

**Recreation Commission  
Board Meeting Minutes  
City Manager's Conference Room  
May 21, 2018**

5/21/2018 - Minutes

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

**Present:** Keri Hunt, Chair; Kara Wiseman, Library; Jennifer Leeks; Burney Hayes, PAL; Patty McKeeman, Pram Fleet

**Guests:** Scott Blackburn, LW Little League; Jeanne & Jermaine Ward, LW Steelers; Tracy Mullins, Polk County Parks and Recreation

**Staff:** Stephanie Edwards, Recreation Coordinator; Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk

A quorum was not present

2. Minutes

The minutes of the April 16, 2018 were reviewed but could not be approved due to a lack of a quorum.

3. Multi-Purpose Complex / Soccer Field Lights

Ms. Edwards reported that the complex is closed for the summer for maintenance of the fields.

4. Kiwanis Park

Ms. Edwards reported that the Barney's Dream fence is being replaced.

5. Lake Wailes Park

Ms. Edwards reported that movie night is Friday night if it doesn't rain.

6. Lake Wailes Lake

The chair said that the lake needs to be sprayed for the lily pads. Nothing has been done in years and suggested spraying be added to the budget. This was discussed.

7. Little League

Mr. Blackburn reported that their season ended last week. The tournament was rained out every day. The 5 damaged scoreboards have been replaced and waiting on the final one. Renovations on the building will begin next month. Overall it was a good season.

8. Gymnasium/Boys & Girls Club

Ms. Edwards and Mr. Hayes said that there is nothing new to report.

9. Recreation Master Plan

10. Commission Workshop On Recreation Report

Ms. Edwards reported on the recent Recreation Workshop and presented a slide show of several projects under consideration such as a Multi-Purpose Recreation Complex, a North Library complex, purchasing the YMCA and adding staff.

Multi-use Facility - This would include more basketball courts with extra meeting rooms. The possible location and features were discussed

1919 School Building - Ms. Edwards reviewed the status of this facility which was planned to be an auditorium. There are 2 floors and it would cost \$1million per floor to complete.

North Branch Library - This would be near the North Fire Station. It would include Kiosks to pay water bills, an extension library and maybe outdoor recreation elements such as a play ground or basketball court.

YMCA - Ms. Edwards reported on the possible purchase of the YMCA by the City. If this happens then what is included in the multi-purpose would be adjusted so that the two facilities don't duplicate each other. Reduced fees and new opportunities were discussed. There would be a management agreement with YMCA to continue to provide certain services such as the child care and swimming. There would be opportunities to expand the facilities there.

Crystal Lake Park Upgrades - Ms. Edwards reviewed the idea for this to buy equipment for rental, expand tennis courts and add basketball courts. A question was asked if these basketball courts would replace or supplement the ones at Lake Wailes park. Ms. Edwards said she is unsure as ideas for that park are up in the air. The ones at the lake would not be removed unless there is a replacement.

Gymnasium - There is an idea to take back management of the Gym to make it easier to manage the schedule and possibly expand hours.

Fees - Ms. Edwards said the City is exploring implementing a fee structure to help with costs towards new facilities.

The need for football fields were discussed.

Ms. Nanek reported that at the recent budget workshop the multi-purpose complex, purchase of the Y and North Library were the top priorities named by the commissioners. She encouraged the members to identify their priorities and make other recommendations for next year's budget. Their opinions are welcome. Burney Hayes said he identified with the long held desire of the community to have a pool.

Ms. Edwards said that there will be other opportunities for public input on the Y purchase and multi-purpose complex.

The chair asked if Lake Wailes was discussed. Ms. Edwards said it wasn't discussed but need more public input before we move forward on anything. Needs were discussed including bleachers.

#### 11. Recreation Budget 2018'19

The chair requested funds for spraying the lake as lily pads are taking over the lake. A need for bleachers was discussed.

#### 12. General Activities Discussion

YMCA - No additional report

Baseball - Bombers Report - Ms. Edwards reported that the Bombers have moved out of the NW Complex and are at a facility in Poinciana. Per the Contract they are still maintaining the fields. The other two groups are using the fields.

Tennis - Ms. Edwards is working on a budget for this next year and working with Laura Motis. There will be meetings in the future to work on this.

Pram Fleet - Patty McKeeman reported that last Sunday was the last of the season and it was basically a fun day. Some sailors went out despite the rain. This was a challenging season as there were a few Sundays that they couldn't sail due to the weather. She reported on the Sportsman ship award named after Nancy Kahler which went to two boys who participated despite loss of their mother recently. Some students are going to a regatta in Tampa next weekend but this may be canceled due to some sewage

issues. Patty shared some of the history of the Pram Fleet which has been around since 1948.

PAL - Burney Hayes reported that they are trying to set-up some basketball clinics on June 16th and July 3rd. They are also planning a special event on the 4th of July.

Lake Wales Library - Kara Wiseman reported on upcoming summer Library programs. They will be at the Woman's Club, Thursdays 10:30 a.m.. July 19th is the Touch-a-Truck event in front of the Library. She then described some of the teen activities.

Jennifer Nanek introduced Tracy Mullins from Polk County Parks and Recreation who was invited by Robbie Shields to come and explain about future upgrades to local county parks such as Washington Park. Mr. Mullins said that they are completing their Parks Master Planning process. This plan is for the next ten years. Over the last 10 years they have concentrated on building new parks including 6 regional parks. Everyone is within a 20 minute drive of a regional or community park. They are now going into a maintenance mode upgrading parks by age. So they will be improving all the older parks. Mr. Mullins said that all areas of the county are in need of more funds and parks. There will be 80,000 more people moving into Polk County by 2025 but there will not be additional funds. He said he is always open to listening to additional concerns. They will do more regional parks after 2025 and are looking in this area. There is more demand for facilities such as cricket fields and pickleball courts which was not an issue 20 years. Ms. Nanek asked Mr. Mullins if Washington Park is on the list to get upgrades someday. Mr. Mullins confirmed it was.

Ms. Nanek reported that we did not get funded for our 2 FRDAP grants which were for lights at the Soccer Field and a pavilion at Lake Wailes Park.

### 13. Communications And Petitions

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is June 18, 2018.

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Chair/Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

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Secretary