

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 – 4:00 PM

City Hall – 2nd Floor Open Planning Area

Present: Michael Odum, Patt Sned, Matthew Goldberger, Jacquelyn Taylor, Julie Hastrup, Mary Murphy	Staff Present: Leah Rockwell, Todd Snyder, Lucy Morelos
Absent: Perry Douglas, Kara Renne	Guest(s): Mary O’Connor, Angela Biagi, Jaene Miranda, Danny Diaz, Wallis Tinnie

Topic	Discussion / Action / Follow Up
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by <i>Michael Odum</i> at 4:01 PM.
	Motion to approve February minutes made by <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> , second by <i>Julie Hastrup</i> . All in favor.

New Business	<p>F.I.N.D. Grant – Brian Chappell Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Leah Rockwell</i> submitted a Florida Inland Navigation District grant, a waterways assistance grant that is typically a 50/50 grant where the City would fund 50% of the project and FIND would fund the remaining 50%. The grant was submitted for the complete replacement of the pier at Brian Chappell. We estimate that the pier was built 50 years ago and the concrete pilings are beginning to fail. More will be known in June when Leah presents the project to the FIND commissioners and the final funding list is completed. After this, we will then be able to move forward with the contract as we already have the plans, the design, and DEP permitting is underway. Construction would then hopefully start in November 2023. <p>Cha Chi Village Memorial Marker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wallis Tinnie</i> from the Florida Black Historical Research Project introduced herself and gave an overview of the land acknowledgment for Cha Chi Village. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chai Chi Village is the only site that is on the military maps of Florida, indicating that there was a Seminole Native American presence here. We want to honor and pay a land acknowledgment to Chai Chi Village. The village is thought to be located around the chain of lakes, including Clearlake, and we wanted to find a spot that would be appropriate which led us to Sunset Park at Australian Ave. and 36th Street. We’ve spoken to the Commissioner of this area and she is supportive of it so we are bringing it to PRAC for your support. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that they met and discussed Cha Chi Village and Sunset Park with Friederike Mittner, City Historic Preservation Planner, and Sybille Welter, Administrator of Public Art and Culture. We reviewed the research, historical information, and location and determined that Sunset Park would be a great place to put a historical marker to acknowledge and honor the Seminole Indians who were in this area. We are here to have PRAC’s input on putting a marker in the park. <i>Julie Hastrup</i> – Will the marker be on the ground or raised? <i>Leah</i> – It’ll be raised; we’re looking into a bronze or granite base. When we have a final design, we will show it to PRAC. <i>Jaqueline Taylor</i> – I don’t know how long it will take to make this happen, but on May 20th there is an event being planned and is there a way to coordinate the two? <i>Wallis</i> – We’re having an event in Loxahatchee on May 20th but for the placement, we’re hoping to be finished by November. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> – With ArtLife taking the lead on this, it will become a part of the City’s collection and they will maintain it. <i>Patt Sned</i> made the motion to approve with <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> second. All in favor.
Old Business	<p>Boys and Girls Club Presentation – Jaene Miranda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Jaene Miranda</i>, President and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County; <i>Mary O’Connor</i>, Past President and CEO of the Boys and Girls Club; <i>Angela Biagi</i>, Director of Planning for WGI; <i>Danny Diaz</i>, Principal Planner at ADC Architects were introduced to the committee. <i>Jaene Miranda</i> – Since the last time we were here, we had a lot of meetings throughout the community and received a lot of feedback, so tonight what you will see the updates to what was presented previously. We have a Commission Workshop on Monday, April 10th so we hope you like what you see and we walk away with your support for that meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are now up to 20 clubs around the county, the last time we were here we were at 17 and they are at: Jupiter Elementary, Conniston Middle, and Pahokee Middle and High School.

