

# **PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

October 13, 2020

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 13, 2020. Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Greg Giordano, Joy Phillips, Dana Suiters, Rob Oman, Kai Sonnenshein, Chairman Dave Schrader, and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance.

The August 11, 2020 minutes were unanimously approved. (There was no meeting in September.)

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Annual Report to City Council – Dave did a great job and we appreciate him doing this on behalf of the Advisory Board each year.
- Lighting Projects/RAC – The new sports lighting in the Gymnasium has been completed and will save \$ in the long run. The new Pool Deck lighting is nearly complete, and will also be energy-efficient lighting.
- The Meadows Park Improvement Project – This includes upgrades for everything in the park: the parking lot, dog park area, lights, restrooms, etc. The Design Firm has been approved; they are the same firm that did Sims Park and the RAC Expansion Project a few years ago.
- Frances Avenue Park Picnic Shelters – The Cost Estimate is good; we are getting grant \$; construction will begin next year.
- Trails Feasibility Study Presentation to City Council – This was presented on October 6, 2020. There are 3 parts to it (connecting to existing trails, finding where trails are needed and desired, and bringing people into the City). There was discussion about getting grants for the project, the over-pass and an under-pass at US Highway 19 near Catches restaurant, golf carts utilizing the trails, the City of Port Richey, and tying in to what Pasco County is planning.
- 9/11 Memorial Program – Virtual – The Mayor did a presentation and a Speaker wrote down his experience; having someone else read it. It still brings up powerful emotions for some people.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- FY 2020/2021 Concert Series – The schedule is done. (hand-out) The Governor has lifted restrictions. We are moving forward with masks & social distancing to be encouraged (not required), as it is an outdoor event.
- Fees – Fees were increased for Special Event Applications and Amphitheater Rentals.
- Youth Advisory Board Event – Drive thru Trick or Treat (October 31<sup>st</sup>: 4-6pm) – This will be held in the lower parking lot of the RAC. Candy will be distributed through PVC pipe into each car. The Quilters donated \$250 for candy for the event. The PD, Library and Public Works departments are doing this together. Bicycles and golf carts will be accepted. Walkers will get a treat bag at the table and may not go through the car line.
- Expanded Pickleball to Six Courts – Everything is back to normal.
- Phase III Re-opening plan - Lap lanes must still be reserved during Lap Swim time until Winter Hours begin on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Tennis, Diving, Aquatic Exercise, and Karate instructors have returned and begun their programs again. The other instructors will begin returning in January, 2021. New programs that the RAC staff are offering to the public: Swim & Play for the young ones, and Home School PE for school-aged children. The Fitness Center is open normal hours (without early/late access), and temperatures are taken upon entry to the building. Face masks are required inside, unless you are engaged in a physical activity.
- Swag Bags – The City and RAC has a new logo. Swag bags were handed out to each Advisory Board member present as a thank you for their volunteer service on the Board.
- Director's Retirement – Last official day is November 30, 2020. The Director's position has been posted. You will be updated at the next meeting. The Advisory Board would like to have a Breakfast for Elaine at the next meeting, as that is the most convenient time for everyone to gather.

## VOX POP

The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:40am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carolyn Marlowe*

Carolyn Marlowe,  
Secretary

CM:dch

