

# PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was held at the Recreation & Aquatic Center at 7:30am on Tuesday, August 9, 2016. Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Joy Phillips, Rob Oman and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance. The June meeting minutes were reviewed (there was no meeting in July).

Bob Smallwood has resigned; Rob Oman has moved up to regular Board Member status; two alternate positions are now open.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Youth Advisory Boards Award - The Parks and Recreation Youth Advisory Board has been awarded Most Outstanding Youth Organization.
- Sports Advisory Group Recommendations - (A Power Point document was distributed to all members.) Some of the recommendations don't work with City Government (i.e. increased wages/incentives for employees).
- Advisory Board T-shirts - Everyone looks good in the new t-shirts.
- Splash Pad in Sims Park - The ongoing problem has been repaired; the system kept shorting out.
- Summer Sunset Concerts - There were 4 over the summer. Thank Joy and Dave for their assistance. We received good comments about the concerts on Facebook. We are already thinking about concerts for next summer. There was a high level of musicianship; professionalism; good quality music; new groups that haven't played in New Port Richey before.
- Sims Park LWC Grant Closed Out - The grant was finally closed out and the City received a check payment.
- Parks Master Plan Up-date - RFPs were asked for first, by mistake, so selection process rejected all 4 of those submissions. RFQs were asked for and 8 submissions were received; looked at qualifications and scored those. \*Trails Grant and grant for Grey Preserve entry area (various improvements) are already in the works. The Master Plan will include other proposed improvements; Chris and Donna are working on a grant to assist with funding for improvements in the Grey Preserve. \*\*(Board members suggested and discussed a few things regarding improvements.)

- Summer Break-Spot Food Program - This was the first time we were able to offer the program at the RAC. The program went very well; lots of children were eating the food, so there was not a lot of waste. There was regular participation in the program by Camp children, as well as some of the children of families in the community that came for free breakfast and lunch.
- Summertime in the City Event - We had a lot of smiling faces and sold 371 wristbands for the event.
- Mowing Cycle in Sims - the cycle has been adjusted so the grass is shorter for weekend activities.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- National League of Cities - Healthy Communities - Elaine attended a training conference in Alexandria, Virginia in July regarding families having access to affordable health insurance. Healthy families make healthy communities and the Parks and Recreation department is the connector for the Health department to get the information to the families through event flyers. The Youth Advisory Board is going to get the information from the Health department and put it on the back of the movie flyers, as part of "Kids Helping Kids" project.
- Meeting with North Bay Hospital for Partnership - They are excited about the new equipment in the Fitness Center and are considering using our site to refer patients that have completed their physical therapy with the hospital and want to continue a healthy lifestyle. Trainings would be hosted at the RAC.
- Pokemon Go 5K - There were 250 participants at the event at Sims Park. \*\*It was suggested that a banner be made and posted for the Parks & Recreation Youth Advisory Board so that citizens would recognize them and what they do in the community.
- Revenue Comparison for RAC - There was a comparison of revenue from October 1, 2014-August 2, 2015 to October 1, 2015-August 2, 2016 that showed an increase of \$60,000.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- Full Court Basketball - Sundays - There has been good and increased attendance at these events; 200 participants were at the first Midnight Basketball event.
- Canoe Battleship is this Saturday, August 13th: beginning at 5pm. There are already 10 teams signed up.

- Family Movie Night at Sims Park is Saturday, August 20th: 8:30pm "Meet the Robinsons"
- River Clean-up will be Saturday, September 17th: 8am
- Family Movie Night at Sims on Saturday, September 24th will be "Star Wars Night" and will feature an invasion of the park at 5:15pm by Star Wars characters. There will be 4 or 5 volunteers and they will do a meet and greet with photo opportunities and giveaways. \*(Discussion about how to best do the giveaways was shared amongst the Board members.)

### VOX POP

Discussion ensued about deterring the homeless and drunken patrons during events at the park and also the ones handing out literature and under what circumstances that is permitted.

Laser Tag event will be at the RAC on Friday, August 12th: 7-9pm.

Elaine would like to have a Winter Wonderland this year at the RAC with snow and games.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 13th at 7:30am.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marlowe  
P & R Adv. Bd. Secretary

BMB: dcf