

FAMILIES, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Tuesday, July 15, 2014

A meeting of the Families, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at Orlando Shakespeare Theatre – Patrons Room, 812 East Rollins Street, Orlando, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rachel Andre
Celeste Thomas
Gregory Reynolds
Stephanie Appel
Wendy Mathisen
Maria Caban
Gary Hasson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Latria Leak

STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Early, Director of Families, Parks and Recreation Department
Stacy Anne Mahar, Executive Assistant
Denise Riccio, FPR Planner and Grants Manager
Robin Payne, College Park Community Center Manager
Peter Effaldana, Parks and Cultural Arts Manager
John Perrone, Parks Division Manager
David Wagg, Parks Assistant Division Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Rachel Andre called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public requested to speak before the Board.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Families, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, June 17, 2014

Approval of minutes for the June 17, 2014 meeting was moved by Wendy Mathisen and seconded by Celeste Thomas and unanimously approved.

LOCH HAVEN BOARD REQUESTS

Applicant: Orlando Science Center

Brandan Lanman from the Orlando Science Center came before the Board to request approval to hold the “Maker Faire Orlando” event in which twenty (20) booths will be located within Loch Haven Park beside the Orlando Science Center (abutting the bowl area) on September 13th and 14th, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Maker Faire Orlando is a family-friendly celebration featuring local do-it-yourself science, art, rockets, robots, crafts, technology, music, and hands-on-activities, where people (“Makers”), ranging from tech-enthusiasts to crafters to homesteaders to scientists to garage tinkerers, exhibit what they are making. A motion to approve the use of Loch Haven Park for this event was made by Gregory Reynolds and seconded by Stephanie Appel. The motion carried unanimously.

Applicant: Orlando Weekly and Orlando Museum of Art

Matthew Gull with Orlando Weekly came before the Board to request approval to hold the “Art Orlando” event on September 27, 2014 in the bowl area of Loch Haven Park. The event will feature artists actually creating artwork on blank canvases in the park while the public watches art being created throughout the day. Art will not be sold at the event; rather, artists and their work will be showcased. A motion was made by Celeste Thomas to approve this request and seconded by Gary Hasson. The motion carried unanimously.

LOCH HAVEN BANNER REQUESTS

Applicant/Organization: Orlando Science Center
Reason for banner: Maker Faire Orlando
Banner Display Dates: August 1, 2014 – September 14, 2014

It was moved by Stephanie Appel and seconded by Wendy Mathisen to approve the 4 ft x 10 ft. banner along Princeton Street for the upcoming “Maker Faire Orlando” event. The motion carried unanimously.

Applicant/Organization: Orlando Science Center
Reason for banner: Science Learning Made Fun
Banner Display Dates: September 8, 2014 – January 20, 2015

It was moved by Celeste Thomas and seconded by Stephanie Appel to approve the 25 ft. x 14 ft. banner on the side of the Orlando Science Center building along Princeton Street to draw attention to the Orlando Science Center. The motion carried unanimously.

Applicant/Organization: Orlando Science Center
Reason for banner: Bats
Banner Display Dates: September 15, 2014 – November 15, 2014

It was moved by Gregory Reynolds and seconded by Wendy Mathisen to approve the 4 ft. x 10 ft. banner along Princeton Street for the “Bats” event. The motion carried unanimously.

MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

Applicant: Delaney Park Little League

Jamie Barati, Vice President of Delaney Park Little League, Sherry Gutch, Secretary and Jennifer Beaird came before the board to seek approval to build a flag pole memorial at Delaney Park. Mr. Barati informed the board that Delaney Park is home to Delaney Park Little League (DPLL). Sixty years ago when, DPLL was founded, at the opening of every game the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Never having a true flag pole to say the Pledge to, over time, the practice was forgotten. The intent of this project is to bring the Pledge of Allegiance back to every game while memorizing Coach Jason Beaird. Coach Beaird had a passion for baseball and was an essential part of DPLL from 2008 until his passing on March 14, 2013 from cancer.

The memorial flag pole’s proposed location makes it visible from all three fields, and the base is in the shape of a baseball field home plate. The location is currently passive and will not impede pedestrian flow. The proposed monument will include engraved clay bricks; a 20-foot flagpole with the American Flag that will be illuminated at night by top down solar lighting; a brick monument with a memorial bronze plaque; seating; a 4 foot wide sidewalk; and landscape beds. The application has been reviewed and approved by all relevant City departments. A motion to approve the above monument and memorial for the Delaney Park Little League was made by Celeste Thomas and seconded by Gary Hasson. The motion carried unanimously.

Applicant: Central Florida Council of the U.S. Navy League

Mr. Mike Phillips from the Central Florida Council of the U.S. Navy League came before the Board to seek approval for the Lone Sailor Navy Memorial of Central Florida. The intent of the memorial is to demonstrate gratitude to those who served at the Naval Training Center of Orlando over the past three decades. The Lone Sailor Navy Memorial will serve as a reminder of the legacy of the Navy’s presence in Central Florida, as well as an inspiration to those who are currently serving and will serve in the United States Navy. This location, on historic ground, was chosen to commemorate the thousands of Navy sailors who received their initial and advanced training at the site. The memorial will serve as a focal point for the park and reminder of those who gave so much for their country and the Central Florida community. The memorial will be located at the south end of Blue Jacket Park on an existing grass section. The site is highly visible with access to electricity and is bordered by walkways for easy access for the handicapped.

The memorial will be an elliptical shape with an embedded ship's pier, constructed of decorative concrete to match other park structures. It will have multi-levels with the Lone Sailor on the pier. There will be prominent dedication signage that tells the chronological story of the Navy in Central Florida. The floor of the Memorial, with its compass rose, will have donated commemorative pavers. A motion was made by Celeste Thomas to approve this request as long as all the appropriate City regulations and permits are in place and all funds are secured prior to the construction of the memorial and seconded by Gregory Reynolds with the motion passing six to one with Stephanie Appel opposing.

REPORTS

Lisa Early reported that the summer is in full swing and the City is engaged in a summer reading partnership with Orange County Public Schools at eight recreation centers. To date 11,712 books have been read by youth attending camp at our centers. This is the third year that the City has partnered with Orange County Public Schools for this program. Ms. Early reported that the City will partner with the Orlando Housing Authority to renovate the playground at Citrus Square Recreation Site. Located on Orlando Housing Authority property, the City runs an after school program and summer camp at Citrus Square, but the playground that abuts the site is greatly in need of renovation. Since the Housing Authority, which owns the playground, does not have funding to renovate it, the City has secured CDBG funds to cover the cost of the renovations. Some of the cost of the renovation will also be covered by Commissioner Jim Gray's office.

Mrs. Early also reported on the City's Black Male Achievement initiative, entitled "My Brother's Keeper Orlando." The initiative includes a youth advisory council, whose first project is to organize a basketball game between themselves and officers of the Orlando Police Department. The goal is to begin building trust and understanding between Orlando's Black boys and young men and police officers. The game will be held on July 30, 2014 at the Orlando Downtown Recreation Center.

Robin Payne, College Park Community Center Manager, reported on behalf of Rodney Williams. Ms. Payne stated that registration for the City's football league is underway for youth ranging from five to fourteen years old. Ms. Payne also reported that the City's after school program (O.A.S.I.S.) has started registering youth for the upcoming school year. The Recreation Summer Showcase will take place on July 31, 2014 at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center. At the Showcase, children attending summer camp at City community centers perform on stage. All Board members are invited to attend.

John Perrone reported that Fireworks at the Fountain was a success with an estimated 150,000 in attendance throughout the day at Lake Eola Park. Mr. Perrone also reported that MoviEola at Lake Eola has been a success to date, taking place the last Friday of every month on the southeast lawn. This is a free event whereby citizens can picnic in the park as well as purchase food from local food vendors and watch a movie. Lastly, Mr. Perrone reported that National Public Lands Day will be on September 27, 2014 at Bill Frederick Park, to include numerous activities and a butterfly garden.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Anne Mahar

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Board Secretary