

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

February 1, 2023

Board Attendance Record

William Dryburgh 3/3
Maria Greenberg 3/3
Don McCormick 3/3
Kay Tvaroch 3/3
Debra Anlauf 2/3
Erick Toth 3/3
Steven Leskovich 2/2

Present

William Dryburgh
Maria Greenberg
Don McCormick
Kay Tvaroch
Debra Anlauf
Erick Toth
Steven Leskovich

Absent

County Representatives

Ken Doherty, Commission Liaison
Tommy Scott, Director of Community Services
Maureen Broderick, Recreation Manager
Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Resources Manager
Mike Norton, Recreation Supervisor
Kathy Koroschetz, Administrative Assistant

Guests

Mary Jo Pabon-Job
Leslie Swantek
Janice Mclasky
Julia Alwood
Jim Robinson
Jeff Anlauf

Chairman William Dryburgh welcomed members, staff, and visitors to the meeting.

- Roll Call
- Minutes
 - Motion to approve the 2023 January Minutes made by Erick Toth and Maria Greenberg 2nd and was unanimously approved.
- Division Reports – December 2022

- Old Business
None
- New Business

- I. **Three (3) year program comparison** – Mike Norton, Recreation Supervisor went over the results of the Three (3) year program comparison report, stating this is annual comparison that shows how things have been going over the last three years which includes the effects of covid up until today and shows the trends with rentals, pools, recreation centers and facilities. The report shows which areas people are showing interest in, where we can improve our services and the rebounds we have made since covid.

Tommy Scott, Director of Community Services added that Covid really impacted 2020 & 2021 which shows in the numbers. In 2022 we really increased our public awareness by hiring a Public Relations Manager that is doing an amazing job sharing information with the community.

- II. **2023 Capital Maintenance Program** – Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Resources Manager went over a presentation of the Capital Maintenance Program for 2023. The Capital Maintenance Program has an annual budget that is approximately \$4M per year to replace and repair amenities and to implement the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The program is broken into 11 categories which are planned over the next fiscal year and the status of our Capital Maintenance Plan for this year is \$6M for 63 projects.

Categories included in the 2023 Capitol Maintenance Program:

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| - Boat Ramps, Fishing Piers, & Seawalls | - Equipment |
| - Buildings | - Parking & Stormwater |
| - Court & Field Resurfacing | - Parks Master Plan |
| - Electrical & Lighting | - Playgrounds |
| - Environmental | - Pools & Splashpads |
| - Trails & Boardwalks | |

We have evaluated and identified 31 projects from Hurricane Ian we will defer pending related repairs to be covered by insurance and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- Sports Council Update – Erick Toth
 - Athletic office changes with Mike Norton and Lonnie Moore
 - Went through service level expectations with different clubs
 - Facilities coming back online, more fields are ready, and lights being turned back on
 - Had some discussions on the possibilities of the Snowbird Classic
 - Went over some athletic partnerships with the different clubs
 - Went over insurance and documentation requirements
 - Went over member status announcements in general
 - Had facilities Q & A

Erick Toth added that he had a representative from the Tringali Sports League at the Tringali Recreation Center ask about the loose concrete after the recent resurfacing of the hockey rink and if he could use a County approved sealant/protectant to fix and/or extend the life of the rink.

Tommy Scott replied that at the last Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting the Board gave direction to Administration to move forward with that process. We will be working with Facilities on these improvements.

- Member Issues

Erick Toth mentioned on a recent fishing trip he witnessed a lot of cars parking in boat trailer parking spots at a few of the Charlotte County boat ramps and said he did not notice any signage addressing it.

Tommy Scott replied that we are in the process of installing new signage to address this issue, we were delayed after the Hurricane Ian. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is aware as well that the boat trailer spots are restricted and that cars should not be parking in these spots.

