

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 – 4:00 PM

City Hall – 2nd Floor Open Planning Area

Present: Michael Odum, Matthew Goldberger, Perry Douglas, Julie Hastrup, Mary Murphy	Staff Present: Leah Rockwell, Sherry Wilson, Todd Snyder, Kelly Kollar-Dye, Lorenzo Rivero, Tarelle Goldwire, Lucy Morelos
Absent: Patt Sned, Jacquelyn Taylor	Guest(s): None.

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

New Business	None.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CIP – <i>Leah Rockwell</i> gave an overview of the financials and status of the parks bond projects and Public Works bond projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bond Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The total portfolio of the parks bond projects is \$29,205,000 of which \$8,518,701 has been encumbered of which \$5,545,918 has been paid to vendors. We currently have \$20,727,565 remaining. ○ There are 23 projects in progress and 11 projects have been completed. ○ <i>Perry Douglas</i> asked if there was a deadline to use the funds and then when will the current bond end. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that we originally placed a self-imposed deadline of December 2023. We had to be more realistic and set a new deadline of December 2024 to have most of the bond money either spent or encumbered. The bond term will end in 30 years. ○ Some of the projects that are currently in design and/or permitting: Blum Park Playground and Improvements; Brian Chappell Pier Repair; Coleman Park Playground and Pavilion; Currie Park; Dreher Park Playground and Gaines Park Community Center and Tennis Center. ○ Currie Park is under permit review with the city and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. <i>Julie Hastrup</i> asked why they are involved. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that they are involved because of the seawall and flood zones. ○ <i>Michael Odum</i> asked if the design was fully completed. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that it is completed but it still has to go through this process. ○ <i>Leah Rockwell</i> informed everyone that with Currie Park we placed a request for qualification and received two responses and we expect both to be able to bid on the project. ○ Gaines Park Community Center and Tennis Center bids came in over budget, with a gap of \$5,591,192. We received additional funding from the city to fill this gap. The intent to award was sent out today to the second contractor; the low-bid contractor did not meet some of the requirements. ○ Howard Park Tennis Center had a gap of \$644,280 which the city was able to fill the gap. The contract is currently being finalized. <i>Lorenzo Rivero</i> stated that we expect construction to begin in November. Lincoln Park field lighting bids came in over budget and we will rebid with revised specifications. South Olive Tennis Court plans are at 100% and are going through plan review and pre-permitting; the ITB should be going out in two weeks. ○ There are four options to redo Warren Hawkins Aquatic Center, but they are all over the budget of \$1.5 million. We are looking into grant options and possibly private funding. <i>Julie Hastrup</i> asked if the budgets were put together pre-COVID; <i>Leah Rockwell</i> answered that yes, they were.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waterfront Playground is a partnership with the CRA. The intent is to remove the water features that are to the east of the visitor center, put in a playground along with art, and redo the visitor center to make it more functional. ○ <i>Julie Hastrup</i> brought up the spending that has been done for Jose Marti Park. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> and <i>Sherry Wilson</i> will be meeting with the vendor from whom we would like to purchase the fitness equipment at the park to go over the layout, on September 21st. ▪ Public Works Bond Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Public Works Bond Project that is left is the Dreher Park Restrooms. <i>Todd Snyder</i> provided an update that the restrooms have been fabricated and are currently being stored by the vendor and the plans are 100% completed and are currently in permitting. Once permits are issued, <i>Don Gustafson</i> from Engineering will be managing the various vendors to get the installation completed. ○ <i>Todd Snyder</i> added that some funding for the smart irrigation comes from the Public Works Bond and we have submitted our Phase IV paperwork, which is the last phase and includes about 25 additional stations bringing us up to 80. It is currently working its way through procurement. ▪ Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Todd Snyder</i> provided an update on ARPA funding that was provided to repave the parking lot at the Parks Maintenance complex. A meeting will be held with the vendor in 2 weeks to go over the logistics. ○ The basketball courts at Lincoln Park are also going to be redone with ARPA funding after the Parks Maintenance repaving has been completed. Following this, the trails at South Dreher are also going to be redone.
<p>Staff Comments/ Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Sports – Recreation Manager, <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i>, provided an update on youth and adult sports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The department is a “quality youth sports program” under the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS). We’ve had this since 2021 and it is renewed every 2 years. ○ Programs that we run in youth sports are soccer, flag football, junior soccer, and basketball. The programs are 100% coached by volunteers and we cap out the program at 120 participants per sport. ○ With adult sports we are running co-ed softball and we can accommodate a total of 7 teams. The teams that participate have been coming back for the past 10 to 15 years. ○ We also have youth sports providers which are Palm Beach Rams who provide football and play out of Gaines Park. We also have Elite Soccer Academy. Both have agreements with the city which detail that they pay the city \$25 per player, per season, and in return we maintain the fields they use. ○ Our adult sports providers are West Palm Beach Soccer, Diva and Dudes Soccer League, O’Sheas Football Club, and City Soccer Football Club. ○ We also offer a youth sailing program at Lake Mangonia; during the summer we have 6, 1-week sessions that is capped at 24 participants per week. <i>Julie Hastrup</i> asked what size boats do they use, <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i> answered that we have pram, sunfish, and a Hobie. <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> inquired about the age group, <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i> answered that they we start at the 3rd grade through high school, and they must be able to swim, she also added that we run an adult program on Saturdays. ○ <i>Julie Hastrup</i> asked if they do any regattas, <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i> answered that we started a sailing team last year on Sundays and they have participated in a regatta. ○ <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i> informed everyone that we have hired a new Phipps Skate Park Supervisor and in his 6-months at the site he has increased membership 75% which translates to 110 active members. Renovations at the skate park are scheduled to start on January 9th and should be completed in time for summer camp 2024. ○ There will be 5 pickleball courts at Phipps Park inside the inline rink and we are working with a contract to place pickleball lines as well as futsal (indoor soccer) lines. <i>Matthew</i>

	<p><i>Goldberger</i> asked if there would be designated times for pickleball, <i>Kelly Kollar-Dye</i> answered that yes, there will be designated times when we will bring out the equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City Code Revisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Leah Rockwell</i> informed everyone that she has been working with the Law Department, Police Department, and Code Enforcement to revise the Parks and Rec city codes since some areas are outdated and people are not using the parks as intended. We are aiming to have a first reading in November. ▪ GreenMarket <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GreenMarket vendor training is tonight so they will learn what is and is not allowed. GreenMarket opens on the first Saturday in October. October 7. ▪ Today we celebrated the Parks and Rec staff with a barbeque to say thank you for the summer when they worked with limited staff but still provided an excellent job. ▪ <i>Tarelle Goldwire</i>, Commission Aide, introduced herself as <i>Commissioner Warren's</i> aide and that she was asked to attend this meeting.
Board Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Michael Odum</i> brought up an email he was copied on from the Coleman Park Neighborhood Association about naming the new gymnasium after Paul Blackshear. <i>Leah Rockwell</i> stated that it hasn't been delegated to her yet but she had informed the neighborhood that it should have been brought to PRAC first to see if you all would agree with that and then it would go to the Mayor.
Public Comment	No public comment.
Next Meeting	Tuesday, October 10, 2023.
Meeting Adjourned	<i>Perry Douglas</i> made a motion to adjourn with a second by <i>Matthew Goldberger</i> . All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.