

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

9:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Danielle Micklitsch, Chairwoman
Austin Piazza, Vice Chair
Scott Seubert, Member
Steve Stewart, Member (entered meeting at 9:04 a.m.)
Roberta Rhodes, Member (attended meeting via telephone)

ALSO PRESENT:

Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director
Mary Jo Murphy, Deputy City Clerk

1. Changes to the Agenda

Chairwoman Micklitsch made a motion to allow Member Rhodes to be a part of the meeting via telephone conference due to Member Rhodes being out of state on business. The motion was seconded by Member Seubert and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Chairwoman Micklitsch added to the agenda the following items:

- Discuss the Pass-A-Grille dog beach at the point of Pass-A-Grille where it abuts the bay between 1st Avenue and 2nd Avenue.
- Discuss the beach permitting for weddings and the associated fees.

2. Audience Comments

There were no audience comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. May 12, 2015

Chairwoman Micklitsch made a motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Piazza and unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

4. Action Items

There were no action items presented.

5. Items for Discussion

a. Egan Park Design (John Kretzer / Ian Wade)

John Kretzer, Interim Public Services Director, and Ian Wade, Project Manager, gave a presentation to the Recreation Advisory Committee in regard to Egan Park.

The following suggestions were made by Committee members after the presentation:

- Suggestion to re-design the ballfield. Move home plate to the concession and bathrooms. Center field would be where the current home plate is. Fencing may be affected if ballfield is re-designed.
- Suggestion for waterfront park use such as a playground, shelter area, and picnic area as opposed to parking spaces.
- Staff research grant opportunities such as fishing grants.
- If a playground is approved, suggestion to use the playground at Albert Whitted Airport in St. Petersburg as an example with picnic tables and surrounding sidewalk.
- Address communication with residents in St. Pete Beach and inform residents that the boat ramp is not being relocated.
- Mitigate problems in the area by having operational constraints with hours of operation and security.

Chairwoman Micklitsch updated the Recreation Advisory Committee in regard to dogs on the beach.

The following suggestions were made by Committee members in regard to allowing dogs on the bayside between 1st and 2nd Avenue:

- Signage: Pet rules for the area of beach where the sign is located in St. Pete Beach, a map highlighting the area where dogs are allowed and not allowed, and list the location of the other dog parks within the City of St. Pete Beach.
- Possibility of installing fencing

- Designated leash issued from the City for visiting the dog beach. Veterinarian documents would be a requirement and a fee. Possibly the fees could be obtained in the same area parking passes are issued within the City.
- Research City's ownership rights and authority to regulate this area.
- Use dock on the south side as a cutoff.
- Keep this area as a friendly environment for pet owners and pets.
- Issue weeklong licenses or weekend licenses for pets of non-residents.
- Set designated hours for dogs to be on the beach.

Ms. McMahon updated the Recreation Advisory Committee in regard to beach weddings.

The following suggestions were made by Committee members in regard to beach weddings:

- Fee needs to be increased. Possibly \$100 for residents and \$125 for non-residents.
- Charge parking fees and issue a hanging tag for cars: Packets purchased for weddings for a certain number of parking spaces for X amount of dollars.
- Box issued to applicants after beach wedding fees have been paid to display during the wedding to show proof of the permit for the wedding and parking fees, etc.
- Take revenues from weddings and budget for beach-related items.
- Add more trash receptacles on the beach for weddings.

b. St. Pete Beach 60th Anniversary (Jennifer McMahon)

Ms. McMahon informed the committee members that the City Commission wanted ideas from the Recreation Advisory Committee of how to celebrate the City of St. Pete Beach's 60th Anniversary.

The following suggestions were made by Committee members in regard to beach weddings:

- Movie night in the park with the movie being from the '50s.
- Celebrate each decade ('50s, '60s, '70s, etc.) every other month.
- Sand dance behind one of the properties on the beach playing '50s music
- Historical: tributes to mayors, commissioners, firefighters...
- Speak with the committee that planned the 50th anniversary to obtain ideas and suggestions.
- Competition for a logo; produce T-shirts and posters with the winning logo.
- Block party on 8th Avenue: pay homage to the past such as a pig roast, greased pig wrestling, contest for climbing a greased telephone pole, etc.
- Decorate with 60th Anniversary banners along the boulevard.

6. Reports

Ms. McMahon distributed and reviewed a report entitled "FY15 3rd Quarter Report: April – June 2015" with the Recreation Advisory Committee members. The following topics were discussed:

- Summer Camp
- Happenings in 3rd quarter
- 3rd Quarter Finances
- Programming Report
- Aquatics Report
- Rental Report
- Upcoming
- Next Meeting Date: February 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Attest:



Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk



Danielle Micklitsch, Chairwoman

Minutes approved on: 2/9/16