



City of Pensacola

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

City of Pensacola
222 W. Main Street
Pensacola, FL
32502

August 20, 2024

10:00 AM

Hagler-Mason, 2nd Floor

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bruni called the board meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Renee Borden, Antonio Bruni, Jake Renfroe, Kristin Brown, Michael Blankenship, Suzanne Lewis, Kirwan Price

Members Absent: John Jerralds

Also Present: Michael Bodenhause, Lavon Brown, Angela Mixon

OPEN FORUM

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 24-756 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES DATED JULY 16, 2024

A motion to approve was made by Parks & Recreation Board Member Blankenship and seconded by Parks & Recreation Board Member Brown.

The motion by the following vote:

Yes: 7 Chairperson Bruni, Vice Chair Borden, Kristin Brown, Michael Blankenship, Suzanne Lewis, Jake Renfroe, Kirwan Price.

No: 0 None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2. 24-793 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Heistein provided updates on the Bruce Beach, Phase 2 project. It will tentatively open to the public in mid-October.

He expressed kudos to the Recreation Division staff for completing a very busy season running summer camps and then immediately switching to after-school programs.

He also expressed kudos to the Athletics Division staff for helping with the National Night Out Touch-A-Truck event driven by the Pensacola Police Department and CDAC Behavioral Health, who gave nice kudos to the Parks Department.

Director Heistein commented that the Senior Games would start in September and encouraged everyone to attend if they have time during that week. Director Heistein asked if the board members had questions.

Member Brown requested that the programs at Legions Field be included in the Director's Report. Director Heistein responded that he would reach out to them.

Chairperson Bruni inquired about the status of the paddle trail project. Director Heistein commented he would defer to staff and get back to the board with information. Chairperson Bruni asked for updates on the Bay Bluffs development. Director Heistein responded no updates at this time we are still waiting for the executed grant documents to move forward.

Member Lewis asked for an update on the Facilities Condition Assessment. Director Heistein responded that a responsible bid was not received and that the available funding for the project needed to be fully encumbered before the end-of-year, therefore time prevented rebidding. Discussion continued with Director Heistein responding accordingly to questions from Board members.

STAFF REPORTS

3. 24-693 INTRODUCTION BRADLEY DAVIS - PARKS & RECREATION EVENTS SPECIALIST

Moved to September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

4. 24-692 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, INC. - MICHAEL BODENHAUSEN

Michael Bodenhausen, CEO, Young Men's Christian Association of Northwest Florida, Inc., (YMCA) brought before the board a presentation (on file with background materials) providing an overview of the pool management partnership with the City of Pensacola. Mr. Bodenhausen asked board members if they had questions.

Board Members asked questions of Mr. Bodenhausen which he responded accordingly.

5. 24-712 PARK AMENITY REQUEST - GARDEN OF PEACE AND HOPE WALL

Recommendation: That Parks & Recreation Board recommend that City Council approve the park amenity of adding monument/memorial wall at the Garden of Peace and Hope located at Corinne Jones Park.

A motion to approve was made by Parks & Recreation Member Lewis and seconded by Parks & Recreation Member Blankenship.

Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Byrd addressed the board and explained that the item was being brought back before the board for approval, because the board did not have quorum at the last meeting. Ms. Lavon Brown, President of the Parents Against Injustice and Negligence was accompanied by Ms. Angela Mixon, Vice President of the Parents Against Injustice and Negligence addressed the board. Vice Chair Borden inquired if she was able to raise private donations to cover all costs associated with the monument, the design, and the installation. Ms. Brown responded, yes, that is correct. Vice Chair Borden expressed that it was an incredibly beautiful and peaceful place. Vice Chair Borden inquired who was maintaining the landscaping. Ms. Brown responded she was maintaining the garden herself. Upon conclusion of discussion, the vote was called.

The motion by the following vote:

Yes: 7 Chairperson Bruni, Vice Chair Borden, Kristin Brown, Michael

Blankenship, Suzanne Lewis, Jake Renfroe, Kirwan Price
No: 0 None

6. 24-796 DISCUSSION - PARKS AMENITY DEDICATION POLICY

Director Heistein reminded the board that the current Park Dedication Policy had been included in the agenda packet for the review and discussion. He stated that the dedication policy was removed from the City's website, so administration and staff could make revisions and coordinate the process better. One revision to be considered will include changes to the fees for the park amenities as those costs have increased over the past years. For now, new park dedication request will be processed on a case-by-case decision based on that particular situation.

Vice Chair Borden shared her concerns that the park amenity dedication policy had not been codified as an ordinance. Also, the criteria of a park amenity and the responsibility for funding the installation have not been established.

Member Lewis and Chairperson Bruni made brief comments. Director Heistein made follow-up comments and answered questions from Board members.

OLD BUSINESS

None

OPEN FORUM

Member Brown asked for updates on the Kiwanis Park and the Stormwater Pond. Director Heistein responded accordingly.

Member Brown inquired if there were updates on the expansion at Theophilus May Community Center. Director Heistein responded accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

WHEREUPON the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM
