



ANNUAL REPORT



CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Nicole Everett
Mark Murphy
Katie Bazan
Kaiden Rosa

Chair
Vice Chair
Student
Student

Billy Benton
Jana Gray
Celeste Jameson
Gail Stevens
Burton Thomas

Member
Member
Member
Member
Member



THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD PROVIDES THIS REPORT TO CITY COMMISSION IN COMPLIANCE WITH CITY CODE, CHAPTER 4, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Sec. 4-7. - Reports.

(a)All boards shall provide verbal or written reports to the city commission to include the previous fiscal year's activities and their goals for the following fiscal year in the first quarter of the calendar year each year. The city commission shall review the annual reports, duties, responsibilities and goals of the boards, and thereafter meet with the boards to address issues if necessary.

THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD WORKS WITH THE CITY OF NORTH PORT PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT IN SUPPORTING THEIR VISION AND MISSION BY:

- Making recommendations to the City Commission regarding public recreation facilities, programs and future projects.
- Exploring various sources of grant funding available for recreational programs/facilities.
- Supporting and promoting opportunities for play and play spaces in the community.
- Being ambassadors in the communication of ideas and projects to the public, and supporting the plans and desires of the City Commission.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS & INITIATIVES:

- Continued support of the accreditation efforts through the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies(CAPRA).
- Efforts for increased awareness of Sarasota County Neighborhood Parkland Acquisition program, and Environmentally Sensitive Land Protection program.
- Evaluation and recommendation for expansion of the canine club, off leash dog park.
- Evaluation and recommendation of need for weather alerting system at the North Port Aquatic Center.
- Review of Capital Improvement Projects including the Greenway Trail, Disc Golf Course, and Kirk Park playground.
- Consideration of the restoration, improvements, and future development of Warm Mineral Springs Park.
- Evaluation and recommendation related to prohibition of smoking in parks.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Support of the Veterans Park Advisory Committee
- Newcomer Day - volunteers
- Tree Lighting – volunteers
- Poinsettia Parade – volunteers
- Freedom Festival – volunteers



FY 22/23 GOALS

- Promote and support the Parks & Recreation Scholarship Program, Adopt-A-Park Program, and sponsorship opportunities at the North Port Aquatic Center.
- Increase community awareness of parks, facilities, and events through social media and outreach efforts.
- Evaluate additional opportunities to increase revenue and decrease expenses.
- Promote health and wellness initiatives and opportunities for the community.
- Explore grant opportunities in support of projects and initiatives.
- Remain informed, involved and offer diverse perspective on Parks & Recreation programs, projects and initiatives.

FY 22/23 CONSIDERATIONS

- Evaluation and input on prioritizing improvements that provide inclusive activities and reduce ADA barriers within parks.
- Increase collaboration with Environmental Advisory Board to ensure more sustainable parks system.
- Provide input regarding the development of a future regional park.
- Increase awareness of Florida natural planting in parks.
- Provide support for additional connections from North Port to the Legacy Trail extension.