

City of Alachua



1905-2005
Celebrating Our Second Century

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD Minutes June 24, 2013

Chair Ernest Wigglesworth
Vice-Chair Mike Schentrup
Member Laurie Friedlander Hall
Member James Curington
Member Billy Rogers

Parks & Recreation Director Hal Brady

MEETING LOCATION: James A. Lewis Commission Chambers, Municipal Complex, City Hall
15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board held a meeting on June 24, 2013 at 3:30 pm in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers, City Hall, 15100 NW 142 Terrace, Alachua, Florida.

Members Present: Chair Ernest Wigglesworth, Vice-Chair Mike Schentrup, Member Bill Rogers, Member James Curington and Member Laurie Friedlander Hall.

Staff Present: Parks & Recreation Director Hal Brady, Assistant City Manager Adam Boukari, Executive Assistant Kimberly Vermillion and Compliance and Risk Management Director Cap Wilson.

CALL TO ORDER

Led by Vice Chair Schentrup at 3:41 p.m.
Chair E. Wigglesworth arrived a few minutes late to the meeting.

INVOCATION

Led by Member Rogers

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PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Vice Chair Schentrup

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Friedlander-Hall moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Member Rogers.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. OLD BUSINESS

A. 09.24.12 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Member Friedlander-Hall moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Member Rogers.

Passed by unanimous consent.

B. Swick House Improvements Status

Cap Wilson provided a presentation of the status for renovating the Swick House. Wilson stated with the monies from DTRB, the recreation surtax fund, and the tourist grant, the City will be going out for bid in two to three weeks on this project. Wilson also stated with the Alachua Women's Club being the only facility for meetings, weddings, etc. the City is still in true need for a facility that will hold smaller functions. The Swick House will have five meeting rooms and three accessible bathrooms. These meeting rooms will hold various size groups with the large being the main room which will hold well over 100. These will all be handicap accessible including the outside bathroom. There will be five handicap parking places and sidewalks around the entire Swick House for wheelchair accessibility.

Vice Mayor Schentrup inquired if there would be a sidewalk that would lead out to 151st Street?

Wilson stated he thought this would be a good idea and that he would bring this up and look into it.

Member Rogers inquired if there would be any type of sound barrier for the outside porch area.

Cap Wilson stated the Swick House patio area will be wired for sound with a stage to accommodate weddings, birthdays, etc. He also stated that the sound will project towards the Swick House and there will be plenty of landscape to help with the sound issue.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. TDC Grant Submittal Support – WS Field Press Box and HBRC Signage

Adam Boukari stated the TDC Grant was for \$25,000 and that \$15,000 of it was for the reconstruction of the press box and the other \$10,000 for the HBRC Signage. Boukari stated with this Grant we would need a letter from the Board approving the needs for these funds.

Vice-Chair Schentrup inquired if we were asking for enough money.

Boukari stated \$25,000 was the most you could ask for.

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Member Friedlander-Hall agreed of the need for the signage.

Chair Wigglesworth inquired if we would have a sign for Skinner Park posted at the Rec Field.

Member Friedlander-Hall moved to approve the letter from the Board; seconded by Member Rogers.

Passed by unanimous consent.

B. Gerald Criswell Park and Cleather Hathcock, Sr. Community Center

Boukari provided a presentation for the renovations of the Cleather Hathcock, Sr. Community Center. Boukari provided a slide show of pictures showing the enclosing of the patio. This became a storage area due to the limited space the center had for freezers, refrigerators, and food supplies for the food program. The storage room is climate controlled for the storing of food products. Boukari stated that Wal-Mart donated thousands of dollars over the years which the City had been saving to use for these renovations.

Wilson provided a presentation of the property the City bought for more parking for the Cleather Hathcock, Sr. Community Center. Wilson also stated the City is making a serious effort to buy the property behind this property as well.

Wilson provided a presentation on Criswell Park. The pictures illustrated four different properties one of which the City does not own. One piece of property was donated to the City which cost the City \$7,300 to obtain the title and demolish the house on it for clearing. Boukari stated the City is in the process of purchasing the piece of property that part of the basketball courts sit on. Boukari stated that the City then will pursue the last piece of property which would make for a really nice area of Criswell Park.

Member Friedlander-Hall inquired as to the total size of all this property together once bought.

Wilson stated he was not sure of the exact size.

Member Rogers inquired if in the future there would be more than just basketball courts at Criswell Park.

Wilson stated he could not say right now exactly but foresees great plans for Criswell Park.

III. OPEN DISCUSSION

Hal Brady stated the MAP Program has done very well. Brady also stated the Splash Park is the #1 activity for age's one through five at tournaments. Brady stated the 2014 projection for the World Series is 25 teams, nine hotels including local and hotels in Gainesville just for this weekend.

IV. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

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ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wigglesworth moved to adjourn; seconded by Member Rogers.

Passed by unanimous consent.

Adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

**ERNEST WIGGLESWORTH, CHAIR
(SEAL)**

HAL BRADY, PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR