

**PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 – 6:30 P.M.
CITY HALL – 8TH FLOOR
100 N. ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312**

Cumulative Attendance

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Alex Collazo	P	3	0
Amber Van Buren	A	7	2
Brucie Cummings	A	6	3
Caleb Gunter	P	6	1
Carey Villeneuve	P	5	1
Charlie Leikauf	P	8	1
Jo Ann Smith	P	8	1
Karen Polivka	P	9	0
Marianna Seiler	P	7	2
Martha G. Steinkamp	P	8	1
Mary Peloquin	P	2	1
Michael Flowers Jr.	P	7	2
Robert Payne	P	6	3
Roy Grimsland	A	7	2
Tangerean Moore	A	1	2

Oct 2018 - Sept 2019

As of this date, there are 15 appointed members to the Board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum.

Staff

Carl Williams, *Parks & Recreation Deputy Director*

Public Attendees

John Milledge
John Burns
Elizabeth Van Zandt

Roll Call

Chairperson Karen Polivka called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll was called, and all stood for the pledge of allegiance. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Jo Ann Smith and seconded by Charlie Leikauf, that the minutes of August 28, 2019 be approved. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

1. Department Updates

Deputy Director Carl Williams informed the board that Field Turf, the company responsible for the field turf installation project at Holiday Park has requested an extension to complete the project due to the recent weather interruptions experienced in our areas. Field Turf has confirmed that the new anticipated completion date is set for the third week of November 2019.

Carl Williams informed the board about an upcoming event called Sips, Sounds, & Splats at the South Side Cultural Arts Center on Sunday October 27, 2019 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Mr. Williams stated that this event would be a recurring one and will take place every 4th Sunday of each month with a small \$10 cover fee. Mr. Williams confirmed that the event involves a wine pairing demo, painting and art presentations, wine social and live music.

The board was informed by Mr. Williams that the Parks and Recreation Department was well on its way to securing a Program Manager to oversee the tasks related to the Parks Bond process and confirmed that the decision to select a candidate will occur something in October.

2. ULI Parks & Open Spaces Panel

Representative from the Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority, Elizabeth Van Zandt made a brief presentation on the Urban Land Institute (ULI) and the role the organization plays. Ms. Van Zandt stated that the ULI's advisory service panel is scheduled to kick off with a week-long list of interactive activities beginning October 13 through 18. Ms. Van Zandt stated that the ULI is geared towards, planning, growth and development as it relates to cities and consists of memberships in the tens of thousands who are experts from various fields including private, public and non-profit areas. Ms. Van Zandt also confirmed that there will be 80 stakeholder interviews conducted and a final presentation will be made to the public on Friday October 18 at the Broward Center.

3. War Memorial Auditorium – Florida Panthers

John Milledge and Sean McCaffrey, representatives from the Florida Panthers made a presentation on the proposed project plans in store for the War Memorial Auditorium. Mr. Milledge, attorney for the Florida Panthers confirmed that proposals were presented to the City Commission at two workshops for the purpose of renovating and bringing back the iconic War Memorial with its rich heritage and history. Mr. Milledge confirmed that the proposed plan would include a full-size restaurant and the installation of two ice rinks dedicated to youth sports, youth hockey, public skating and figure skating. Mr. Milledge further stated that the plans also included a practice facility that would be free and open to the general public. Sean McCaffrey informed the board that feedback received from the Community expressed that the proposed design lacked canopy shading in and around the building and

wanted the new building to appear more disguised with the original War Memorial Auditorium standing out as the focal point with the rest of the building concept blending into the design. Mr. McCaffrey also confirmed that the proposed design includes the addition of approximately 75 more trees to the park site by the completion of the project. Mr. McCaffrey also stated that presently there were about 4 larger oak trees identified for removal but will be relocated with the park.

4. Hortt Park Playground

Discussions were made on the proposed playground improvements for Hortt Park and Deputy Director Carl Williams confirmed that the Parks and Recreation Department will be applying for a \$50,000 grant that will be used towards the project costs. Mr. Williams also stated that in addition to the grant funding, \$250,000 is currently air marked from the Parks Bond funding to be used towards this project.

5. RFP Panel Committee

Discussions were made for an interested member on the parks board to sit on the RFP Panel Committee which would be tasked with reviewing and evaluating the applications received for the Program Manager position as it relates to the Parks Bond Process.

6. Board Comments

There were no board comments.

7. Communications to the Commission

In reference to the RFP Panel Committee board representative, a **motion** was made by Carey Villeneuve and seconded by Alex Collazo for vice-chairman Caleb Gunther to be the nominated member to represent the board as a member on the RFP Panel Committee. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

In reference to the War Memorial Auditorium and Florida Panthers renovation project, a **motion** was made by Mary Peloquin and seconded by Carey Villeneuve that the Parks and Recreation Beaches Advisory Board is encouraged by the project and appreciate the landscape improvement, however would like to advise the City Commission to require as much free indoor recreational non-ice amenities and active green roof space as possible. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.