

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 – 4:00 PM

City Hall – 2nd Floor Open Planning Area

Present: Michael Odum, Patt Sned, Jacquelyn Taylor, Perry Douglas, Mary Murphy	Staff Present: Leah Rockwell, Todd Snyder, Sherry Wilson, Lucy Morelos, Mary Pinak
Absent: Matthew Goldberger, Julie Hastrup	Guest(s): None.

Topic	Discussion / Action / Follow Up
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by <i>Michael Odum</i> at 4:00 PM.
	Motion made to approve July minutes with an amendment to include the following: <i>In an effort to streamline the process of color selection for all playgrounds located within City parks, the PRAC committee proposes a policy of there being bright and colorful playgrounds in all parks, with the exception of Dreher Park and parks located along the intracoastal waterway, in order for attract children and promote creativity. Playgrounds that are located in more ecological environments, e.g. Dreher Park and parks along the intracoastal, will use more natural colors such as greens and browns. This policy allows department staff to stay within the cost and time constraints that are associated with playground development.</i> made by <i>Patt Sned</i> , with a second by <i>Michael Odum</i> . All in favor.

New Business	None.
Old Business	<p>BOND – <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that at the Commission meeting on Monday night, the City was able to find the funds necessary for us to move forward with Gaines Park Community Center, Gaines Park Tennis Center, and Howard Park Tennis Center renovations. These projects had come in considerably over budget and the City Commission thought that using the rollover funds from previous years on these projects would be a positive way to use some of these funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The letter to award was either sent today or will be sent tomorrow from procurement to the Howard Park Tennis Court contractor. The letter to award for the Gaines Park contractor will also be sent after a meeting to make sure they can build what they bid on, if they are unable to, we will move on to the second contractor. • <i>Patt Sned</i> stated that she received a phone call about Howard Park today that nothing has happened, nothing has been demolished. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that we wouldn't demolish without someone being able to rebuild. She also stated that this is the same contractor that worked on South Olive, and they are very excited. We hope for construction to start on October 1. • South Olive Tennis is about to go through permit review, PPRC, and after this is completed, we will start working on a permit and then go out for bid. • <i>Patt Sned</i> asked if there will be pickleball at South Olive. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that no, there will not be pickleball courts there, but we will have them at Howard. • A final design meeting was held for Phipps Skate Park yesterday. The design looks awesome for the new ramps, there just needs to be a few tweaks and after that, we look to have signed and sealed plans to go through permitting in the next few weeks. Construction is estimated to start after winter break to have enough time to be ready for summer break if not spring break. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> handed out various shades of "safety carpet", or artificial grass, to the committee members and informed them that it is used in playgrounds around the country, including Palm Beach Gardens, Deerfield, and Miami. It has the same quality of poured-in-place regarding fall zones but the maintenance is considerably less; <i>Todd Snyder</i> informed the committee that an issue we're having is vandalism, such as people cutting and picking at the poured in place surfacing with a knife. The contractor then needs to come in and patch that section, which creates a potential weak spot. Another issue has been with the installation itself with the standards of the compaction of the subbase which results in areas coming loose. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that we're going to get photographs of playgrounds in the area that are

already using “safety carpet” and see how long they have been using it for. *Sherry Wilson* stated that about six months ago, in Deerfield, they installed the “safety carpet” and the community loves it, it looks likes, it’s easier to maintain, and it’s made for drainage.

- *Leah Rockwell* stated that the playground we have concerns with regarding cost is Dreher Park. The cost difference between pour-in-place and “safety carpet” is approximately \$78,000 difference.
- *Patt Sned* wanted to know if there was anything else in between because the “safety carpet” seems awful. *Todd Snyder* that there isn’t, but the PIP and “safety carpet” is great for ADA accessibility compared to the engineered wood fiber.
- *Perry Douglas* stated that we should try it as an experiment at one of the playgrounds.
- *Mary Murphy* asked if it is placed like a carpet, in one piece? *Leah Rockwell* answered they’re about 15 feet wide and when placing, they do not put the seams in high stress areas. But where the seams are placed, they’re bonded using heavy duty siding and heavy-duty glue.
- *Todd Snyder* also stated that with this product, we can conduct repairs in house, but with the PIP we have to hire a contractor in order to do the repairs.
- *Perry Douglas* stated that as long as it meets the standards for playground surface materials, it’s worth trying. *Todd Snyder* answered that it does meet the ASTM standards.

Sales Tax Project – Howard Park Community Center

- *Leah Rockwell* stated that the design plans for Howard Park Community Center are at 60% and she will see if Alfonso will come to the October meeting to present where he is with the design.

CIP Project Updates

- *Todd Snyder* stated that we are processing a work order to upgrade another 30 stations to smart irrigation.
- *Todd Snyder* also gave an updated on the restrooms at Dreher Park. The Dreher Park restrooms have been ordered and fabricated. We are working with a vendor that Engineering uses to create the engineering plans, which are currently at 90%. We should also have a quote by the end of this week on what it will cost to do the installation portion.

