

**Village of North Palm Beach
Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
MINUTES
August 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm
Anchorage Park**

- 1) **Call to Order:** Chair Budnyk
- 2) **Roll Call:** Rita Budnyk, Leigh Arwood, Christi Chane, Ashley Knieriemen, Stephen Heiman, Jennifer Gold Dumas, Zak Sherman, and Mia St. John. Council Representative not present. Volunteer Belinda Morrell present.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes:** Meeting called to order by Rita at 7:00 p.m. Jennifer Dumas makes the motion to approve minutes from July; Mia St. John seconds.
- 3) **Public Comments:** No public comment.
- 4) **Director's Report:** The director expressed gratitude for the participation in the fishing tournament, which was successful despite the heat. The results of the tournament were shared, with winners in different categories for both adults and juniors. The expenses for the event are nearly balanced, and efforts are ongoing to gather and post event photos on social media.

Updates were given on ongoing projects. The playground improvement work is progressing, with adjustments being made to the swing set and the addition of new turf. The director mentioned future plans for the playground, including the installation of a Village logo embedded in the turf. Additionally, plans to add another shade over the swings are being considered.

Updates on facility maintenance were provided. The director highlighted the refurbishment of Osborne concession stand and the installation of new recycling bin lids at Anchorage and four (4) Little Libraries near each of the playgrounds. Lightning signs have been installed, except for the Community Center due to pending fence installation. The boat launch sticker transition to the trailer tongue was discussed, with council approval pending on August 10.

Updates on upcoming projects were shared, including the Seacoast construction project at Anchorage, master planning presentations from different companies on August 10, and the ongoing resurfacing of the gym floor. The possibility of drone fireworks shows was discussed, with the director presenting cost considerations and acknowledging community preferences for traditional fireworks.

- 5) **New Business:** During the meeting, the Board addressed several items under new business. First, the upcoming flag football season was discussed. Registration was extended to accommodate scheduling adjustments necessitated by ongoing field work. The Board discussed practice locations and game plans, and a comprehensive Year-at-a-glance sports flyer. The flag football season is scheduled to begin on October 7. Games will take place on Saturdays. The season will consist of 7 weeks instead of the initially planned 8 weeks. Efforts are being made to find coaches for both flag football and soccer.

Moving on, the discussion shifted to FRDAP grant applications for park improvements. A proposal was presented for the refurbishment of Veterans Park, highlighting plans for trellises, landscaping enhancements, and strategic placement of garbage cans. Additionally, a proposal was presented concerning the installation of new basketball court lights at Osborne Park. The Board showed strong support for both of these proposals.

- 6) **Old Business:** The Board reviewed and finalized changes to boat and trailer-related policies. Discussion centered on the revised policy for boat, trailer, and RV sales during the renewal period (or anytime during the lease year), including the requirement for proof of active engagement in purchasing a replacement. The consensus was reached on these policy updates.

Tornado Update: provided an update on the tornado recovery efforts. Haverland is still working on the field, and the target date for the field to be ready is September 18. The first game is scheduled for October 7 to allow for some flexibility. The director explained that preparations include soil and sod replacement, irrigation improvements, and the connection of seacoast water for irrigation. The playground shade, athletic field fence, retention area fences, and dugout concrete pads are all being redone. Repainting of the pavilion and lighting installation are in progress. Roof repairs are being addressed. Soccer goals have been delivered. Walking trail will be addressed as well.

Pickleball courts (added by the director at the meeting): The meeting addressed the interest in incorporating pickleball courts into the community's recreational facilities. Discussions revolved around potential locations, namely the Community Center and Osborne Park. The need for official pickleball courts to accommodate the sport's surging popularity was highlighted. The director outlined plans to submit a land and water grant application in FY24 for the Community Center. This grant would encompass renovations to the Community Center's parking lot and basketball courts (it needs resurfacing), with the possibility of adding four pickleball courts. Differing viewpoints emerged concerning the ideal pickleball court location. Several members did not want to eliminate any basketball courts. Some members advocated for Osborne Park, while others favored the Community Center. Concerns were voiced

about potential parking challenges and the necessity for thorough planning. The notion of converted the parking lot adjacent the basketball court at the Community Center to pickleball courts was discussed. Some Board members suggested deferring the final decision on pickleball court location until the master planning process concluded. The prospect of applying for the land and water grant in January was underscored as a progressive step forward.

7) Member Comments: None.

8) Staff Comments: None.

9) Adjournment: Meeting adjourns at 7:48 p.m. Stephen Heiman makes motion; Ashley Knieriemen seconds.