

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

December 6, 2023

Board Attendance Record

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

Present

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

Absent

Don McCormick

Guests

Robin Cyphert

County Representatives

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

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

- Roll Call
- Minutes
Motion to approve the 2023 November Minutes made by Maria Greenberg and Kay Tvaroch 2nd and was unanimously approved.
- Division Reports – October 2023

- Old Business
None
- New Business
Statistical Survey Review – Mike Koenig, Resource Manager went over the Statistical Survey which is done every two years through a statistically valid community survey to measure how our programs are doing. Changes in satisfaction ratings were due from the impact of the hurricane and that the survey was done last May when we were still dealing with damage, repairs and some facilities being closed. Overall findings were largely positive, and people were generally happy with the facilities that are open.

Tommy Scott, Community Services Director pointed out that there was a demand for more senior amenities which was a correlation of not only some of our facilities but also the cultural center being closed. When we went through our accreditation and reaccreditation earlier this year, we were asked what we do for senior programming, but we don't necessarily label our programs "senior", since most of our programs are geared towards the senior population. As we repair and reopen our facilities programs will be back and running and these ratings will go back up.

- **CMP 2024** – Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Resources Manager went through the Capital Maintenance Plan (CMP) naming the categories that will see repairs, replacements, improvements, or additions in 2024 being Boat Ramps, Seawalls and Shorelines, Buildings, Court & Field Resurfacing, Electrical & Lighting, Environmental, Equipment, Parking & Stormwater, Parks & Stormwater, Parks Master Plan, Playgrounds, Pools & Splashpads and Trails, Boardwalks & Piers.

There will be \$7.6M spread out to complete those 95 individual projects. Sixteen (16) of the projects will be temporarily deferred because they were damaged from Hurricane Ian and we are waiting for the insurance coverage and/or the FEMA process to be completed.

- **Awards Summary for FY' 23** – Tommy Scott explained the Community Service Recognition Awards handout as being how we get recognized locally or nationally for our work product or our amazing team. This year we received 19 achievement awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) which is our highest number to date and was a combination of our recreation and library programs, operations, and staff trainings. We had 5 of our employees receive Employee of the Month (EOM). These are staff driven awards and our department also recognizes employees in other departments when they see something good being done.

We also have an Exceptional Service Award (ESA) program through Administration that acknowledges employees when a good deed is brought to their attention by either a citizen sending in a letter or a phone call, the employee is personally rewarded by Administration with recognition or a gift certificate to thank them for their service.

In our UF/IFAS Extension office a 4-H agent Kristie Popa is getting recognized around the country for several awards she has won from the Florida Association of Extension 4-H and

Haydee Carbajal won a Peer Recognition Award for UF/IFAS Family Nutrition Program (FNP).

- **Three Year Participation Comparison FY' 23** – Mike Norton, Recreation Superintendent went over a spreadsheet handout of the Annual Attendance Comparison for the Recreation Division. The results showed significant rebounds as we return to normal usage after the hurricane with more facilities opening up.
- Sports Council Update – Erick Toth
 - Went over the 2024 Spring season scheduling for all the leagues.
 - Reviewed the facility status for soccer, football, and baseball fields.
 - Discussed the Snowbird classic schedules.
 - Youth Council elections were held and Lou Augusto will remain Chairman and Tom Birdsall was elected Vice Chairman.
 - Facility and field Q&A's.

- Member Issues

Kay Tvaroch brought it to the attention that on Facebook she read comments asking when the signs for “no smoking” would be up in Charlotte County. Also, Facebook comments read that staff is telling citizens to check the website as to when the pool would open, but after checking people were saying they did not see the information there. Kay asked when this information can be expected.

Tina Powell responded we are in the process of getting the signs up, we have 64 parks and somewhere between 2 and 15 signs per park.

Commissioner Ken Doherty shared that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and the City Council of Punta Gorda had a great joint meeting on November 21st, stating over the 50 years Commissioner Doherty as lived in Charlotte County the relationship between the BCC and the City Council has not always been good, but was happy to say the relationship is excellent now and the meeting was very productive.

- Directors Report

Tommy Scott reported on the deck lighting exploding at the Centennial Park pool and glass was inside the pool. The light will be replaced, and we have vacuumed the pool several times and were still finding glass, so the pool had to be drained and power washed. The pool has been closed until this process is finished in order to keep everyone safe.

Tommy Scott asked the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) members if they would like to become members of the Florida Recreation Park Association, a statewide organization. They have an advisory board member level which will get you access to professional development opportunities, forums to communicate with other board members, a professional website, and a state association conference. The PRAB were all in agreement that they would like to join.

Tommy Scott gave an update on hurricane preparedness, stating we have had the South County Recreation Park (SCRCP) gym turned over to us and is up and running, the gymnasium floor was replaced. Contractors will have to come back to repair the roof so the facility may be closed for a day or two for that. At Harold Avenue Recreation Park (HARP) the gym is being worked on now and should be back in inventory by end of January.

- Announcement
None
- Upcoming events
None
- Adjourned at 3:42p.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