

**PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 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	1	0
Amber Van Buren	A	0	1
Brucie Cummings	P	1	0
Caleb Gunter	P	1	0
Carey Villeneuve	P	1	0
Charlie Leikauf	P	1	0
Jo Ann Smith	P	1	0
Karen Polivka	P	1	0
Marianna Seiler	P	1	0
Martha G. Steinkamp	P	1	0
Mary Peloquin	P	1	0
Michael Flowers Jr.	P	1	0
Robert Payne	P	1	0
Roy Grimsland	P	1	0
Tangerean Moore	P	1	0

Oct 2019 - Sept 2020

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

Staff

Phil Thornburg, *Parks & Recreation Director*
 Carl Williams, *Parks & Recreation Deputy Director*
 Leona Osamor, *Sr. Admin. Assistant/Grants Administrator*
 Luisa Agathon, *Assistant to City Manager*
 Zoie Saunders, *Chief Education Officer*

Public Attendees

Allen Zeman
 Bradley Arendt
 Brooke Berkowitz
 Christopher O. Akagbosu
 Ken Krasnow

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 Marianna Seiler and seconded by Mary Peloquin, that the minutes of September 25, 2019 be approved. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

1. Department Updates

Deputy Director Carl Williams informed the board that the field turf installation project at Holiday Park should be completed by mid-November 2019.

Mr. Williams informed the board that earlier in the day, the proposals with respect to the position of Program Manager for the Parks Bond process was submitted to the committee and more information regarding same would be forthcoming soon.

Mr. Williams also informed the board about the upcoming light up the holidays events namely *“Light up Lauderdale – Get Lit”* which is scheduled to take place on November 14, 2019 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm at Esplanade Park; *“Light up the Galt”* on November 21, 2019 from 6:00pm – 10:00pm at A1A and Oakland Park Blvd along NE 2nd and 33rd St; *“Light Up the Beach”* on November 26, 2019 from 5:30pm – 8:30pm at A1A and Las Olas Blvd.; *“Light Up Sistrunk”* on December 6, 2019 from 5:00pm – 9:00pm at Historic Sistrunk Blvd. from NW 9th Ave. to NW 11th Ave.; and *“Light up Carter Park”* on December 14, 2019 from 3:00pm - 7:00pm at Carter Park.

2. Education Initiatives

Zoie Saunders, Chief Education Officer with the City of Fort Lauderdale made a presentation regarding education initiatives. Mrs. Saunders stated that the initiative is in its building phase but ultimately the goal is to expand the use of public infrastructure to benefit students and communities on a larger scale. Mrs. Saunders also stated that the City of Fort Lauderdale was committed to forming a Joint-Use Parks Working Group with Broward County Public Schools with a vision of increasing equitable access to quality parks through local policy changes, master planning and increased funding. It was noted by Mrs. Saunders that many cities across the country have been doing this type of work to help in addressing social issues such as childhood obesity, the need to become more efficient with public resources, lack of available space, and park deserts. Mrs. Saunders informed the board that the City of Fort Lauderdale will be forming a Joint-Use Parks Working Group that would comprise of city staff and staff from Broward County Public Schools who would in an effort actively engage key stakeholders such as the Education Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, School Principals, and Neighborhood Associations.

Phil Thornburg, Director for the City of Fort Lauderdale’s Parks and Recreation Department briefly joined the presentation and confirmed that presently there were two agreements in place to help in streamlining the process, namely the Reciprocal

Use Agreement and the Recreational Agreement.

Dr. Allen Zeman, chairman of the City of Fort Lauderdale's Education Advisory Board also spoke during this presentation and informed the board that ultimately the goal with the education initiative is to be able to operate similarly as it has been successfully done in Fairfax County where everyone basically has an opportunity to be able to use a track, swimming pool, basketball court, tennis court, or whatever other available school resource. Dr. Zeman stated that most of the reasons why it's currently not taking place in our City can be summed up to bad governance but is very enthusiastic about creating the idea, bringing the energy and necessary work groups to get it done.

Motion was made by Charlie Leikauf and seconded by Marianna Seiler that Marth G. Steinkamp be nominated to represent the board as a liaison in the Joint-Use Parks Working Group. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. Old/New Business

Ken Krasnow of Colliers International, the City's real estate advisor made a brief presentation to update the board on the current status of their property acquisition throughout the City of Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Krasnow confirmed that since the last presentation at the August 28, 2019 parks board meeting, there has been positive strides made and currently the firm was under contract with a seller for a parcel of land approximately ¼ acre in size located at 4201 North Ocean Blvd.

Motion was made by Charlie Leikauf and seconded by Jo Ann Smith in support of the City of Fort Lauderdale proceeding with the acquisition of property located at 4201 North Ocean Blvd. with the parks bond funding. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

4. Board Comments

There were no board comments.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.