

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2007

Dreher Park Administration Building

4:00p.m.

Present: Patt Sned, Cliff Bridges, Kirk Olney, Gregory Burdick, Bruce Hawthorne	Staff present: Christine Thrower, Department Director Jonathan Bramely, Director, Engineering Services, Joan Goldberg,
Absent: Kerry Gallagher, Curtis Kelly, Anne Harrison	Guest: David Potter

Topic	Discussion	Follow up
Presentation	<p>Joan Goldberg, from the Mayor’s office, gave a presentation on art projects in the city that involve public parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway Park has an \$800,000 budget for a major art feature in the proposed park (Okeechobee just east of Australian). Funding came from a transfer of development rights on another project. The city received 61 submission and narrowed the list to 4 possible artists that will be presented to the Commission on 9/27 from 2-7 p.m. • Pleasant city Multicultural Center is the centerpiece of another public art project that will involve the community at a variety of levels, including journaling, photography and creating a mural to document the area’s history. Robert Delgado is the artist who is creating a mural that will go on the wall of the building facing Spruce Street. • Imagining Howard Park – the state has granted the city \$1 million and county matched with \$500,000 to begin part of the master plan implementation of Howard Park. The area to be renovated is on the northern most end of the park and will include landscaping the area up to the convention Center, removing the northern-most parking lot and increasing the size of the lake once known as the “turning basin.” Funding was received because the project is expected to significantly reduce the flooding in Pineapple Park by increasing water retention areas. • South Olive neighbors received a county 	

	grant to paint a mural on the racquetball court facing Olive Avenue. Proposed murals will be brought to the PRAC.	
Meeting officially called to order at 4:36. Approve minutes from previous meeting.	Mr. Bridges made the motion to approve minutes from June 2007 meeting. Mr. Burdick seconded the motion.	Unanimous vote followed.
Kelly Kollar, Recreation Manager, Athletic Programs	<p>Ms. Kollar presented a staff recommendation to adopt the recommendations for athletic programs endorsed by the National Alliance for Youth Sports.</p> <p>The goal of an organized youth sports program is for the participants to enjoy a fun, safe and rewarding experience</p> <p>Recommendations for Communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They address how communities can change the culture of youth sports and once again create a fun and stress-free playing environment for youngsters. ▪ Outline aggressive steps that are aimed at mending a multitude problems – such as over aggressive parents, untrained league administrators and win at all cost youth coaches. <p>In order to implement the recommendations for communities, cities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt, by resolution, a community philosophy that makes youth sports safe and positive for children. ▪ Appoint a professional youth sports administrator to ensure adherence to the philosophy. Ms. Kollar already fills that role. <p>Hold everyone associated with the program accountable for their behavior, including completing an application and following the terms of the agreement, conducting background screenings for all volunteers working with children, following and enforcing city policies and procedures.</p>	Mr. Burdick made a motion to support the adoption of NAYS Principles for athletic programs. Mr. Bridges seconded the motion. Unanimous vote followed.
Jonathan Bramley, Director of Engineering Services	Mr. Bramley provided an update on the status of the architect plans for Gaines Park’s new multipurpose building. The contractor is 60% complete with plans to be 90% complete by the next PRAC meeting. He wanted to present the plans at to the committee at that time. He shared the artist’s renderings for the elevation or what the building would look like from the outside,	The committee agreed to a presentation on the final review before it goes to bid and invite the committee members who gave input into the design.

	and reviewed the plans for inside: 350-seats, room for a stage, warming kitchen, generator room (but no generator), two small offices, restroom facilities and a pergola separating the area between the gym and the new building. He said they plan to bid the project in August.	
Capital Projects Update	Mr. Bramley reported that the fence bridge at Gaines park was complete and painted and being used. Mr. Olney asked about the landscaping on the park side of the bridge, perhaps a few cabbage palms to make it more attractive. Mr. Olney also asked about the progress at Grassy Waters and difficulties with the contractor. Mr. Bramley said the contractor had responded well to plans to pull the contract if problems were not fixed.	Ms. Thrower promised to follow up on the landscaping for the bridge if funds permit.
Budget Update	Ms. Thrower said the city commission was awaiting a report from the budget fact finding committee and did not have anything new to report on the budget.	
Other business	Mr. Bridges mentioned issues with the Sunday Jams concert series at Gaines Park. He was concerned after what he saw on the news that it was attracting people who had other plans besides the family-oriented music event the staff was trying to do. Ms. Thrower stated she shared those concerns and staff was trying to come up with an alternative event or way of holding it to alleviate the problems the first event brought, namely significant traffic problems and illegal drug and alcohol use in the park. Mr. Hawthorne said he lives across Lake Mangonia from the park and knows not to open windows or plan outside activities because the event was so unruly. Bridges suggested canceling it.	Ms. Thrower agreed to look at alternatives and report her findings at the next meeting.
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm	Next meeting , Aug. 14, 2007 @ 4:00pm at Gaines Park.