Maria Greenberg asked what the status of the Charlotte Sports Park (CSP) is. Tommy Scott responded that at the last BCC meeting it was approved to engage our vendor Wharton Smith Construction to begin emergency repairs at CSP. They are evaluating the site working with engineers and consultants to create a timeline. We meet with the Tampa Bay Rays on a weekly basis and are discussing improvements that could be done to CSP while we are completing the repairs. Our goal is to be operational by spring training 2024.

Maria Greenberg additionally asked we have AED's at all our concession stands and facilities.

Tommy Scott replied, we do at all of our county operated facilities. However, concession stands are operated by the sports leagues. We will have a discussion with at the Youth Sports Council about AED's.

Steven Leskovich commented that he was at Harbor Heights Park last week with his children and was happy to see the upkeep and maintenance that is being done there.

Kay Tvaroch asked on the status of the Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park (ACDRP) repairs and reopening. Tommy Scott replied that the shelter was closed on December 15, 2022, and then were able to evaluate by doing walkthroughs with American Red Cross, facilities, and our insurance company.

American Red Cross will be responsible for damages they caused, and we are working through that process with our insurance company now.

William Dryburgh commented when arriving at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center for the C.A.R.E Ball (Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies) last month the security at the would not open the doors until exactly 6:00pm even though the weather was chilly and windy, with 50-60 people were waiting to get in.

Tommy Scott responded by saying they security company has a contracted time that doors open which is what they are required to go by.

Commissioner Doherty encouraged the board members to tune into channel 20 for the February 7th BCC meeting where they will be doing a Capital Needs Assessment Workshop that will show a 20 year look at all things capital which will include Community Services, Facilities, Public Works etc. and it should be very informative.

- Directors Report
 - Tommy Scott shared that the Community Service page on our website has been updated to show all facilities that are still closed instead of open since hurricane Ian, since we now have the majority of our facilities open. This is the most up-to-date source of information.
 - Tommy Scott updated the board on the criteria that was created back in Spring 2022 to be able to get a Park approved as a Dog Friendly Park. Our first application was received for South County Regional Park (SCRCP), it met all the criteria with all the required documentation, signatures of support, and passed the scoring process, so we are pleased that the criteria is being used and the process is working.
 - Tommy Scott gave an update to the vacancies within Community Services stating we are still monitoring our vacancies and doing better in many areas. We are at 110 with 51 of those being lifeguard vacancies.
- Citizens Input
 - Members of the Harold Avenue Network Tennis organization voiced their concerns regarding deteriorating tennis courts at Harold Avenue Regional Park (HARP) in need of resurfacing as well as lack of designated tennis courts. The league members of The Charlotte County Woman's Tennis League (CCWTL) stated they have been blowing the courts off, weed wacking, sweeping, maintaining the nets, and buying straps for the nets. CCWTL members added that the courts at HARP are the only courts in the county that their organization's allows them to play on because the bylaws forbid them to play on any courts other than those designated for tennis which doesn't allow them to use the blended courts lined for pickleball.

Tommy Scott responded that we have a process the county goes through to evaluate which courts are to be resurfaced each year which is a on rotating basis, and we are working on it.

Tina Powell, Parks and Natural Resources Manager added the courts at HARP were last assessed in 2021 and are due to be re-assessed this year an if they meet the criteria based on the county's standards they will be resurfaced.

Maria Greenberg suggested asking the CCWTL to consider modifying and updating their bylaws to allow them to play on blended courts.

- Jeff Anlauf, President Manchester Waterway Civic Association thanked the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) for all their support in the past and complimented them on the competency of the Staff, Committee and Director for being up to speed on everything in so many areas. Mr. Anlauf announced he is stepping down as President and introduced Jim Robinson as his replacement. Mr. Robinson greeted the board and said he looks forward to attending meetings and working with them.

- Announcement
None

- Upcoming events
None

- Adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

CC: Commissioner Ken Doherty, District 1
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2
Commissioner Bill Truex, District 3
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, District 4
Commissioner Joe Tiseo, District 5
Hector Flores, County Administrator
Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator