

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – 4:00 PM

City Hall – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Open Planning Area

<b>Present:</b> Michael Odum, Patt Sned, Matthew Goldberger, Jacquelyn Taylor (phone), Perry Douglas, Mary Murphy, Niels Heimeriks	<b>Staff Present:</b> Leah Rockwell, Sherry Wilson, Todd Snyder, Lucy Morelos, Lynnia Highsmith
<b>Absent:</b> Julie Hastrup	<b>Guest(s):</b> Debbie Raing, Cathy Gardner, Angela Biagi, Natalie Levine, Samuel Tactuk, Daniel Dias, Jaene Miranda

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion / Action / Follow Up</b>
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by <i>Michael Odum</i> at 4:00 p.m.
	Motion made to approve September minutes made by <i>Perry Douglas</i> , with a second by Niels Heimeriks. All in favor.

<b>New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Naming Request – Coleman Park Neighborhood Association</b> – <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that the Coleman Park Neighborhood Association sent a letter to Mayor James requesting that the city consider naming the gymnasium at Coleman Park Community Center the Paul Gregory Blackshear Gymnasium.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Lynnia Highsmith</i>, Center Supervisor for Coleman Park, informed PRAC that Paul worked for the city for 39 years and was a father figure, mentor, and friend to all the residents in the Coleman Park neighborhood. He was also a coach when it came to basketball, football, and life.</li> <li>○ <i>Debbie Raing</i> stated that Paul’s reputation preceded himself and that when he showed up, people would listen. He was also a silent mentor to parents, helping them acquire the skills necessary to keep the children on track after they left Coleman Park.</li> <li>○ <i>Cathy Gardner</i> mentioned that she did not know Paul as long as the others, but from the time she spent with him, he also worked with the seniors and was a quiet, smooth, yet powerful man.</li> <li>○ <i>Jacquelyn Taylor</i> stated that Paul had a strong presence in the community and that she agrees with the recommendation. <i>Michael Odum</i> added that he had known Paul for his entire life and his athletic ability and popularity gave presence to those he was a surrogate father to.</li> <li>○ <i>Patt Sned</i> made the motion to recommend that the Mayor and Commission consider the naming rights for Paul. A second was made by <i>Perry Douglas</i>. All in favor.</li> <li>○ <i>Leah Rockwell</i> informed that the next steps will be that this goes before the City Commission for an item to be considered and then voted on.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Old Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Boys and Girls Club Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Jaene Miranda</i>, President and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, introduced herself and began her presentation for an update on the Boys and Girls Club at Dreher Park.</li> <li>○ The City Commission unanimously voted to surplus the land inside of Dreher Park for the Club. The project has been submitted to planning and zoning, and the first round of comments has been received and answered.</li> <li>○ The term sheet is close to being finalized and we hope to be back in front of the Commission at the end of October or the first meeting in November for its approval. We are also renegotiating the agreement at the Pinewood Center to move maintenance away from the city onto the Club. A West Palm Beach Police Department Substation will be placed in the Dreher Park Club.</li> <li>○ The building will sit back 400 ft from the entrance to the park and feedback from the neighborhood association was to incorporate a more Mediterranean look to the building which resulted in the colors and textures rather than the architecture itself. Additional feedback was received to maintain a paved sidewalk for the public along the retaining wall to provide access to the lake.</li> <li>○ The big change from the last presentation is going from recreational open space (ROS) zoning to planned development (PD) zoning. The building currently exists on a portion of the lake that will</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>need to be filled and compensated for the floodplain area; the lake will need to be enlarged .25 acres for proper drainage on the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Michael Odum</i> asked if there is a second entrance for the gym. <i>Jaene Miranda</i> answered that there is a secondary entrance so if the main building is closed, programming by the city can still take place.</li> <li>○ <i>Patt Sned</i> mentioned that SENA board voted down the project unanimously and wanted to know the responses from the other neighborhoods. <i>Jaene Miranda</i> stated that they have not been back to the other neighborhoods with this design, but they have reached out to DPNA but have not been invited back; Vedado Park did not vote the last time they were there, but their concern was traffic.</li> <li>○ <i>Patt Sned</i> also asked what was the total amount of land that was made surplus. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that it was +/-1.9 acres.</li> <li>○ <i>Jaene Miranda</i> highlighted areas of the term sheet that will provide usage to the City at no cost; it is a net lease meaning that the Boys and Girls Club is responsible for its own maintenance and the shared parking space area; and the terms of the lease will be 30 years with 2 – 10-year renewals. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> added that the aim is to have the lease presented to the Commission in January along with the new lease for the DeGeorge location.</li> <li>○ <i>Mary Murphy</i> asked when will construction begin. <i>Jaene Miranda</i> answered that it will be approximately one year. <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> asked if there would be any point during construction when Southern Blvd. would be affected. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that the only time Southern Blvd. may be impacted would be with the Master Plan which redesigns the ingress and egress of the roadways.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Staff Comments/ Updates</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>CIP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bond Projects – <i>Leah Rockwell</i> updated that the playgrounds that were presented last time have been vetted and ordered. Echo Lake has been completed and <i>Todd Snyder</i> stated that the building department wanted to review since the location of the swing-set was changed.</li> <li>○ Gaines Park Tennis Center and Community Center contractor has been selected and their contract is being finalized. Construction is estimated to start in January.</li> <li>○ A Howard Park Tennis Center pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Thursday with Hartnett Construction and is estimated to start at the end of November.</li> <li>○ Phipps Park concession stand is well underway, and the Skate Park demolition should begin in January and construction of the ramps in February.</li> <li>○ PW Bond Project – <i>Todd Snyder</i> updated everyone on the Dreher Park restrooms where the Engineering department would have acted as the general contractor managing three sub-contractors (site work, electrical, and plumbing) whom the city already has master agreements with. After meeting on site, two of the three contractors are not interested in the work. The permits for the projects are still moving but we must wait for the small construction contracts to make their way through Procurement.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Board Comments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Patt Sned</i> asked about the selection of Burkhardt or Whiting-Turner after attending a Southend neighborhood meeting. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> clarified that they have been pre-qualified to bid on the Currie Park project when the ITB is scheduled to go out in December.</li> <li>▪ <i>Niels Heimeriks</i> introduced himself as the newest PRAC member.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p>No public comment.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>Tuesday, November 14, 2023.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Adjourned</b></p>	<p>Niels Heimeriks made a motion to adjourn with a second by <i>Patt Sned</i>. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.</p>