

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING 2023-10

Held on Tuesday, the 5th day of October 2023, at Ted Whitlock Community Center, 370 Championship Circle NW, Palm Bay, Florida 32907.

The meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Recreation Administration Office at 1502 Port Malabar Boulevard NE, Palm Bay, Florida 32905.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Thomas Gaume at 7:04 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Thomas Gaume	Present
VICE-CHAIRPERSON:	Randall Olszewski	Present
MEMBER:	Wudson Fenelon	Present
MEMBER:	Mary Jane Russell	Absent
MEMBER:	Logan Luse	Present
MEMBER:	Thomas Graver	Absent

ALSO PRESENT:

Fred Poppe, Recreation Department Director

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comments were heard after Adoption of Minutes.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting 2023-09: September 5, 2023

Motion by Mr. Gaume, seconded by Mr. Olszewski, to adopt the minutes as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Bill Battin, resident, made the following comments:
 - Questioned if the Board had discussed keeping the \$1.7 million grant from Brevard County Tourist Development Council (TDC)

- Asked about the plans for use of the impact fees 32908 and 32907 He suggested that the funds remain in those designated areas.
- Asked if there were any new plans for the park since campgrounds were not approved.
- Since the dissolution of the Citizens' Budget Advisory Board, he recommended that the Board be more involved and have their voices heard.

REPORTS:

1. Fred Poppe, Recreation Department Director.

Mr. Poppe made the following reports:

- Suggested development of a master plan, and the Board to hold public meetings for feedback.
- Puerto Rican Day parade had a good turnout despite weather.
- Building E at City Hall may not be available next year as the site for the Puerto Rican Day festival due to construction; suggested Fred Poppe Regional Park as a possible alternative.
- Viva Brevard Festival would take place at Fred Poppe Regional Park on October 14th.
- Fall Golf Classic at the Habitat Golf Course would be held on Saturday, October 7th.
- Free Ranger led tours on October 15th and Art Show October 21st for Turkey Creek Sanctuary.
- Halloween event would be hosted by the Palm Bay Aquatic Center on October 21st.
- Fall Fest would be held on October 28th.
- Veterans Days Parade would be on November 11th, from City Hall to Emerson. Veterans Park would hold an event following the parade. Staff would be working with the American Legion to provide food.
- Contractors began work at dog park this week.
- A future meeting would be held with the Public Works Department for grading for the disc golf area.
- Sheriff Ivy would be attending the holiday parade.
- There was no reported water damage to parks. Some practices were canceled due to saturated fields.

Mr. Gaume asked if City Council would build the driveway to the Fred Poppe Regional Park. Mr. Poppe said there would be a meeting next week to discuss how impact fees would be used. Mr. Gaume estimated \$4,500 in impact fees of which \$1,300 was for parks and recreation. Mr. Poppe explained the impact fees were paid when the Certificate of Occupancy was issued and were no longer paid upfront.

Mr. Battin explained the site for the Puerto Rican Day Parade was designated by court order to be held at City Hall. Mr. Poppe explained the court order was issued when different people were running the event.

Mr. Gaume asked what was included in the dog park wash. Mr. Poppe stated a concrete slab, two (2) wash stations and hose bibs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Recreational amenities and other ideas for additional amenities at Fred Poppe Regional Park.

The following items were posed by board members:

- Types of amenities being considered since campgrounds were not approved.
- If consultants would be hired
- If public meetings would be held
- If engineering would be completed
- Council approval required.
- Suggestions included splash pads, a pool, pickleball courts, agility course, more tennis courts.
- Funding for consultants and engineering
- Utilization of impact fees from the parks zone

Mr. Gaume suggested lighted tennis courts, agility courses, more pickleball fields. Mr. Poppe explained Veterans Park had lighted tennis courts and pickle ball fields. Fred Lee Park was renovating with new tennis and pickle ball courts. Lighted ball fields for travel teams were requested.

Mr. Fenelon asked about a possible Renaissance Fair in the future. Mr. Poppe stated that representatives from the Fair wanted to lease land, but most parcels were small and the City needed to acquire land. Mr. Gaume stated greenspace was limited. Mr. Poppe stated there were parcels available near the interstate.

Mr. Olszewski asked if the next meeting could be held at the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Mr. Luse suggested the Nature Center at Turkey Creek. Mr. Poppe suggested the Board take a tour of all the parks and pavilion sites.

The next meeting would be held at the Coast Guard Auxiliary, 1455 Main Street NE, Palm Bay, Florida 32907 on November 7th at 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:56 P.M.

Thomas Gaume, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Joanna Alvino, Board Secretary