



# City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
www.venicegov.com

## Meeting Minutes Planning Commission

---

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

1:30 PM

Council Chambers

---

### I. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission was held this date in Council Chambers at City Hall. Chair Barry Snyder called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

### II. Roll Call

**Present:** 6 - Chair Barry Snyder, Helen Moore, Jerry Towery, Shaun Graser, Tom Murphy and Charles Newsom

**Excused:** 1 - Janis Fawn

### Also Present

Liaison Council Member Kit McKeon, Assistant City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, Development Services Director Jeff Shrum, Public Works Director John Veneziano, and Recording Secretary Michelle Girvan.

### III. Approval of Minutes

[17-2510](#) Minutes of the January 17, 2017 Workshop and Regular Meeting

**A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Graser, that the Minutes of the January 17, 2017 Workshop and Regular Meeting be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

### IV. Unfinished Business

[17-2531](#) Comprehensive Plan Update Discussion  
Staff: Jeff Shrum, AICP, Development Services Director  
Public Comments Specific to Comprehensive Plan Update

Mr. Shrum spoke regarding the comprehensive plan, comments on the initial draft, public workshops, meeting with the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB), offering homeowner associations opportunity to speak, and public comments. Discussion followed on having a master copy of changes and comments incorporated into the plan, and Mr. Shrum noted comments will be posted on the city's website.

Randall Dickerson, 1331 Berkshire Court, spoke in regards to Friends of

Pinebrook Park, requesting support to protect Pinebrook Park as a preserve and wildlife habitat, deterioration of park, the need for parklands, parks master plan, zoning, mayor's state of the city comment on changing park name, and John Nolen legacy.

Bill Fairbank, 1237 Pinebrook Way, noted he was a frequent user of Pinebrook Park and a member of the Venice Area Audubon Society, provided photos of the Curry Creek trail, and spoke regarding preservation of Pinebrook Park, native wildlife and plants, wildlife corridor, and park usage since the 1980s.

William Strickland, 1244 Berkshire Circle, provided pictures of Pinebrook Park and spoke on wildlife, protection and preservation of the park, and wildfires.

Ed Martin, 409 Everglades Drive, provided pictures and spoke in regards to Jackson and Border Roads, The Woods development, comprehensive plan, shade trees, number of views on facebook website, city goals, public comments, corridors, growth, mixed use and definition, height and density intention, 2006 comprehensive plan, and land development regulations (LDR).

Elliot Rose, 5244 Siesta Cove Drive, Sarasota, spoke on the comprehensive plan, community progress, participation in workshops, 1199 South Tamiami Trail market property, north gateway, reaction from developers, annexation, prospective buyers, and development.

Mary Ellen Smolinski, 1220 Berkshire Circle, spoke on park space and the parks master plan, placing priority on the preservation and protection of Pinebrook Park, public safety facility acreage, natural areas and greenspace support, wildlife, and designating area as a natural preserve.

Discussion took place regarding the Curry Creek Preserve, conservation designation, restrictions, current draft comprehensive plan, functional open space, distinction between government and parks on the previous comprehensive plan, zoning standards, changing designation on draft plan, conservation open space, parks master plan, and active recreational area of Wellfield Park.

#### [17-2513](#)

Public Works Director John Veneziano: Parks Master Plan

Mr. Veneziano spoke in regards to the parks master plan certification by city council, final review by the parks and recreation advisory board and planning commission, and redlined version of the plan with changes.

Carlos Perez, Interior Design Group, spoke on changes and additions to the plan, revised executive summary, paragraph on public schools,

Sarasota County parks plan, access to school amenities during school hours, capital improvements, school park usage, architectural guidelines, original plan, and Ajax property and access trails.

Discussion followed regarding the parks master plan, demographic table, population, comprehensive plan, Mr. Perez working with consultant, level of service (LOS) standards, additional parkland, acreage, recreational issues, justification of language in the plan, planning commission's comments, certification of the comprehensive plan, recommendations to city council, revisions, meeting and workshops with city council, and quality and maintenance of existing parks.

Ms. Fernandez read the code regarding proposed changes to the parks master plan, and discussion followed on plan certification date by city council and the planning commission's response timeframe.

Mr. Perez spoke on goals, level of service analysis, parks master plan, and concluded findings.

Discussion continued on January 24, 2017 council certification date, LOS, additional park space, planning commission's recommendation, additional acreage, benchmarks, northeast neighborhood amenities, pickleball courts, timeframe for recommendations, providing comments to city council, needs assessment, access LOS and public input, cost for a specific park master plan, parks site master plan process, northeast neighborhood population, taxpayers interest and bond referendum, Pinebrook Park Preserve and designation, conservation plans, resource based park definition, distinction between functional and conservation open space, park name, mentioning school properties available for recreation, and park impact fees.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Presentations**

[17-2512](#)

Kathie Ebaugh, AICP, Director, Planning, Sarasota County Schools:  
Sarasota County Schools Planning Efforts 2016/17

This item was removed from the agenda.

### **B. Public Hearings**

[16-03SE](#)

SPECIAL EXCEPTION - LORD HIGEL HOUSE - 409 GRANADA AVENUE

Planner: Jeff Shrum, AICP, Director Development Services

Applicant: James Hagler, Director Venice Museum and Archives

This item was removed from the agenda.

[16-07SP](#)**SITE AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN - LORD HIGEL HOUSE - 409 GRANADA AVENUE**

Planner: Jeff Shrum, AICP, Director Development Services

Applicant: James Hagler, Director Venice Museum and Archives

This item was removed from the agenda.

**VI. Audience Participation**

No one signed up to speak.

**VII. Comments by Planning Division**

Discussion took place regarding parks master plan certification date by city council, requesting extension to provide comments, providing revised version of the parks master plan to council, planning staff verifying demographic data, LOS standards, addressing architectural standards, habitat and bike trails, and natural areas, having staff review comments, adding comment to clarify deliniation and use of Pinebrook Park, and deliniating line between Wellfield and Pinebrook Park.

Mr. Shrum requested the board make a motion to request an extension for additional time to porvide comments to city council.

**A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Murphy, requesting an extension of additional time for the planning commission to provide comments to city council. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

**VIII. Comments by Planning Commission Members**

Discussion took place on preserving Pinebrook Park, Curry Creek Preserve designated as a conservation open space area, differentiating type of open space, including the comprehensive plan and parks master plan on the next meeting agenda for discussion, providing clarification and revisions to staff, and Mr. Shrum providing redlined version of plan and council memorandum to planning commission members.

Mr. McKeon spoke in regards to council's expectation and certification of plan, city council's concerns on the parks master plan, contractor, and his support on the planning commission's extension request.

Linda Andrews, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chair, spoke on the parks master plan, redlined version of the plan, changes, adopted standard, conclusion of the redlined version, geographic issue, re-evaluating how parkland is used, including glossary of terms, consideration of clear and appropriate zoning for Pinebrook and Wellfield Parks, park functions, interlocal agreement with the county for park maintenance, and use of the term "preserve".

Discussion took place regarding the neighborhood workshop and residents compassion for pickleball courts, northeast community's wants and needs, and Wellfield Park to include balance between maintenance and park usage, outside city limit participants using the park, youth sports program, the need for refurbishment, and working relationship with the county.

## **IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before this Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

---

Chair

---

Recording Secretary