Boys and Girls Club

- *Leah Rockwell* stated that they will be here in September to show the latest designs since they’ve started working on the façade and how it will fit within the park and the lakes. One community member is unhappy with losing access to a portion of the lake because the Boys and Girls Club will need to fence that portion of the lake off for the safety of the children.
- *Michael Odum* wanted to confirm that the removal of the mound is still a part of the plan. *Leah Rockwell* answered that it is.
- *Patt Sned* asked if they should be reminded that their footprint is still 1.57 acres? *Leah Rockwell* stated that she can send Jeanie an email reminding them on PRAC’s behalf. The challenge that they’re having is that when they went to planning to pre-review their plans, they had to put in the setbacks and even though the building size hasn’t changed, their lease line has to meet the setback. Because of this, the lease line is now bigger than the 1.57 acres.
- *Patt Sned* stated in their paperwork, they put 1.57 acres and we didn’t want them to have a lot of greenspace or any, but we worked with them and their architects and engineers know that all buildings have sets backs, that there are codes they have to follow. *Jacquelyn Taylor* asked what is the position? Would they be able to get that additional land? *Leah Rockwell* stated that they’re going to have to present their plan to PRAC and then take it to the City Commission and Mayor.
- *Mary Murphy* asked if it’s up to Commissioners to lease them more land. *Leah Rockwell* answered that yes, it would be up to them.
- *Jacquelyn Taylor* stated that they do have their options that they could share. *Patt Sned* also

	<p>mentioned that they themselves can talk to the Commissioners.</p> <p>Cox Science Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> updated that the Cox Science Center have had the first and second readings on the re-zoning of the land to allow for them to have some waivers on the setbacks of their behind-the-scenes buildings since they do not meet code. They are moving forward but, we have not finalized their contract agreement yet for their 30 year, plus additional 20 year renewal of the land.
<p>Staff Comments/ Updates</p>	<p>Community Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mary Pinak</i> stated that in June they received notice that they were nominated and on the list to be named the Best Farmers Market in the US again from USA Today. This year was different as in the past, when they have been nominated it was during the GreenMarket and we decided to do The Mini at Clematis by Night. This was open to all of our GeenMarket vendors, for free, to come out to Clematis by Night for three dates in June which helped out CbN and got the word out to vote. Voting ended on July 3rd, and we found out on July 4th that we won. The Minis were so successful, we're running it through the end of this month at a charge to the vendors. We still have about 25 to 30 vendors at CbN. • July 4th did very well from a financial standpoint; sponsorship was up, and onsite revenue was up. • Overall, our revenue is up; we are already 30% above our estimated revenue. • Opening day for the GreenMarket is October 7th and it is the 29th season. There will be a record number of 125 vendors signed up, 30 of which are new vendors, compared to last year's 114 total. • We also started a new event with the DDA, call Soul in the City Jazz Experience. It's the third Wednesday of the month in the Lake Pavilion. <p>Summer Camp Wrap Up/After School Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sherry Wilson</i> stated that summer camp wrapped up on the 28th. Staff members have had a little break, but now they are gearing up for afterschool to start at the end of this week. They are also getting ready for winter break and programming that goes along with the holidays. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that Halloween is around the corner, so Gaines is looking to host their Trunk-or-Treat event and Clematis by Fright coming up. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> also stated that we are working on finishing up our licensing for Pleasant City. With Gaines Park going under construction, the kindergarten through 5th graders will be bused to Pleasant City Community Center for afterschool. We are letting the parents know that once construction starts, the location will be changing. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> also stated that we will do a ribbon cutting for Pleasant City, but we must replace the A/C in the gymnasium since it wasn't included in the plans. The new A/C, that is only about 1 ½ years old, the coils went bad, and it is no longer under warranty. The company that installed the A/C is not going to charge for the installation, but we will need to pay for new coils. <p>Median/ROW Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Todd Snyder</i> informed PRAC that the city went out to bid for a new contract on median and right-of-way maintenance. The contract expired last February though we were able to amend the agreements until the bid process was completed. We have received the bids back. For the medians and rights-of-way, we have received bids, and for the fire stations we received a sheltered market bid. Unfortunately, the sheltered market bidder did not meet required specifications, so we must rebid. Hopefully we will have some small, minority owned, women owned business to bid on that contract. • It is a six-year contract, an initial term of 3-years with a renewal of 3-years after. We have had to do a lot of work to keep our current vendors working for us at the price they set six years

	<p>ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Michael Odum</i> asked who takes care of the right-of-way in Pleasant City? <i>Todd Snyder</i> answered that it's a bit tricky since the CRA district is close to their, but Parks Maintenance maintains Spruce Avenue. • <i>Leah Rockwell</i> wants PRAC to know that there are a lot of roadways that are adjacent to City roads that we do not maintain, such as: 45th Street west of the Racetrack, that is maintained by Palm Beach County; the County also maintains Military Trail; the State maintains the Australian Avenue interchange.
Board Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Michael Odum</i> mentioned that maybe we can keep the afterschool program for the younger kids going at Pleasant City. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that it is a possibility, but there is also a program at Pleasant City Elementary and parents might not pull them out just so they can attend our program. <i>Michael Odum</i> stated that there are enough kids to go around.
Public Comment	No public comment.
Next Meeting	Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Meeting Adjourned	<i>Patt Sned</i> made the motion to adjourn with a second by <i>Jacquelyn Taylor</i> . All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.