

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

October 11, 2022

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was held at the Recreation & Aquatic Center and called to order at 7:00am on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Dana Suiters, Rob Oman, Chairman David Schrader and staff liaison Terri Moore were in attendance.

The August 9, 2022 minutes were unanimously approved (There was no quorum in September).

OLD BUSINESS:

- Restroom Project at RAC – Update – There were 2 BIDs received; both were higher than expected. There are discussions about how to have funding cover the project to make it happen this fiscal year. Some projects may be put out another year. There was discussion about the gymnasium floor needing attention. Terri stated that she will keep the Board updated on these projects.
- End of Summer Spectacular Event – September 3rd, 2022 – This was the 2nd time having the event and the attendance grew from last year. There were inflatables for the children. A movie was shown afterwards.
- Advisory Board Member - Resident Criteria – The Advisory Board Members think it would be a good idea to have one alternate be able to live outside of the City. Presently, the Library Board, and the CAC make allowances for this. Another alternative they would like to explore is changing the number of members that have to be present at the meeting to make a quorum (presently, there have to be four members present). Since there are only four members on the Advisory Board at this time, they would like to explore ways of recruiting additional members by possibly meeting less often, and/or changing the meeting time to an evening. Terri stated that she would like to help recruit and then revisit the issue in January, 2023.
- Cotee River Clean-up – September 17th – The Advisory Board members felt that the dumpster should have been placed somewhere else; it was in the way of boater's trying to launch. There was not a good turnout of volunteers; only one boat and one kayak. They would like to see more River clean-up and suggested having on a

different day and not compete with the National Clean-up Day. Only 10 volunteers ate afterwards.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Silver Sneakers Classes – resumed in September – We haven't offered these classes since Covid-19 in 2020. The participation is really good, so the classes will be held two times per week beginning in October.
- Professional Development P & R Staff – Terri was able to take 3 department employees (Cody, Bertell, and Chandler) to attend classes and workshops at the FRPA Conference in Orlando at the end of August, 2022. The feedback was good, and it definitely raised awareness and education about best practices in the field.
- Cost Recovery Model (intro) – This has not been introduced the staff yet, so this will be tabled for further discussion at a later time. This Advisory Board will assist in looking at ways to subsidize fees and recoup costs for programming and events; advise on what programs and services will help recoup costs, and which will be done at a loss or break even?
- Hurricane Ian Impacts – The RAC was used as an EOC since it is the highest landmark in the City. The hurricane was predicted to be a water event, so the concert, EV event, and some classes were cancelled/postponed. RAC staff assisted with preparations at City Hall, some functions at the EOC, and with Parks clean-up afterwards.
- Frances Avenue Park Project – There are a few punch list items- stonework on the pavilion, and some sod that needs to be placed; all should be complete by 10/22/22.
- FY 2022-2023 CIP Projects – RAC Restrooms, Gymnasium Floor, a new Gymnasium divider, automatic bleachers, replace some of the shade canopies on the pool deck, re-surface the dive and kiddie pools, re-do the rope areas on the pool deck, replace Fitness equipment – a few each year. We are also working with the IT dept. to get the screens working on the treadmills, and the display boards in the lobby. A question was asked by the Board members about updating the bulletin board display cases at Sims Park and at the Grey Preserve. New informational flyers should be posted in the display cases each month. The present materials have not been updated in a very long time. Terri said she would look into having this done.
- The Board Members then brought up some Parks items that need to be addressed:
 1. The flooring/matt at the Sims Park playground needs to be replaced.

2. The slide is broken and blocked with plywood; the support beams are rusted out creating a safety issue; when will this be corrected?
3. More benches are needed for adult seating.
4. Jasmin Park – the cover was busted.
5. Grand Blvd. Park – What is going on there? Terri said she will get updates on the parks and let the Advisory Board know at the next meeting.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Family Movie Night (Sims Park) “Addams Family 2” – October 15, 2022 – We are going to try to schedule 6 movies and 6 concerts this year.
- Kids Night Out (RAC) Halloween Themed – October 22, 2022 – This is a well-attended event and registration of 50 children will be full.
- Zombie Fun Run (Grey Preserve) – October 29, 2022 – This is a fun event for elementary and middle school aged children. We would love to see some assistance at the event.
- Puppy Paddle; October 29th: 11am Small Dogs and 1:30pm Large Dogs – People love this. Dog Moms of Tampa Bay were invited to partner with us to help grow the event. A few vendors will be there giving away some things, too.

VOX POP:

Bike Week event – Not as many bikes were there this year, but there were a lot of people spending a lot of money downtown.

We all need to visit the parks and invite others to attend the Advisory Board meetings.

Let's get an update on the Meadows Park project soon.

The next meeting will be November 8, 2022 at the RAC.

The meeting adjourned around 7:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marlowe

Carolyn Marlowe,
Secretary

CM:dch