota County Interlocal Agreement.
- Mr. Exner provided a report regarding the athletic field maintenance and schedules including improvements at Atwater Community Park, George Mullen Activity Center, Butler Park, and Dallas White Park.
- B. [19-0159](#) Tricia Wisner: City of North Port Parks & Recreation Program and Activity Recap

Ms. Wisner reported on scheduled teen activities at the Morgan Family Community Center, winter camp participants, "Swim with Santa" event, "Polar Bear Plunge" event, North Port High School recruitment event for lifeguards, park bench donation at the Garden of the Five Senses, and update on the lighting schedule at the Aquatic Center.

Discussion ensued regarding operation hours and swimming class schedules at the Aquatic Center.

C. [19-0161](#) Tricia Wisner: Parks & Recreation Capital Projects

Ms. Wisner noted that the larger capital improvement projects for Parks & Recreation are currently in the permitting process including Blue Ridge Park, and Myhatchee Creek Greenway.

D. [19-0163](#) Tricia Wisner: Upcoming Parks & Recreation Volunteer Opportunities

Ms. Wisner encouraged members to volunteer for the Run, Rock N' Roll event and the Big Rally event.

E. [19-1561](#) Tricia Wisner: City of North Port Parks & Recreation Upcoming Programs and Activities

Ms. Wisner provided an overview of the upcoming events including "Run, Rock N' Roll 5K", Movie on the Green, summer camp registration, "Newcomer Day", "Woofstock", "The Big Rally", and Aquatic Center activities.

Discussion ensued regarding vendor location, number of attendees and activities at the Woofstock event.

F. [19-1568](#) Update on Community Interest Input Survey Results

Ms. Wisner reported that the survey is still out and will close when the projected mark of 300 respondents is met.

G. [20-1675](#) Update on Sponsorships, Scholarships and Adopt-A-Park agreements.

Ms. Wisner provided an overview of the current sponsorship at the Aquatic Center and noted that the Lions Club donated a wrap around bench at the Garden of the Five Senses.

7. Unfinished Business

A. [19-1565](#) Continued Discussion on Developing a Cultural Event

Ms. Wisner noted that the interest in developing a culture event is on the Community Interest Input Survey.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of public schools holding a multi-culture event, the efforts required to hold a multi-culture event, and approval and budget process for Board suggestions and ideas.

8. New Business

A. [19-1306](#) Review Social Media Metrics

Ms. Wisner distributed and reviewed the Social Report on the North Port Parks and Recreation Facebook Page.

Discussion ensued regarding members providing suggestions on promoting the Parks & Recreation Facebook Page, and current Facebook promotion activities.

B. [19-1566](#) Review of draft Parks & Recreation Advisory Board update to the City Commission

Ms. Wisner provided and reviewed the draft Annual Report.

Discussion ensued regarding a preferred time to present the report, process for scheduling, methodology for presenting, availability of the Parks & Recreation "Play Book", West Villages parkland contribution, and future considerations for the Board to engage in the development of the West Villages parkland.

There was a consensus for the Board to discuss and provide input in the future discussions regarding the development of a possible regional park on the park land conveyed from West Villages.

Discussion continued regarding the Legacy Trail connector.

Ms. Wisner agreed to provide the annual report at the next meeting for Board approval.

There was a consensus to include in the Annual report that the Board continues to support the Legacy Trail Connection project.

C. [19-1567](#) Discussion and Possible Decision on Theme for the 2020 Poinsettia Parade and Festival.

Ms. Wisner provided sample ideas for the 2020 Poinsettia Parade theme and the process for Board input and selection.

Discussion ensued regarding past themes, recommending a theme appropriate for both children and adults, promoting the theme, and process for determining a theme.

Subsequent to review of the themes, the majority of the Board chose the theme "Snow Place like North Port".

D. [19-1569](#) Review of Draft Canine Club User Survey

Ms. Wisner reviewed the survey, the methodology for distributing the survey and possible locations to provide the survey.

Discussion ensued regarding City requested amenities at the the dog park located on River Road in West Villages, locations the survey will be available, changing landscaping to grass/sod, adding clarification on question 3, ranking of the most important factors, flea control issues, pet owner responsibilities, and designation of full-time or part-time resident.

A motion was made by Board Member Coble, seconded by Board Member Williamson, to approve the Canine Club User Survey incorporating the Board suggestions. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

E. [19-0162](#) Tricia Wisner: Parks & Recreation Items Scheduled at City Commission Meetings

Ms. Wisner reported that on January 28, 2020 the lighting for Butler Park fields 1 and 2 will be presented to the Commission for approval.

9. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items include approval of the Annual Report, update of Community Input Survey, Atwater Elementary Community Meeting update, update on the Canine Club Survey, Sunshine Law and Ethics training, Parks Sponsorship updates, and Sarasota County Parks Advisory and Recreation Council update.

10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11. Adjournment

Chair Short adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

By: _____
James Hersh, Chair

Minutes approved on the ____ day of _____, 2020.