

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017**

**Present:** Maureen Coble, Chair; Helen Marchese, Vice-Chair; Joan Morgan Walter Dunn; Andrew Sias; Staff Liaison Sandy Pfundheller, Parks & Recreation Manager; Sarasota County Liaison Ed Exner; and Recording Secretary Goodman.

**Absent:** Erlene Larson; Victor Boyd; and Frankie Pucci.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Committee/Training Room 244 by Vice-Chair Helen Marchese followed by roll call.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board.

**II. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

Subsequent to discussion, Maureen Coble volunteered to serve as Chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and Helen Marchese volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair.

*Joan Morgan moved to elect Maureen Coble as the Chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board; seconded by Walter Dunn. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Joan Morgan moved to elect Helen Marchese as the Vice-Chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board; seconded by Walter Dunn. The motion carried unanimously.*

**III. CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Coble acknowledged that Mayor Yates was in attendance.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was held from 6:35 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. with Mayor Yates thanking the Board Members for their volunteer efforts and noted that she will be requesting the Commission to provide Advisory Boards with tasks to ensure suggestions and ideas are moving forward. Members were encouraged to communicate, through their Staff Liaison, any suggestions and ideas regarding Parks and Recreation and City held events. Mayor Yates further encouraged Members to consider a Joint Meeting with the Commission to review goals for the Board.

**V. APPROVAL OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES;  
DECEMBER 15, 2016**

*Helen Marchese moved to approve the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board December 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes as presented; seconded by Joan Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.*

**VI. APPROVAL OF THE 2017 PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
SCHEDULE**

*Joan Morgan moved to approve the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 2017 meeting schedule as presented; seconded by Walter Dunn. The motion carried unanimously.*

**VII. CITY AND COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES**

**a. Sarasota County Athletics– Ed Exner**

Sarasota County Liaison Ed Exner provided the following County updates including: 1) the Youth Athletic Leagues are scheduled for opening season with the soccer season already started; 2) the Atwater Community Park athletic fields are in the process of addressing maintenance and renovation issues to be completed in time for the Youth Athletic Leagues grand openings; 3) the Narramore Sports Complex field renovations are complete; 4) the old water coolers at the George Mullen Activity Center football fields have been removed; 5) on January 9, 2017 a Sarasota County contracted employee began work at the Narramore Sports Complex facilitating an extra 40 hours per week to address maintenance issues; 6) background information was provided regarding Steve Rauh, the new Sarasota County Athletic Division Manager; and 7) the North Port Parks & Recreation was acknowledged for their efforts in holding the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Butler Park Multi-purpose field renovations.

#### **b. City Parks & Recreation Activities, Events & Services – Sandy Pfundheller**

Staff Liaison Sandy Pfundheller, Parks & Recreation Manager, provided the City updates including; 1) the quarterly inspection of the North Port Parks & Facilities with Sarasota County Parks & Recreation was held January 6, 2016; 2) January programming: a) Binglo (glow in the dark Bingo; b) a Pickle Ball mixed doubles tournament was held with 56 participants; c) a Line Dance Social was held at the Community Education Center on January 15, 2017 with 33 participants; 3) a new outdoor space at the Morgan Family Community Center has been created to the right of the front entrance and includes 4 canopied benches with solar charging stations to enable the charging of cell phones; 4) upcoming events include: a) a Bike and Skate Competition scheduled for January 21, 2017; b) a Community Yard Sale is scheduled for February 18, 2017; c) the Cocoplum Paddle-a-thon National Aluminum Canoe and Touring Kayak Championship will be held March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Dallas White Park; d) Arts on the Green will be held March 11, 2017 at City Center Green; e) the Community Health & Wellness Fair will be held March 25, 2017 at the George Mullen Activity Center (Mullen Center); f) a Family Fishing Clinic will be held on April 1, 2017 at McKibben Park; g) the Flashlight Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 14, 2017 at the Mullen Center; h) the Egg-Normous Hunt is scheduled for April 15, 2017; g) a Community Yard Sale is scheduled for April 22, 2017; h) a Volunteer Appreciation Event is tentatively proposed for April 29, 2017.

Application for the Playful City USA designation is open for submittal on February 1, 2017 for the 2017 Playful City USA designation. Data and input for the application will be discussed with the Board at the next meeting.

New programs, which will debut in the near future include: 1) Kayak classes and tours; 2) a program “Who’s Got Game” drop in board game; 3) Yin Yoga; 4) Movies in the Park; 5) small group personal training classes; and 6) group archery classes.

#### **c. City Parks & Recreation Capital Project Updates Status**

##### **1. Butler Park Multi-purpose Fields**

The Ground Breaking Ceremony was held January 7<sup>th</sup> with the renovations and construction ongoing.

##### **2. Blueways**

The Interpretive Maps of the waterways have been installed at the Waterway Park locations with the installation of the maps at the portages scheduled for January 20, 2017. With the installation of the maps, Phase I of the Blueways Project will be complete.

##### **3. Boundless Playground Equipment & Amenities**

The Boundless Playground Equipment and Amenities Project will be presented to the City Commission in March or April, 2017. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will be presenting the concept to the

Commission when the presentation is complete. Ms. Pfundheller will provide the draft presentation at the next scheduled meeting for Board input.

#### **4. Aquatic Facility**

The City Commission authorized the City Manager to work with Kimley Horn and Associates to update the conceptual design of the Aquatic Facility to include a 50-meter pool with a bulk head; a lazy river component and other amenities. The design work will also include updated costs.

#### **VIII. RECOMMENDATION FOR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD TO SERVE AS A REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SARASOTA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COUNCIL**

Ms. Pfundheller reported that Victor Boyd notified the City Clerk that, due to scheduling conflicts, he was resigning as the North Port representative on Sarasota County Parks and Recreation Council (PARC). It was noted that the PARC meets every other month in different locations.

Andrew Sias volunteered to be the North Port representative on the Sarasota County Parks and Recreation Council

*Joan Morgan moved to approve Andrew Sias as the North Port Representative on the Sarasota County Parks and Recreation Council; seconded by Helen Marchese. The motion carried unanimously.*

Ms. Pfundheller provided the process for City Commission and Sarasota County approval.

#### **IX. NORTH PORT SKATE PARK – REQUEST FOR NON-MOTORIZED SCOOTERS**

Ms. Pfundheller reported that she received a request, including a petition containing 31 signatures, for non-motorized scooters to be allowed at the North Port Skate Park. Ms. Pfundheller contacted other Skate Parks to survey facility rules and regulations. The parks that do allow the scooters have a time designated in which the scooters are accepted separate from the times the parks are open for skaters. In checking with Risk Management a Florida Statute 316.0085 was referenced which exempts government entities from liability for facilities that provide skateboarding, inline skating, free style road bikes and paint ball, but does not include scooters. Based on the Florida Statute, Risk Management recommended to keep the rules as currently regulated and prohibit scooters at the Skate Park.

*Consensus of the Board to support North Port Parks & Recreation in their decision to maintain the current rules and regulations governing the North Port Skate Park.*

#### **X. 2016 ADVISORY BOARD GOALS**

##### **a. Community Health & Wellness Fair**

##### **1. Board Member Progress Reports**

Ms. Pfundheller provided the Members with a vendor list highlighting the vendors which have been contacted and have committed to participate and an updated flyer promoting the Health & Wellness Fair. Members were encouraged to contact additional vendors for participation and distribute the flyer to promote the Fair. Promotional Posters will be displayed at the site of the vendors which have committed to participate and announcements will be published in the local newspaper.

##### **2. Vendor Status**

There are approximately 15 vendors confirmed for participation to date.

##### **b. Adopt-A-Park Update**

There were no updates on the Adopt-A-Park Program.

**c. Monthly review of social media and outreach efforts to enhance community awareness of Parks & Recreation**

Ms. Pfundheller noted that a report will be provided to the Members at the next scheduled meeting.

**XI. REVIEW OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS & INITIATIVES FOR ANNUAL REPORT TO COMMISSION**

Ms. Pfundheller noted that she updated the 2015 Annual Report with the 2016 Activities and also carried over the 2016 goals to 2017 in preparation for the development of the 2016 Annual Report to the Commission.

**a. FY 2016 Activities – Board Member Input & Initiatives**  
**b. Goals for 2017**

Included in the Annual Report will be a photograph of the Board Members which will be taken at the next scheduled meeting. A review of the Draft Annual Report was provided.

Discussion ensued regarding: 1) the Parks & Recreation Master Plan; 2) changing the “North Port Pool” to “North Port Aquatic Center” in the report; 3) include volunteer initiatives for the Firecracker 5K Run in the 2017 Goals; 4) it was suggested that promotion of the “Paver Donation Program” at Atwater Community Park and Garden of the Five Senses be included in the 2017 Goals; 5) discussion regarding the Tree Tribute Program for trees which can be planted at any Park; 6) it was suggested to include a Paver Donation area at the North Port Canine Club, with a separate paver section for those dogs that have served the City. Following discussion, Ms. Pfundheller reviewed the suggested changes to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report.

***Joan Morgan moved to approve the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report as amended; seconded by Helen Marchese. The motion carried unanimously.***

The Annual Report will be presented to the City Commission at the Commission Special meeting on March 2, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. and will be presented by Chair Coble.

**XII. MEMBER REPORTS**

Subsequent to Andrew Sias reporting that he was contacted regarding the slides at Atwater Community Park and Highland Ridge Park being difficult for children 7 years old and younger to utilize, it was clarified that the slides in question are geared toward the 5-12 year old age group.

Joan Morgan requested that the fields at Atwater Community Park be referred to by the citizens who they were named after instead of field numbers.

Chair Coble thanked the Parks & Recreation staff for the Ground Breaking Ceremony at the Butler Park sports fields.

Andrew Sias suggested that a historical marker containing background information be installed at the Parks named for an outstanding citizen such as Dallas White Park or Butler Park. Ms. Pfundheller suggested this might be a discussion topic for a future Joint Meeting with the Commission.

**XIII. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING; NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 17, 2017 @6:30 p.m.**

Agenda items for the February 17, 2017 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting include: 1) After Action Reports for the 2016 Poinsettia Events; 2) Playful City USA application; 3) Butler Park Multi-

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purpose Fields; 4) Blueways; 5) Boundless Playground Equipment & Amenities; 6) Aquatic Facility; and 7) Community Health & Wellness Fair; and 8) update on Warm Mineral Springs historic designation if needed.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Joan Morgan moved to adjourn the January 19, 2017 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting; seconded by Walter Dunn. The motion carried unanimously.*

The January 19, 2017 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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MAUREEN COBLE,  
CHAIR

Minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.