



**MINUTES – June 3, 2021 MEETING
VIRTUAL VIA WEBEX**

Chair Tom Tianich called the June 3, 2021 Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Advisory Board to order at 6:35 PM.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sean Atkinson, Ettore DeTorres, Bonnie Fiallo, Claire Garrett, John McMillan, Sharon Nitzberg, Tom Tianich, Catherine (Cat) Uden

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Toliver-Lyons and Zohar Wolfson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Ricky Engle, Director, Notosha Lake, Administrative Assistant I and Sandra Betton, Administrative Assistant II recording the Minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 6, 2021 Meeting

A motion to approve Minutes of the May 6, 2021 Meeting was made by Claire Garrett; the motion was seconded by Ettore DeTorres and the Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Ricky Engle gave the following department updates:

- Thanked Tom Tianich and Catherine Uden for their years of service. This will be their last official meeting. So until they get re-elected next time they want to volunteer, but they were not selected for the new Board. Those members will take office or start their term next meeting. Sharon Nitzberg and Zohar Wolfson were re-appointed, so congratulations to them. The other two members were Kathleen DiBona and she was on the Board before, so she will be coming back and Alex Hochberger was the other new appointee. So welcome to them, and again, thank you so much Tom and Catherine for all their service and look forward to working with you in the future. I am sure you all will be around and please stay in touch with us.
- As far as items going on, there has been a lot going on through the Commission on upcoming projects. The Commission approved the architects and engineers for the Hollywood Beach Golfcourse. They approved at the last commission meeting on May 19th. The contractor Juniper landscaping, and I told you last meeting, I would update

you on the park maintenance program. What we are going to do is the Commission approved hiring Juniper landscaping to do athletic field maintenance, so they will be doing mowing and lining and dragging of the athletic fields.

We will be moving eight full time employees that were previously working on the athletic fields to the outside parks. So we'll be taking over a restroom cleaning, trash pickup and landscape pickup, you know for palm fronds and things like that, that fall down. So we will be taking over that from Public Works. What we are going to be doing is creating four two men crews, and they'll be dividing the city into four zones with our parks into four zones. So we will be hitting every park every day, seven days a week. Our plan is to clean bathrooms. The goal is twice a day, guaranteeing once a day, but we hope to do them in the morning and in the afternoon. They will be visiting the parks and doing trash and pickup in the parks on a daily basis. Public Works does four men, five days a week, so you should see a marked improvement on park maintenance. As far as the ballfields, we will still have a crew that will be maintaining the Bermuda grass. They will be taking care of resodding projects, they will be doing insect control, weed control, things like fertilizing and that type of work will be done in house. So we hope to see an improvement on the athletic fields because one thing with the contractor they will use the proper equipment. Right now we are using rotary mowers ideally, you should use real mowers on Bermuda grass. The contractor will have the real mowers so the City will not have to pay to upgrade our equipment. We will be getting that through the contract. So we are hoping to see improvement in all areas. It is not the end all on maintenance of parks, but it's definitely going to be an improvement of what we have as of today. So that should hopefully start sometime in July. Our goal, if we can get all the contracts in place is to start July 1st, but we still have to get through that red tape of getting the contract in place. So as soon as it's in place, we'll start that process.

- The Commission also approved the new playground for Cathy and Bob Anderson; so that's been ordered. They approved the LED lighting for Dowdy Field, so we'll be working with Musco and getting that started soon. We also hired Craven and Thompson, to do a design for Stan Goldman Park where we are going to be widening the pathways at Stan Goldman Park, lighting the pathway on the north end of the park, putting in some bollards at areas to make sure that cars don't get into certain sections of the park and redoing the entranceway off of Johnson Street, the pedestrian entrance way, and then also drainage in the dog park. So they're going to be working on that design because of issues along the lake. Because the current pathway really close to the lake bank, and it's breaking off in a lot of locations. So we're going to have to move that a little bit to the East, but we're probably going to have to get permitting from the EPA and the county. So that's going to take quite a while to get those permits in place. So it's probably going to take anywhere from six to eight months to get that design done because of those permits.
- We also got approval from the commission, and thanks to the CRA, starting in August, we're going to be doing one concert a month in the price range of 10 to \$15,000. So it won't be high end bands, but it won't be low end bands, somewhere in the middle.

So kind of up and coming acts, the kind of concerts that we hope to draw a crowd. We're looking to draw two to 3000 people for those concerts. So those will start in August and the CRA is funding that.

- Yesterday at the commission meeting the Park Master Plan was approved. So any member of the Board that would like a copy of the Master Plan just let us know and we'll send that out to you. And really it's anyone in the public has the right to get it if they want it. We'll make that available to whoever wants to see the final 360 page Master Plan but the commission did approve it. You all had the presentation last month so you have a good idea of what is in there but you got the short version so now the full version is accessible to you.
- The July Board meeting can be live. So that is our plan if the new Board chooses in July to stay live we will stay live. If they want to stay WebEx we will stay WebEx but you know the option is there to go live now. City Hall will open to the general public starting June 14.
- We also held a WebEx meeting today on the Poinciana Park Master Plan. So we got a lot of good feedback from the public on that so we will be moving forward to start on the playground resurfacing, the basketball court and then some general equipment improvements-park benches, some dog equipment. That's all part of the General Obligation Bond so we're going to get started on all that. And then in the new Master Plan, there is also items for future that are not funded as of today, a bathroom, possibly a community garden, and some other features, additional fencing, things like that. So that is the latest update on all our projects and where we are.
- The item that was moved to the next Commission meeting is the artificial turf for the Hollywood West fields. Dowdy field, artificial turf should go, hopefully for the first meeting in July. If everything goes right, that's in procurement, we are just waiting for that to come out of procurement.
- Finally, to finish up my report, last meeting we had a discussion about the letter that Catherine Uden had sent to us, and why it was not forwarded to the Board. I said that I would have the attorneys review that situation, and also the situation of how you communicate through us or how that should work. So I did get a response from the attorneys, they received a copy of the letter that Catherine sent to us. The Attorneys said that we were 100% correct in not sending that letter to the Board. They said the letter did not pertain to Board issues and what the Board is set up to do. They said it was a political letter and that's not the role of the advisory Board. They said that it was totally within our right not to have sent the letter out. So that was the ruling from the attorneys. As far as letters and things being sent to Sandra Betton; and then Sandra forwarding them to Board members, the attorney said the way that system should work if you have items that you want brought up at the next meeting, you can send it to staff, and then staff's role is to make sure it gets on the next agenda as New Business. Then the Board addresses those items as New Business. But we should not be acting as the middleman to avoid sunshine issues by the Board sending correspondence to staff, and then we have to send it out to the other Board members,

the attorneys said it should go on the Board agenda. An exception to that rule is what happened last meeting, when the Board authorized Cat to prepare a letter for the Board that was authorized by the Board as a whole. So that letter came to us at 2:30pm today, and we forwarded that out to the Board members, it didn't get put on the agenda because the agenda was prepared prior to that, but that letter should get discussed tonight under New Business. The Board needs to vote on that tonight as to whether they agree with the letter and want it sent out as is or whether they want to make any changes to the letter. But that is an issue you all will talk about tonight and make that decision. So that's the latest update from Parks and Recreation.

Ricky Engle responded to questions and comments regarding the department update.

OLD BUSINESS:

To put in the motion light detectors and some type of cool down zone in some of the city parks that does not have any type of water features

John McMillan made a motion to table old business to the September meeting and leave it as Old business. The motion was seconded by Ettore DeTorres.

The Board voted to forward the letter from Catherine Uden letter regarding parking to the City Manager, Mayor and Commissioners. Tom Tianich made a motion to forward the letter. The motion was seconded by Sean Atkinson.

NEW BUSINESS:

Open Play

Parks and Recreation and Cultural Arts, as of last Monday, opened two artificial turf fields, West Field and Dowdy Field, from 9am to 5pm for open play. Starting June 14, PRCA will open one grass field at Boggs Field, Washington Park, Driftwood and Rotary Park for open play. Permits will still take priority.

Ricky Engle responded to questions and comments regarding New Business.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Sean Atkinson discussed his concern about the deteriorating pathway and the removal of invasive plants in Stan Goldman Park.

Rick Engle informed Sean Atkinson that the City has plans to make improvements in Stan Goldman Park.

Tom Tianich made a motion to forward a letter to the Mayor and Commissioners about the Orangebrook site plan change. The motion was seconded by Claire Garrett.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business, Catherine Uden made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sean Atkinson seconded the motion and by voice vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm.

**Next Meeting: July 1, 2021 at 6:30 PM at Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (PRCA)
Administrative office, 1405 S. 28th Avenue**

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