- For this club, we have a \$22 million campaign of which \$12 million is construction, \$8 million is endowment, and \$2 million is for the first two years of operating. So far, we have raised \$15 million and it does give us enough to begin construction of the club.
- *Mary O'Connor*– There is a tremendous need for the young people in this area. Within a 1 mile radius around the site, there are 2,210 kids between the ages of 5 – 19 and 747 of them are between the ages of 15 – 19.
 - The feeder schools we will be picking up from are Palmetto, Conniston, Belvedere, and Forest Hill.
 - We anticipate a budget of \$1.5 million; we anticipate having 800 members at the club.
 - This club will have a workforce readiness center for high schoolers.
- *Jaene Miranda* – Knowing we wanted to come into District 5, we began making an effort with the local schools. We began with Forest Hill in the middle of COVID and in 2020 we received a \$450,000 grant from the Florida Department of Education and primarily work there with English language learners.
 - At Conniston Middle we just received a \$500,000 grant and started our program there in January.
 - *Julie Hastrup* – Do you envision transitioning from the schools to the site? *Jaene* – That is yet to be seen. It depends on how long it takes us to move through this process. We may need to apply for new grants by the time the club opens. *Mary* – It would let us serve more kids.
 - *Jacqueline Taylor* – In addition to serving more kids, if they remain on site, they get that additional Title I support in addition to the support you all are giving them.
- *Angela Biagi* went through the plan that was previously presented to PRAC at their last meeting.
 - The feedback since that meeting has been that the plan was too building forward and we needed to maintain a more park-like appearance when driving down Southern and entering the site.
 - We were told that the mound that is there is unusable space and it isn't something that the community wanted to see so the revised plan will show us flattening that.
 - *Patt Sned* requested clarification of the old and new site plans and that the parking lot that isn't in the lease line will be open to the public when the Club is not in use.
- *Danny Diaz* went through the changes to the site plan. Based on the received comments, we distanced the building back from Dreher Trail and Southern Blvd. They will also be working with the master plan for Dreher Park on vegetation.
 - *Julie Hastrup* asked if the classroom building remained the same size, if there were playgrounds added, and about the expected daily attendance. *Danny* answered that there has been no change to the classroom size. *Jaene* answered that there must be a dedicated play space with specified square footage fenced in for the kids. The expected daily attendance is 250-300 with a maximum occupancy of 350 children daily.
 - *Jacque Taylor* inquired about outsourcing or allowing the community to use the facility for adult classes or activities. *Jaene* answered that the building will be operated as other Clubs are operated, in conjunction with the cities they are in, and that there is appropriate coverage. For adult programming, that would be a lease agreement with the City. *Leah* added that it would be up to the City to run the program outside of the Club hours or to hire an outside provider to run the program.
 - *Patt Sned* asked if they were planning on more vegetation to block the gym and the buildings. *Jaene* answered that they will be adding a berm to hide the parking lot as much as possible, but it's a safety issue if the building is hidden completely.
 - *Matthew Goldberger* stated that these are thoughtful changes and that it took into consideration feedback from the community. He gives his support.
 - *Matthew Goldberger* makes a motion to approve the current site plan. *Patt Sned* seconds. All in favor.

Bond and CIP Project Updates

- *Leah Rockwell* gave an update on the Bond projects:
 - Phipps Park concession stand and new restrooms – Hartnett has been selected as the contractor and we are finalizing the contract.
 - Lincoln Park soccer field lighting – the bid has come in over budget and is still pending.
 - Gaines Park Community Center and Tennis Center – additional time has been given to those interested in bidding as there were questions that were asked but not responded to in time.
 - Howard Park Tennis Courts – currently out to bid.
 - South Olive Tennis Center – met with the design team about tearing down the storage building to provide room for parking and additional tennis courts. A new shed will be built at the back of the community center. We are pricing it out to make sure it is within budget.
 - *Michael Odum* asked why there hasn't been a ribbon cutting for Pleasant City Community Center. *Leah Rockwell* answered that they're still working on resurfacing the basketball court and after it's completed we will schedule a ribbon cutting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fogelman Park playground has been installed. Designs are still being worked on for Coleman Park playground. George Petty Park playground has been ordered and will be delivered shortly. • Additional designs have been made for Dreher Park playground as we want to balance play space and shading. With the Science Center improvements and the Boys and Girls Club, we're hoping to move trees closer to the playground area to create more natural shade. • <i>Patt Sned</i> made the motion that PRAC supports natural shade with some augmentation as needed and play equipment is more important. <i>Jacqueline Taylor</i> seconds. All in favor. • Phipps Park playground project is in the early phases and Waterfront playground is still up in the air. • <i>Julie Hastrup</i> inquired about Jose Marti Park. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated she is working on the type of fitness equipment for this park.
Staff Comments/ Updates	<p>Budget Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> informed that we begin inputting the fiscal year 2024 budget this week. The only increases we are allowed to include are contractual increases. • Currently there are 22 vacancies in the Parks Division, 23 in the Recreation Division, and 3 in the Community Events Division, all are full-time vacancies. <p>Annual Report for PRAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual report needs to be submitted to the City Commission. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> asked if there is anyone on the board that would like to serve as the liaison to create the report. • <i>Julie Hastrup</i> will serve as the liaison. <p>Future Election for Chair and Vice Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> informed the members that they need elect a Chair and Vice-Chair within the next couple of months or reelect <i>Michael Odum</i> and <i>Patt Sned</i> as respectively should they wish to continue.
Board Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jacque Taylor</i> and <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> asked about the Golf Course opening on April 10th and if it is still happening. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that it is still planned. • <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> asked if there is going to be an allotment of tee times for City residents. <i>Patt Sned</i> stated that is how it was sold to them and suggested asking Armando. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> will ask Armando and see about having a member from the golf course join the next PRAC meeting to go over operations. • <i>Patt Sned</i> inquired about the linear park at the golf course which was part of the development plan.
Public Comments	No public comment.
Next Meeting	Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 4:00 PM.
Meeting Adjourned	<i>Patt Sned</i> made the motion to adjourn. <i>Jacqueline Taylor</i> second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.