

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2021

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board held a meeting at the Recreation & Aquatic Center at 7:00am on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Board Members Dana Suiters, Al Renedo, Chairman Dave Schrader, and staff liaison Kevin Adams were in attendance. There was no quorum present.

The Minutes from the June 8, 2021 meeting were reviewed, but could not be approved, as there was no quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meadows Park Council Workshop – July 6, 2021 – The name of the park will be changed from Meadows Dog Park, to Meadows Park. City Council liked the ideas presented for the design of the park, and appreciate the input from the Advisory Board.
- Art Camp – There was a maximum of 15 students and the camp filled up. This camp for teens was held the week prior to Summer Camp. This was the first time we offered the program. It was a positive experience and we received positive feedback.
- Summer Camp – This program was 7 weeks and everything went very well. There were 100 children registered in the camp for each week. There were fun activities, several field trips, and the children had a lot of fun. We may try to boost the registration to 125 per week next year.
- Swim Lessons – For session 1, there were 66 children that participated. For session 2, 67 participants. In session 3, there were 48 participants, and in session 4, there were 47 children that participated. We received positive feedback that the children had fun, learned a lot, and the instructors were very good.
- Membership Drive – The Summer Membership Drive was done for 2-3 weeks in May and offered 20% off 3 one-month memberships. There were 108 household memberships purchased, which resulted in 440 new members joining for the summer.

- KiaFest – June 26th, 2021 – This event was thrown together at the last minute, but it went really well. The downtown was packed, there were few problems with the crowd, and the Fireworks were really good.
- Movie Night – July 10th, 2021 – The estimated attendance was around 500. Everyone enjoyed it and many were asking when the next Movie Night would be held; which will be this Saturday, August 14th.
- Teen Night Swim – August 7th, 2021 – The Teen Pool Party was open for 50 registrants; which were all sold, with 45 attendees. Pizza was provided and everyone had fun. We plan to do this again next summer, and maybe add a few more throughout the summer. We will also up the capacity, as there was plenty of room to have more attendees, and plenty of staff to cover Lifeguarding.
- Volunteers Needed for Saturday, September 4th: 3:30-6:30pm. *City of New Port Richey End of Summer Spectacular to assist with Games and Inflatables – Volunteers are need to assist with inflatables and games. A concert, featuring H2O, a Hall and Oats Tribute Band, will be held from 6:30-8pm. Al, Dana, and Dave said they would all come to assist at the event.
- Announcement of Open positions on Advisory Board – weekly on Facebook – The Recreation Marketing person is posting weekly on Facebook to help recruit new volunteers to serve on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, as well as, the Cultural Affairs Committee.
- Tennis Court Updates – The Tennis Courts are open and Pickleball Courts have been added on one side. There are Pickleball Nets on wheels that can be rolled on and off those courts. The Windscreens were put up last week, and the rail for the ADA ramp is to be installed soon. The lights are set on a timer to go off at 10pm, after which the courts will be locked. (Q-Why did the project take so long? A-The sub-structure needed to be re-enforced due to its age, and then the courts were re-surfaced and repainted.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Youth Advisory Council – applications available – Tiffany and Jen are taking 10 applicants, ages 13-17 years old, to serve on the Youth Advisory Council. 3 of the youths from the former Youth Advisory Board have reapplied. 2 New applications have been submitted. They want to have it up and running in the fall.
- Downtown Golf Cart Shuttle – We have ordered an 11-Passenger, plus one ADA Passenger Electric Golf Cart to be used to shuttle patrons between the new Parking Garage and the downtown area. The route and stops will need to be figured out. It will take 120 days

from order placement for the Golf Cart to be delivered. Drivers for the Cart also need to be figured out. The solar module that we purchased will extend the life of the battery, and will increase the range it can go before it needs re-charging. (Q-Will this shuttle replace the requirement to provide Park and Ride shuttle service during large events, like Chasco Fiesta? A-While it may not replace the requirement, it may help fulfill the need for another shuttle service.)

- Volunteer Dinner at Spartan Manor on Wednesday, Aug 25 at 6pm – Did everyone get an invite? Yes, but where to RSVP? *(A-RSVP to Judy, the City Clerk.)
- Advisory Board Meeting Location for September 14, 2021 – Let's meet at Meadows Park; to look at before the renovations are done.
- Proposed Fee Changes for Comprehensive Schedule of Fees – (distributed) Everyone looked over the proposed fee changes for utilization of the Recreation & Aquatic Center, and for reservations. *(Q-How many current members? Q-What is the ratio to what the City has to pay to keep the RAC open compared to revenue the RAC brings in?)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Movie Night at Sims Park – “Onward” – August 14th, 2021: 8:30pm
- Adult Basketball League – The League has filled up with the maximum of 8 teams registered.
- Future All Stars for ages 4-6 years old – Registration for the program has filled up with the maximum of 15 participants.
- Child Watch is to re-open on September 13th – The positions for part-time Child Watch Attendants have just been filled.
- Cotee River Clean-up – The event will be held on Saturday, September 18th, 2021: 8:30am. We need volunteers. Everyone will meet at the Sims Park Boat Ramp and get their assignments to pick up trash in the parks, along the river, or in the downtown areas. Information about the event, and to recruit more volunteers, should be posted/announced on Facebook. AI will share the information, as well. Volunteers with boats are needed.

VOX POP:

AI wanted to organize a Corn Hole tournament at Sims Park in November, but found out that all the weekends were already booked. He has since booked the event in January, 2022, but suggests that there be some sort of on-line access to a calendar of events that event

organizers could consult before booking or planning an event. Kevin said he would look into the matter.

The next meeting on Tuesday, September 14th, 2021 will be held at Meadows Park at 7am.

The meeting ended at 7:40am.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hallmark

Donna Hallmark,
Recreation Admin. Assistant

CM:dch