

Village of North Palm Beach

Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes from the July 14, 2020 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Maria Cassidy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Maria Cassidy, Chair

Bob Bell

Tim Hulihan

Don Grill

Chris Cantwell, Vice Chair

Mia St. John – Excused Absent

Paul Beach

Village Council Representative – Vice Mayor Mark Mullinix

Stephen Poh, Director of Parks and Recreation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Bob Bell made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Don Grill. The motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Stephen updated the Board on several park projects. At Lakeside, the trash can replacement project is in progress with the help of Public Works. He showed the Board a picture of the new solar compactor that will be placed next to the pavilion. At the Community Center, Stephen is working with Public Works on repairing rusted-out metal brackets on the outside pavilion area. He has received one quote, but is waiting for Public Works' input. Finally, at Osborne Park, two batting cages have been repaired with new netting.

Stephen asked the Board if they wanted to postpone or cancel the Fishing Tournament scheduled for Saturday, August 8th. After discussion, the Board decided to postpone the tournament with a date yet to be determined. Stephen will send out a notice on social media and email the vendors.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Stephen explained the Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment RFQ, which includes the pool and tennis facilities. He included the proposed schedule for choosing a company from the seven (7) bids received.
- Stephen notified the Board that Mary Romero, Recreation Supervisor at the Community Center, had resigned her position and her last day was July 2, 2020. HR posted the available position and applications will be reviewed the week of July 20th.
- Stephen asked for the Board's thoughts on making Lakeside Park parking for residents only. The Village Manager is considering this because of multiple issues with parking and trash throughout the park. Stephen and Andy would work on some proposals for Council to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Stephen updated the Board on current COVID-19 park restrictions. Currently, only playgrounds and outdoor fitness areas are still closed.
- Stephen gave an update on the Advisory Board interviews, which has been pushed back to the August 13th Council meeting.
- Stephen notified the Board that a certified letter was sent to John Baker, who has a fenced off portion at the Community Center for RC recreation, was refused. In doing so, the Village Manager directed Stephen to have Public Works remove all items in that area. Public Works has it scheduled soon for removal.
- Stephen also gave an update on the Dry Storage project. Russ Ruskay is bringing a proposal from the Village engineer to Council on July 23rd to provide professional engineering services for the project. Stephen let the Board know that once approved, Russ will bring all items to the Recreation Board for their valuable input on the functional components.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Bob Bell and Don Grill spoke about the upcoming fishing tournament, wanting to postpone to a later date. All Board members were in agreement.
- Tim Hulihan spoke about the dry storage project and asked why we are using our Village engineer and not a planner. Stephen and Vice Mayor Mullinix both commented that there will be sub-contractors underneath the umbrella of the Village engineer, which will include a planner and landscaper. Stephen stated that Russ Ruskay would be able to discuss and give more details about this project.
- Bob Bell spoke about making Lakeside Park "residents only." He suggested closing the parking lot or removing the parking lot and making it a passive park. Residents can ride their bike or walk to get to the park. The other option he suggested was giving out a sticker to residents to park in the parking lot just like the boat ramp.
- Tim Hulihan agreed to making Lakeside parking for only residents. He asked Councilman Mullinix how much the Village would have to pay back for grants that were received. Mullinix thought the number was around \$40,000. Tim was in agreement to get it done.

Council Member Comments

- Councilman Mullinix spoke about the dry storage area stating that Village Engineer Keith Jackson would be in charge of the project, but have sub-contractors for planning, landscaping and electrical. He stated that he would follow up with the Village Manager.
- Mr. Mullinix was also in favor about making Lakeside parking for residents only. He stated that there would be some money that the Village would have to pay back to the state for the grants that were received in the past. These items will be discussed at a later council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Bob Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Don Grill. Motion passed 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Minutes respectively submitted by Stephen Poh, Director of Parks and Recreation.