



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, January 14, 2021
7:00 P.M. – Howey Library
MINUTES

Call to Order: 7:02pm

Attendance: Pat Miller, Staci Broad-Mauro, Rachel Bartolowits, Rick and Donna Klein, Fran Wagler, Tahsia O'Keefe. **Kelly not able to attend.**

Approval of Minutes:

Old Business:

Flags for Blevins Patriot's Park: Pat has ordered them. They will be installed whenever they come in.

Benches for Central Park: These have not been ordered- waiting for Jim to get over his knee replacement surgery to talk about Pickleball and then we'll decide on the benches.

Mural Location – Discussion: It has been suggested for this to go on the back of Town Hall, or, the back of the library, or on the extension wall, or on the new water tower. Because the mural is supposed to be interactive. Staci suggested perhaps incorporating a wall in the design of the pickleball court that might be a good spot for the mural. Will this be a visibility issue for parents watching their kids at the park? Market Park between the Howey Market and the doctor's office? Could we get an easement for the mural to be on a private building? We will do a board report and see what the Council says.

New Business:

Fence Griffin Park – Discussion: Someone wrote on Facebook that an alligator may present a hazard to children in Griffin Park. It was suggested that parks and rec needs to make a fence. John said no because of maintenance. There have been no alligator attacks in Howey. John and Martha will decide on the fence issue.

Sara Maude Mason Preserve – discussion & vote – Pat passed out a **timeline** related to Sara Maude Mason preserve. Rick has done some background work and rendered a report on what needs to be done to repair Sara Maude. Pat met with Rick and with John Ernst. John said there is no money for the repairs. John said Impact fees cannot be used for repairs to Sara Maude. Only option is to take a loan. Doesn't seem like a good idea. Is there a grant option? Parks committee needs to advise the council as to what they believe is best to move forward with repairs for Sara Maude. Pat advised Council by email. Mr & Mrs. Klein took full opposition to that stance and attended the meeting to persuade Parks to change their mind. Mrs. Klein emailed friends asking them to attend the Parks meeting to aid her. Mrs. Wagler and Mrs. O'Keefe attended.

Fran mentions: Eagle scout parent, Scott McKinley, quoted less than we thought it would be to repair the boardwalk at Sara Maude, and said he would be willing to help make it happen.

Is there any funding for Sara Maude? Parks believes a specific reserve fund should be established for Sara Maude.

Approved: Patricia Miller

Tahsia said: Could CARES Act funds be applied to Sara Maude?

There's a neighborhood coming to Howey that wants to hook up to Sara Maude- build a path to connect to Sara Maude.

Rick: overview of Sara Maude: Impact fees may be able to be tapped into IF we improve it- use different materials. Could get 20,000 to 30,000 from there.

Parks and rec has a general fund of 20,000 to 30,000.

Lot was sold for 42,500- that money is there.

There's a town general fund that may have monies.

At this point, the whole closed section (south section) needs to be torn down and replaced- at first it could have been repaired but not anymore.

Discussion of ideas for how to fix Sara Maude—should it be done in sections, should we just forget about the closed section and work on the other sections, should we fix the closed section first and then start saving for repairs? What would be best?

February 14 Event – Tahsia and Fran passed out a flyer regarding this parent's night out event. Let them know if we want to volunteer.

Welcome to Howey monument signs- what should happen with these? It appears they need to be replaced as of about 2 years ago. Is this a parks issue or a town maintenance issue? What would we recommend? They look fine from far away when you're driving by but they are in very bad shape up close. John said someone ran into the one down by Venezia. If they want us to look into the signs, we will need to go visit them closely and see how they look.

Voting for Secretary and Chair.

Chair- We all pointed at Pat while she wasn't looking. She agreed to continue to be chair for one more year.

Secretary- Rachel will be Secretary.

Board Comments: Included above by topic

Public Comments: Included above by topic. In addition, Fran agreed with Pat that there are too few delineations of town duties. Things need to be more clearly delegated and allocated. That should be something that everyone gets together and puts their duties in writing to make sure everything is covered and no overlap. **Everything needs to be compartmentalized. Specifically, town landscaping needs to be a committee and/or at least delegated to another committee.**

Adjourn: 8:33pm

PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES 286 0105 ANY PERSON WHO DESIRES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION AT THIS MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR THIS PURPOSE MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS BASED ALSO IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE 286 26 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK 101 N PALM AVENUE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FL 34737 (352) 324-2290 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING .

NOTICE: ONE OR MORE COUNCILORS MAY BE PRESENT TO HEAR OR PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION REGARDING MATTERS WHICH MAY COME BEFORE TOWN COUNCIL FOR ACTION.