City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Monday, April 17, 2017 | **3:00 PM** | **Council Chambers**

I. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held this date in Council Chambers at City Hall. Chair Linda Andrews called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present 8 - Chair Linda Kenfield Andrews, Joan Piper, Jim Woods, Cindy Hicks, Josette Aramini, Grant Alexander, Roger Effron and Eydie Kargas

Also Present

Liaison Mayor John Holic, Public Works Director John Veneziano, Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Manager Jim Wormley, and Recording Secretary Mercedes Barcia.

III. Approval of Minutes

17-2629 Minutes of the February 13, 2017 and March 20, 2017 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Woods, seconded by Ms. Hicks, that the Minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Piper, seconded by Mr. Effron, that the Minutes of the March 20, 2017 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

IV. Audience Participation

Linda Underwood, 332 Pensacola Road, noted being a supporter of public parks, and spoke regarding the need for parks and open space, reservation of picnic pavilions, naming public parks, park signage, and organizations willing to assist on the project.

Discussion followed regarding parks in the northeast area, land complications, naming parks, parks tour, and park signage.

Mr. Effron noted his communication with county parks staff, and suggested getting cost information from the company used by the county for purchasing signs.

Discussion followed on pocket parks, naming parks, park signage, adding sidewalks, prioritizing projects as a board, researching sign costs, sign design and size, county involvement, sign durability, consistency with image and style, aesthetics, sunshine laws, subcommittees, and designating a board member to gather information and conduct research on the project.

Mayor Holic responded to board questions regarding subcommittees.

Ms. Andrews spoke regarding board recommendations to staff.

V. New Business

17-2630 Pickleball Court Marking in Hecksher Park

Ms. Andrews spoke regarding email request and exchange of information between Mr. Veneziano and Carolyn Brown, Sarasota County Director of Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, marking eastern most tennis court at Hecksher Park, and time of day the tennis and basketball courts are mostly used.

Mr. Veneziano spoke on feasibility and cost of striping courts, county concerns with limiting time of court usage for the different sports, input from pickleball players, and markings on basketball courts.

Discussion took place on marking one of the courts until the city is able to add more courts, tennis court markings in Wellfield Park and court usage, Hecksher Park court usage, Chuck Reiter Park, confusion with pickleball line markings on the tennis courts, pickleball players' petition, request for pickleball funding, Venice Community Center's (VCC) indoor pickleball summer schedule and number of courts, number of tennis courts at Hecksher Park, gaining access to courts at Venice High School, double marking courts for a limited time period, making motion to city council, shuffleboard courts, building new courts, parking issues and adding spaces, charter school parking lot, available open spaces, active team associations, and charging for recreational services.

Mr. Wormley spoke regarding pickleball outreach meetings and ambassadors, Englewood pickleball club, Friends of Sarasota County Parks, survey, indoor facilities, groups raising money to pay for courts, charging per session at recreational facilities, Hecksher Park's tennis court net, placing different colored lines on the courts, and accommodating pickleball players' needs.

Discussion followed regarding double markings, the county monitoring sites on tennis and pickleball usage, Woodmere Park, renovating courts at the Nokomis Community Center, using the county's method for

double lining courts, and postponing action until the FY 2018 budget has been approved by council.

A motion was made by Ms. Hicks, seconded by Mr. Woods, to delay double marking the eastern most tennis court at Hecksher Park for pickleball until the FY 2018 budget is voted upon by city council as to the construction of pickleball courts.

Discussion followed on costs for lining courts, Chuck Reiter Park, additional courts at the Nokomis Community Center, amending wording on motion, and budget finalization date.

An amendment to the motion was made by Mr. Effron, seconded by Ms. Piper, not to make a decision on double marking the eastern most tennis court until the FY 2018 budget is known.

Discussion followed on proposed amendment, temporary solution, and the county adding more pickleball courts.

Mr. Veneziano explained how the budget request for pickleball will be presented to city council.

Discussion followed on the capital improvement meeting and viewing colored line markings on the court.

The amendment failed by voice vote 2 to 6 with Ms. Andrews, Mr. Woods, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Kargas, Ms. Piper, and Mr. Grant opposed.

The motion carried by voice vote 6 to 2 with Mr. Effron and Ms. Aramani opposed.

VI. Updates

17-2635 Sarasota County Update

Mr. Wormley provided updates regarding the Jerry Lee Lewis and Fats Domino concert, upcoming garden show, pickleball summer schedule, Hurricane Exposition, Venice Marina parking lot restriping, Higel Marine Park dock and boat ramp, Sharky's Restaurant restrooms and boardwalks, croquet grand opening, and ongoing maintenance at Wellfield and Chuck Reiter Parks.

Discussion followed on the Marina Park and Boat Ramp name sign. Mr. Wormley noted he will provide Mr. Veneziano with more information regarding the park's sign.

New Business - Continued

17-2632 Wellfield Park Usage Information

Discussion followed regarding city council's request for more information on Wellfield Park usage.

Mayor Holic noted the county supplied information on how the various ball parks are being used, and spoke on usage of the little league field, Miss Venice Fast Pitch's request for a third field, the need for additional fields, and removal of the fire department training ground and police department.

Discussion followed regarding drainage issues on one of the fields, closing fields during drainage reconstruction, youth fields, consideration and cost of regional fields, public safety, converting park to other uses, parks tour, city council's recommendation to survey pocket parks, knowing park boundaries, and park signs.

17-2631 Naming of Pocket Parks

Discussion followed on pocket park signs and design, John Nolen district, sign access points, pictoral signs, different sign styles, Heritage Park, county sign style, defining kinds of parks and park boundaries, associated costs, legal enforcements, and identifying pocket parks as Nolen Greens.

Mayor Holic spoke on the previous definition of pocket parks.

Discussion continued on Nolen Greens and defining parks by street name.

A motion was made by Ms. Hicks, seconded by Ms. Aramini, that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommend to city council renaming pocket parks to Nolen Greens.

Discussion followed on park name, signage and access.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Hicks, seconded by Ms. Kargas, to suggest to city council that the new Nolen Greens be named by considering their geographic location. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

17-2633 Park Volunteer Program

Discussion followed regarding Sarasota County Friends of the Park, working relationship with the Venice Area Beautification Inc. (VABI), volunteers, paid and temporary staff, and handling request for memorials.

Mayor Holic responded to board questions regarding exploring the city's relationship with VABI, interest in a part-time administrative position, and funding mechanism. Mayor Holic noted city council's discussion on needing an arborist within the city.

Discussion continued on administrative costs, volunteers, Make A Difference Day, the city providing additional funding to VABI and the

mayor suggesting the idea to city council, having an administrator instead of a part-time position, allocating specific funds for specific responsibilities, reimbursing VABI for supplies, increasing fund limit, adding administrative costs for memorials, the city providing supplies to VABI, pairing jobs, potential support position, and Mr. Veneziano bringing up today's discussion with VABI.

Updates - Continued

17-2634 City of Venice Update

Mayor Holic responded to board questions to include the potential purchase of a 10-acre parcel of land from the county, park and county impact fees, pairing with the county to develop a park, using school recreational facilities, communication between different levels of staff, and expansion of Nokomis and Laurel Parks.

Discussion followed regarding the county park staff providing community outreach to the residents of northeast Venice on Nokomis and Laurel Parks.

17-2636 Sarasota County PARC Update

Ms. Piper spoke regarding the county building a bike trail. Discussion followed on the expense of building a bike trail and safety concerns.

17-2637 Miscellaneous Update

Ms. Aramani noted she will not be renewing her position after completion of her term.

VII. Future Agenda Items

There were none.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary