



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Monday, July 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 Kenfield called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present 6 - Chair Linda Andrews, Joan Piper, Jim Woods, Cindy Hicks, Eydie Kargas and Angie Sutherland

Absent 1 - Roger Effron

Also Present

Public Works Director John Veneziano, Sarasota County Division Manager of Beaches and Water Access Shawn Yeager and Assistant City Clerk Heather Taylor.

III. Approval of Minutes

[17-2776](#)

Minutes of the May 15, 2017 and June 19, 2017 Regular Meetings

A motion was made by Mr. Woods, seconded by Ms. Hicks, that the Minutes of the May 15, 2017 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Piper, seconded by Ms. Kargas that the Minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

IV. Audience Participation

No one signed up to speak.

V. New Business

[17-2779](#)

National Fitness Campaign (NFC)

Video: http://youtube.com/watch?v=zMoThW_nL2o

Mr. Veneziano played a National Fitness Campaign (NFC) video and spoke to public requests received for exercise equipment in the city.

Discussion took place regarding lack of variety of equipment by

Caspersen Beach, potential cost, a location with bicycle access, funding, community interest to possibly partner with other organizations, prioritizing projects, approval of the parks master plan, and space usage at Venezia Park.

Mr. Veneziano spoke to repair of exercise equipment currently in place and verbiage in the parks master plan that allows for possible revisions.

Discussion continued regarding planning for usage of space, status of the parks master plan, use of impact fees, and discussion with Sarasota County on the interlocal agreement.

[17-2810](#)

Friends of Pinebrook Park's Concern with Relocating Gopher Tortoise

Tom Laird, President of Friends of Pinebrook Park, spoke to prior concerns with ensuring gopher tortoises were relocated, noted that the last three tortoises were relocated this weekend and responded to board questions regarding maintenance of the fitness trail and usage.

Mr. Veneziano spoke to the process to ensure tortoises are removed.

[17-2811](#)

The Need for More Bicycle Violation Enforcement

Discussion took place regarding enforcement of pedestrian violations, American Bicycle Association ranking of bicycle enforcement, police support for enforcement, educating bicyclists, previous discussion regarding police issuing warnings and providing educational material, requesting a police representative and bicycle coordinator attend a meeting for discussion, having an educational event for new residents, and the importance of wearing a helmet.

Mr. Veneziano responded to board questions regarding funding of the bicycle coordinator.

[17-2828](#)

The Board Taking a Summer Break to Coincide with City Council's Summer Break

There was no objection to the parks and recreation advisory board taking a break to coincide with city council recess for this year and each year thereafter.

VI. Unfinished Business

[17-2777](#)

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

There was no objection to Ms. Andrews and Ms. Piper continuing as chair and vice chair until the first meeting in January 2018.

[17-2778](#)

Council Directive for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to Research the Playground Area of Hecksher Park to Determine if it is Suitable for Pickleball as a Replacement and Report Back to City

Council (Holic)

Mr. Veneziano spoke to prospective areas for pickleball courts at Hecksher Park to include playground area, unused shuffleboard courts, and partially on the basketball courts, potential issues with stormwater, cost for lighting, parking, and ensuring restroom facilities are adequate, and the use of impact fees.

Discussion took place regarding concerns with losing open space, use of unused shuffleboard courts, the need for Hecksher Park to be reconfigured, and pickleball at the Venice Community Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Woods, seconded by Ms. Hicks, that three pickleball courts be planned for the unused space that is currently public access for shuffleboard courts.

Discussion continued regarding maintaining green space.

The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

[17-2668](#)

Parks Master Plan

Mr. Veneziano confirmed that this item is on hold until completion of the comprehensive plan.

VII. Updates

[17-2634](#)

City of Venice Update

Mr. Veneziano provided an update to include the proposed completion date of roof of Venice Community Center (VCC), playground equipment upgrades, fencing at Hecksher Park, tree inventory status, and incident at Sharky's fishing pier and responded to board questions regarding Americans with Disability Acts (ADA) compliance at Chuck Reiter Park and shaded areas, and restoration of the building at the football field in Wellfield Park.

Mr. Yeager spoke to the football stadium at Wellfield Park and the Venice Vikings league working with their insurance for funding and responded to board questions regarding local group responsibilities.

Discussion continued regarding educating parents regarding the process and agreements in place for maintenance at the field.

Mr. Yeager stated he will provide answers to the board members relating to how participants register and how they are made aware of their responsibilities.

[17-2635](#)

Sarasota County Update

Mr. Yeager provided an update to include sod replacement at Wellfield

Park, VCC roof replacement, facility assessment, number of pickleball players per day at the VCC, summer camp, restroom wayfinding signs at the train depot, and Independence Day weekend statistics.

Discussion took place regarding the greeter at the VCC and issues with turtle nests being disturbed possibly by coyotes.

Mr. Yeager spoke to bicycle safety to include Sarasota County bike rodeo events to provide education and John Hopkins All Children's Hospital bike and pedestrian safety site.

[17-2636](#)

Sarasota County PARC Update

This item was not discussed.

[17-2637](#)

Miscellaneous Update


Ms. Andrews announced that Mr. Woods has submitted his resignation. Mr. Woods thanked Mr. Veneziano and the board members.

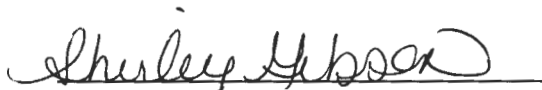
VIII. Future Agenda Items

This item was not discussed.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.


Chair


Recording Secretary