

# PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 16, 2021 9:00 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Danielle Micklitsch, Chair  
Scott Seubert, Member  
Steve Stewart, Member

**ABSENT:** Mike Flannery, Vice Chair  
Yvette Gaugh, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer  
Ginny Keeter-Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk

Chair Micklitsch 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. **Action Items**

- a. & b. **Approval of Minutes 5/18/2021 and 2022 Meeting Schedule**

**Chair Micklitsch moved and Member Seubert seconded to approve the May 18, 2021 minutes and the 2022 meeting schedule as presented; the motion carried unanimously.**

4. **Items for Discussion/Updates**

- a. **Paddleboard and McKenney & Egan Launches:** Chief Operating Officer Jennifer McMahon reported that the City has added four paddleboard stations (Egan, McKenney, Upham, and Pass-a-Grille) and teamed with PADL; once the app is downloaded, the board, leash, paddle and lifejacket can be rented for \$19 per hour. The City receives 20% of the revenue. A kayak launch has been added at McKenney and 2 custom-built, multi-purpose floating docks (that can be connected to form a barge) are being added at Egan Park. Uses would include launching, seawall repairs and fireworks; they should be complete after the first of year. PADL handles insurance and maintenance.

- b. **Merry Pier and Fisherman's Park Fishing Pier:** There were some hold ups with securing the cost breakdown for the Fisherman's Park Pier but staff is hoping this will go before the City Commission by the first of the year. The Merry Pier renovations are expected to be ready for the lighted boat parade on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

- c. **Entrance & Facility Signs:** Placemaking signs have been ordered at City entrances on 75<sup>th</sup> Ave., Blind Pass, Corey Ave., and facilities such as City Hall, the Community Center, and parks. They should be installed before Christmas. The Historic Preservation Board will be consulted on Pass-a-Grille signs.

- d. **Beach Walk:** The Tradewinds has acquired The Alden and will be submitting a master plan for their site to include a beach walk behind the properties. The 3-5 year vision plan

would join that with walkable access from Upham Beach to the County Park. Some grant funding has been applied for and cost estimates have been put together.

**e. Mobi-Mats:** The City has been working with the Disability Network on these mats that make beach access easier for those with wheelchairs or difficulty walking. A private family non-profit is willing to pay for some of these. Drawings have been submitted for approval to the DEP and FWC, so as not to disturb wildlife. Locations will include Upham, 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave., and eventually Pass-a-Grille near the concessions.

**f. Light Up the Neighborhood Contest:** This will be the second year of neighborhood decoration competition; all HOA Presidents have been invited and promotions for the event are ongoing. Judging is December 12-18<sup>th</sup>.

**g. Hurley, Warren Webster and Egan Updates:** Hurley Park renovations are complete except the pavilion; the new one will be installed after Thanksgiving. Ms. McMahon asked for Committee input as to reinstalling the playground, at the request of some residents, they were in favor. Funding is a consideration. Ms. McMahon indicated she will invite the Mad Dogs Triathlon Club to the ribbon cutting at the pavillon. Discussion followed on getting better lighting on Gulf Way near the park and lights to shine down at flashing pedestrian crosswalks. Ms. McMahon will follow up. Lastly, she reported that the Warren Webster is now finished and back up and running. Egan Park boat ramp has been repaired, the little league field resurfaced, and a scoreboard added.

**h. 4th Quarter FY2021 Report:** Ms. McMahon's presentation, which included financial overviews for Programming, Aquatics, Rentals, Special Events and Permitting, will become part of these minutes. She also reviewed the Parks projects that have been completed.

**i. Upcoming Projects:** Ms. McMahon reviewed all of the upcoming holiday events. She mentioned other things to look for in the near future including the new entrance signs at the Don CeSar, median landscaping on the Bayway, outdoor fitness equipment in Vina del Mar and the new shelter at Hurley Park.

**j. Adjournment** – Next meeting May 17, 2022

There being no further business, Chair Micklitsch adjourned the meeting at 9:59 AM.

*These minutes were approved at the May 17, 2022 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting.*