



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Final Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Thursday, October 17, 2019

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** 6 - Chair Robin Short, Vice Chair Maureen Coble, Board Member Gail Stevens, Board Member Cheryl Williamson, Board Member Grayce Oney, and Board Member Macy Thull
- Absent** 1 - Board Member James Scheidel

Also Present

Tricia Wisner, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, Ed Exner, Sarasota County Liaison 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. [19-1184](#) Minutes for the September 19, 2019 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Board Member Williamson, seconded by Board Member Coble to approve the September 19, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. Updates

- A. [19-0158](#) Ed Exner: Sarasota County Athletics Updates

Mr. Exner provided updates including Atwater Park, George Mullen Activity Center, Dallas White Park, Butler Park, and Narramore Sports Complex.

Discussion ensued regarding restroom maintenance issues at parks and contact information to report issues.

- B. [19-0159](#) Tricia Wisner: City of North Port Parks & Recreation Program and Activity Recap

Ms. Wisner provided updates on the Warm Mineral Springs Historic designation, Mens

Athletic League at the Morgan Family Community Center, Yard Sale, Rec-On-Wheels, and photography and archery classes.

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

Ms. Wisner provided updates on new projects including fields at Butler Park lighting and shade structures, Blue Ridge Park pavilion renovation, George Mullen Activity Center replacement of sound system and acoustic panels, Commission direction to do a cultural and environmental analysis survey for each project, Environmental Park restroom renovations, and Butler Park playground contract to go to the Commission for approval.

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

Ms. Wisner reviewed the backup material regarding volunteer opportunities and noted that staff is creating a new program to track volunteer efforts.

E. [19-1220](#) Update on the North Port Aquatic Center

Ms. Wisner reported on the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and open house.

Discussion ensued regarding concession inspections, parking lot issues, current pass holders, operating schedules, fee schedules, capacity, and Advisory Board opportunities to provide input.

7. New Business

A. [19-0905](#) Discussion Regarding the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Goals and Objectives

Ms. Wisner distributed and reviewed a summary of Board goals from the last 4 years and encouraged members to provide suggestions and ideas for future goals.

Discussion ensued regarding past accomplishments, methodology for maintaining accreditation (CAPRA), suggestion to reach out to a diverse culture, the possibility of additional sports fields, a regional park, West Villages parkland commitment, possible future park locations and funding opportunities, next years goals, summer park activities, "Adopt-A -Park" program, grant opportunities, promoting event opportunities, and suggestion of a cultural festival,

A motion was made by Board Member Oney, seconded by Board Member Willimson to add evaluate the need or desire for a cultural event to our 2020 goals. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion continued regarding social media outreach, public input on Parks & Recreation plans, past activities to promote the North Port parks, engaging families in activities, and promoting park activities.

A motion was made by Board Member Coble, seconded by Board Member Oney to add continue to increase community awareness of parks facilities and events through social media and outreach efforts to 2020 goals. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion continued regarding future park needs, past and future goals, development of a community interest survey, West Villages Dog Park, activities to bring awareness to parks and Aquatic Center Sponsorship Program.

A motion was made by Board Member Coble, seconded by Board Member

Williamson to move forward with the goals as reflected in the summary of goals for Fiscal Year 18-19 removing the support of accreditation. The motion carried on a five - one (5-1) vote with Chair Short dissenting.

- B. [19-0942](#) Review proposed letter to the City Commission for improvements to the Canine Club

Discussion ensued regarding requesting a joint meeting with the City Commission, ADA park compliance funding, suggestions regarding improvements to the Canine Club, process for suggesting staff direction and providing the Commission with Board suggestions, and Board goals and recommendations.

- C. [19-1188](#) Discussion on Proposed West Villages Parkland

Ms. Wisner provided an overview and requested input from the Board on the West Villages donated park land and Playmore Road location for a regional park, the design and cost of a regional park, Environmental Protection regulations, and other possible locations for a regional park.

There was a consensus for considering the West Villages donated park land or the Playmore Road location for the development of a regional park.

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

Ms. Wisner reported the Butler Park playground will be presented to the City Commission on October 22, 2019, and the Warm Mineral Springs Historic Designation and Phase II of the Master Plan will be on a future Commission agenda.

8. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items will include election of a Vice Chair, matrix from Social Media update, update on the opening of the Aquatic Center, Trick or Treat at City Hall, and plans for Poinsettia Parade.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

Chair Short adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Robin Short
Chair

Minutes were approved on the ___ day of _____, 2019.