

# **PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

August 8, 2017

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at Peace Hall at 7:45am on Tuesday, August 8, 2017. Chairman David Schrader, and Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Rob Oman, Elizabeth Giordano, and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance.

The June 13, 2017 minutes were unanimously approved. (There was no meeting held in July.)

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Work Session on Special Events – This meeting was well attended by Event Organizers and some of the residents of the area around Orange Lake. Positive input and good comments about the concerts. Guidelines are being developed so the park is minimally impacted by events.
- Frances Avenue Restroom – Project out to Bid on August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Recreation & Aquatic Center Web Page Operational – The new page is up and functioning; some reservations are being done on-line.
- Summer Concerts – Well attended – Thank you to Joy for assisting with the bands.
- 90 Days of Summer Results – In 2016, 679 3-month Memberships were sold during the Sale. In 2017, 889 3-month Memberships were sold during the same time period; a 24% increase.
- Grey Preserve North Entry – Bid package being developed – The Grant has been approved for Phase I; Phase II will be in New Business.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- We have received a Recreation Trails Grant for Phase II of the Grey Preserve.
- \$1,000 Donation from New Port Richey Rotary – We are using this donation to purchase a new gaming system for the new Game Room.
- September-December Recreation & Aquatic Center Program Guide printed (distributed/hand-out) We will do another photo after Justin Billings returns in the Fall.

- FRPA Award – Agency Excellence Award for Economic Impact – KC put the information together and submitted it; we were up against much larger cities that have much more \$. We won the award partially due to the improvements at Sims Park and the Recreation & Aquatic Center. We have also helped promote downtown businesses. Dave was invited to the FRPA Award Banquet in August to accept the Award on behalf of the department. (No Council Members are able to attend.)
- Survey Taken at Concert – It was Joy’s suggestion that we do surveys at the last concert to see how many were utilizing the downtown restaurants before/after the concert. (Results were distributed and reviewed as a group.)
- Membership Drive approved for Annual Memberships (December & January)
- Advisory Board Help needed with RAC Open House on Friday Night, January 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday Morning, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – There will be an Open House for the RAC after the construction has been completed. We will have instructors doing mini classes, giveaways, set up activity rooms, information for parties, and more.
- The Tony Hawk Foundation gives grants toward Skate Parks and will help get other funding sources. We don’t have a lot of property choices for a new Skate Park. The one we currently have is conveniently located near outside restrooms.
- The Advisory Board is invited to assist with the Haunted Hike at the Grey Preserve on October 28<sup>th</sup>; trail guides and decorators are needed for the scare zones.
- Lastly, a big Thank You to Dave for help unloading a big truck full of toy donations; it was very hot and he was given last minute notice to assist.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- August 12<sup>th</sup> – Back-to-School Pool Party at RAC 6-9pm
- August 19<sup>th</sup> – Family Movie Night at Sims Park 7:30pm “Beauty and the Beast” \*Belle will be there for photos with children
- September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Program at Sims Park 7pm
- September 16<sup>th</sup> – Cotee River Clean-up Sims Boat Ramp 8am
- September 9<sup>th</sup> - Canoe Battleship at RAC 5-8:30pm
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – Dash N Splash Youth Aquathlon at RAC in am; This is not a competitive event; kids can have fun while being active. There will be a party with participation awards afterwards.

- Joy Phillips was unable to attend the Advisory Board meeting, but she requested to have the following recommendation made - Idea for November Movie Night - Have a "Drive-In" Movie; the children can make "cars" out of cardboard boxes; the YAB Members can be car hops and deliver a bag of popcorn and a bottle of water to each child. Take pictures before the movie while the children sit in their cars. Ribbons can be awarded; the Advisory Board Members can judge the cars and give out the award ribbons. The Library could hold car-making workshops.

### VOX POP

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am at Peace Hall.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carolyn Marlowe*

Carolyn Marlowe  
P & R Adv. Bd. Secretary

CM: dcf