



City of Pensacola

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

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

November 19, 2024

10:00 AM

Hagler-Mason, 2nd Floor

CALL TO ORDER

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

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Assistant City Clerk, Robyn Tice was present to administer the oath and swear in new board members Justine Williams Roper and Bradley Boes.

Each provided a brief introduction of themselves.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Antonio Bruni, Jake Renfroe, Kristin Brown, Suzanne Lewis, Kirwan Price, Renee Borden, Bradley Boes, Justine Williams Roper

Members Absent: Michael Blankenship

OPEN FORUM

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 24-1027 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES DATED OCTOBER 15, 2024

A motion to approve was made by Parks & Recreation Vice Chair Borden and seconded by Parks & Recreation Board Member Price.

The motion by the following vote:

Yes: 8 Renee Borden, Kristin Brown, Antonio Bruni, Bardley Boes, Justine Willams Roper, Suzanne Lewis, Jake Renfroe, Kirwan Price

No: 0 None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2. 24-1028 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Parks and Recreation Director Heistein provided an overview of key updates on park projects to the board members.

Bruce Beach Grand Opening on November 8th. Phase II is complete. The park is completely open. The City will receive an award at CivicCon for the construction of Bruce Beach Park as the Best New Addition to Downtown Pensacola.

Vice Chair Borden inquired if there are plans in place to monitor the water at Bruce Beach and what means will be used to get those results to the public. Director Heistein responded that the water monitoring would continue. He is not certain who will conduct the monitoring and at what frequency. Discussion continued among board members regarding the water monitoring at Bruce Beach. Director Heistein responded to comments and questions.

Chairperson Bruni inquired regarding the status of Roger Scott Pool Bathrooms project. Director Heistein responded that at the council meeting the item was pulled because the bids were over budget. He commented that it would be redesigned and put back out for bid pending the Health Department's approval to extend the use of temporary restrooms for another year.

Chairperson Bruni inquired regarding the sidewalk project at Belveder Park. Director Heistein responded that the sidewalk project will connect existing amenities to provide accessibility between amenities and a drinking fountain.

Chairperson Bruni inquired regarding the status of the roof repair on the restroom building at Hitzman Park. Director Heistein responded that quotes were being obtained. Chairperson Bruni asked what the plan is for the building once the repairs are complete. Director Heistein responded that a final decision had not been made.

Chairperson Bruni inquired regarding the new fence around Scenic Heights Park. It appears no gates were installed, so the public does not have access to the park. Director Heistein responded he was unaware that there were no gates, he would investigate.

STAFF REPORTS

3. 24-1025 OSCEOLA GOLF COURSE - RYAN MATTOX

Osceola Golf Course Manager Ryan Mattox brought before the board a brief update of activities occurring at Osceola Golf Course. In February this year, the golf course had a promotion targeting snowbirds which helped increase revenues during the second quarter. In mid-October, the golf course hosted a track and cross-country meet. Over 300 students ran the golf course. In October, the City Council approved a rate increase for the golf fees. The golf course will be implementing Teesnap, a golf-oriented web-based software that allows customers to go online and book their tee times. The new software collects data from customers and in turn helps us to market to the customer. The software is a huge step forward for the golf course as it will track the usage of how and when the course is being used and this will help to market more promotions. The most exciting news is that in 18 months Osceola Golf Course will have its 100-year anniversary celebration. The vision is to re-brand it and re-launch it and move forward into the second century of operations to provide an opportunity for kids, adults, seniors, and for every demographic to enjoy the facility.

Brief discussion continued with Golf Course Manager Mattox responding accordingly to questions from board members.

Director Heistein made additional comments regarding the staff at the golf course, stating that Osceola Golf Course Manager Mattox, has been proactive in all the fronts that have needed to be addressed and has made good progress. We got the momentum going so it's onward and upwards from here. The staff at Osceola is very slim and they are very dedicated. The quality out there and the service is excellent given the limited team. Greens Superintendent, Eddie Diagle, has a crew of ten staff members that is nothing shorter than remarkable.

4. 24-1026 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN - CAITLIN CERAME

Caitlin Cerame, Transportation Planner, brought before the board a brief update on projects that are related to the active transportation plan. Back in August 2023, the city council approved the active transportation plan. A vision that looks to build a road map of how we want to connect our bicycle and sidewalk facilities. The plan included strategies for bicycles and pedestrians: education, traffic-calming, lighting, and landscaping. All that would add to the comfort of a bicyclist or a pedestrian. There are a lot of projects that are in different phases that are underway.

- The Florida Department of Transportation is designing a trail on Bayfront Parkway, from Tarragona Street to North 14th Avenue where it connects with the recent construction of Three Mile Bridge and the Roundabout.
- Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation, the city is designing a trail on Cedar Street just south of Main Street, from Tarragona Street to Intendencia Street and then to Cedar Street. The trail will connect to the Bayfront Trail and then connect to Bruce Beach. Continuing westward from

E Street to Cypress Street and ending at South Pace Boulevard.

- Another project funded by the Florida Department of Transportation is the design of West Main Street from Clubbs Street to Barrancas Avenue. Main Street will be one of the first protected bike lanes to be constructed.
- Stormwater project, the city received funding to upsize the pipes to help mitigate flooding issues on Main Street.
- Stormwater project was awarded for the B Street between Garden Street and Main Street project. The city will install sidewalks and a bump out at Government Street crossing to create traffic-calming.
- The redesigning of Palafox Street Phase I will incorporate esthetics from the Main Street project at the crossing.
- Hollice T Williams Park, the city is executing a contract with Geosyntec, the consultants, to design the stormwater project and a trail that will run north to south through the park.

Member Lewis inquired regarding whether the Hollice T Williams project had a funding source to help with the designing of wayfinding. Transportation Planner Cerame responded accordingly.

Member Lewis inquired if the Bayfront Trail from Tarragona to 14th Avenue would be constructed on the north side. Transportation Planner Cerame responded it would be on the south side. A sidewalk is already there. We removed and shifted the southern lanes. The curb would be pushed out to accommodate a wider trail. The intent is to have bike route signage once everything is connected.

Member Price inquired if the Bluffline would be incorporated into the Bayfront Trail. Transportation Planner Cerame responded accordingly to the question.

Brief discussion continued regarding the trails with Member Lewis and Member Price with Transportation Planner Cerame responding to comments and questions.

Member Lewis inquired regarding the General Chappie James Memorial what access the public will be given to view the memorial. Transportation Planner Cerame responded accordingly to the question.

Vice Chair Borden inquired regarding a street crossing at 14th Avenue and Gregory Street. Transportation Planner Cerame responded that FDOT conducted a study for a crossing in that area, and they found that it was not warranted. FDOT stated once the resurfacing is complete, they would restudy it.

Chairperson Bruni commented he would like to advocate for a bike trail that would start in the most northern part of the city all the way up to I-10 area, through Cordova Park and through East Hill to the downtown area. This bike trail would

cover close to 40% of the parks in the city.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

5. 24-1150 HANDBOOK FOR APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & AUTHORITIES

Chairperson Bruni briefly addressed the board regarding the Handbook for Appointed Boards, Commissions & Authorities that had been drafted by the Executive Council and approved by the City Council. Chairperson Bruni commented he wanted to highlight two items in the handbook. One, that no member should miss more than 25% of board meetings or more than three consecutive meetings. Second, for an item to pass, it must obtain the affirmative vote of the majority of the existing membership of the board.

OPEN FORUM

None

ADJOURNMENT

WHEREUPON the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.
