

# PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 18, 2021 9:00 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Mike Flannery, Vice Chair  
Yvette Gaugh, Member  
Scott Seubert, Member

**ABSENT:** Danielle Micklitsch, Chair  
Steve Stewart, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jennifer McMahon, Parks and Recreation Director  
Ginny Keeter-Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk

Vice Chair Flannery called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

1. **Changes to the Agenda** - There were no changes to the agenda.
2. **Audience Comments** - There were no audience comments.
3. **Approval of Minutes – 11/19/2019**

**Member Gaugh moved and Member Seubert seconded to approve the November 19, 2019 minutes as presented; the motion carried unanimously.**

## 4. **Presentation – Sunshine Law and Public Records**

Assistant City Attorney Matthew McConnell reviewed a presentation on the Sunshine Law from the Special Council for Open Government as an annual refresher for Board members. The presentation included the background and scope of the Sunshine Law, three basic requirements of all public meetings, meeting conduct and penalties. He reviewed the Public Records Law, definitions, accepting requests, records retention and penalties. He provided additional resources and encouraged members to reach out to the City Clerk or Attorney with any questions or concerns.

## 5. **Action Items**

### a. **Election of Officers 2021-2022**

**Member Seubert moved and Member Flannery seconded the appointment of Danielle Micklitsch as Committee Chair for 2021-2022; the motion carried unanimously.**

**Member Seubert moved and Member Gaugh seconded that appointment of Mike Flannery as Committee Vice Chair for 2021-2022; the motion carried unanimously.**

### b. **Hurley Park**

Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer McMahon reported that the ribbon cutting was in February. The baseball field was completely ready for Little League opening day, the basketball court has been resurfaced; there are blended lines with removable nets for pickleball. All lighting is turtle friendly. Court resurfacing has been done City-wide. The park has been resodded, a new shelter ordered, and a small dog park has been added. Storm-related repairs to the Warren Webster Building are nearing

completion. The Historic Preservation Board is in favor of seeking historical grant funding to restore the press box.

**c. Egan Park Improvements**

Ms. McMahon reported that similar baseball field improvements will be done at Egan Park and new tennis court fencing. The boat ramp has been repaired and is up and running. She spoke about replacing the two docks at the south end; discussion followed on whether more than one dock is necessary, as there was originally only one.

**d. Pass-a-Grille Park Landscaping and Memorial Walk**

Ms. McMahon explained that existing trees at this passive park were arbitrarily placed over time, and plans are to have a landscape architect make an assessment and possibly add a winding walkway to connect the gulf and intercoastal. A resident has inquired about selling bricks for a memorial walk. She will be making a presentation to the Historic Museum in the coming months.

**e. Fishing Pier/Fisherman's Park/West End of Corey**

Ms. McMahon spoke about the area that comprises the City's Fisherman's pocket park at the end of 75<sup>th</sup> Ave, the Buoy's/Toasted Monkey parking lot, Woody's and Sunset Park. The owner of the Toasted Monkey will be adding a boating marina and plans are to work on a partnership agreement where a municipal fishing pier can be added. The long-range vision, which would require business partnerships, is a cohesive space with connectivity and a walkable thruway from 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. to County Park. There would be considerable pieces to the plan, and the fishing pier is the springboard to that.

**f. St John's Partnership**

St. John's uses a City facility for basketball, volleyball, and summer programs; they are considering a plan to upgrade their own outdoor facilities (some covered) and move them closer to the building for restroom access. The City Commission was in favor, at their budget workshop, of contributing to that plan, provided the City/residents would have access when not in school use. There is good programming potential for the City, and this is still in discussion.

**g. Kayak Launches and Blue Trails**

Ms. McMahon explained that during strategic planning, there were considerable resident requests for more water access for kayaking and paddle boarding. The City has many street-end and pocket parks; kayak launches will be added to McKenney and Egan Parks this year and future hopes are to create trails (Blue Trails) on the water, connecting throughout the City.

A brief discussion followed on boat speeding and enforcement on waterways City-wide. Mr. McConnell added comment that waterways are highly regulated with administrative codes and statutes; his office and City staff are drafting an ordinance to address speeds, and have a consultant to work through the State application process for new markers and zones, particularly on the resort side with the ingress and egress of jet skis and other rentals.

## **6. Discussion Items**

### **a. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report**

Prior to the current financial review, Ms. McMahon first explained last year-end losses due to Covid-19. She continued to a summary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Revenues and Expenses, Programming, Aquatics, Rentals, Special Events, Permitting and Parks Reports, and she reviewed the events that have taken place during the first half of the fiscal year. Her presentation will be part of these minutes.

### **b. Projects Update for the Year**

Highlights of upcoming projects included new signage at all entry points to the City, the proposed Fishing Pier, Median Landscaping (Bayway and 75<sup>th</sup>), outdoor fitness equipment at Vina del Mar, increased pool admissions beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> (\$3 - \$4 daily), and a new agreement with the Don Vista/Suntan Arts (rent was increased and the City will be able to hold auxiliary classes when not in Suntan's use).

Following the agenda items, Ms. McMahon reviewed the powers, duties and scope of this Committee according to its governing City Ordinance.

**Member Gaugh moved and Member Seubert seconded adjournment at 10:12 a.m.**

## **7. Adjournment – Next meeting November 16, 2021**

*These minutes were approved at the November 16, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting.*