

**PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.
CITY HALL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

Virtual Meeting

Cumulative Attendance

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Alex Collazo	P	5	1
Brucie Cummings	P	6	0
Caleb Gunter	P	5	1
Carey Villeneuve	P	6	0
Charlie Leikauf	A	5	1
Deborah Rosenbaum	A	2	1
Gale Butler	A	1	2
Jo Ann Smith	A	5	1
Karen Polivka	P	5	1
Marianna Seiler	P	4	2
Martha G. Steinkamp	A	4	2
Mary Peloquin	P	6	0
Robert Payne	A	2	4
Tangerean Moore	P	3	3

Oct 2019 - Sept 2020

As of this date, there are 14 appointed members to the Board, which means 8 would constitute a quorum.

Staff

Phil Thornburg, *Parks & Recreation Director*
 Carl Williams, *Parks & Recreation Deputy Director*
 Leona Osamor, *Grants Administrator*
 Edgardo Noceda, *IT Technical Support Technician*

Guest Speakers

Christina Currie, Esq.
 Richard Campillo
 Steven Williams

Roll Call

Chairperson Karen Polivka called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Roll was called, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Marianna Seiler and seconded by Alex Collazo, that the minutes of May 11, 2020 be approved. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

1. **Department Updates**

Deputy Director Carl Williams informed the board that the City is moving forward with the opening of Summer Camps and will be taking extra precautions while utilizing the CDC guidelines to provide a safe environment for all.

Mr. Williams also informed the board that the batting cages at the City's parks have reopened for use and the dog parks at Snyder and Holiday Park will reopen on Friday May 29, 2020.

2. **Virginia S. Young Park**

Director of Parks and Recreation, Phil Thornburg made a brief presentation along with Christina Currie, Esq., president of the Rio Vista Civic Association on the current conditions of the Virginia S. Young Park and Hector Park that were damaged in December 2019 from the sewer spill.

Motion was made by Alex Collazo and seconded by Caleb Gunter in support of the estimated \$331,500 project cost to rebuild the Virginia S. Young park. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. **Hector Park**

Motion was made by Carey Villeneuve and seconded by Mary Peloquin in support of the estimated \$74,500 project cost with the two exceptions as classified in the May 21, 2020 Rio Vista's Civic Association letter regarding the water fountain and turnaround. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

4. **Pickleball Presentation**

Richard Campillo along with his colleague Steve Williams made a detailed presentation on the growing sport of pickleball. Mr. Campillo informed the board that from its inception to the community in 2013 when the City of Fort Lauderdale painted pickleball court lines on the tennis courts at Hardy Park, the sport has grown significantly not just in the area of Fort Lauderdale but the entire United States. The board was informed that presently the pickleball courts are overcrowded due to its popularity with an estimated one hundred players per day for six courts. Mr. Campillo provided recommendations to possible locations that the City should consider in an effort to develop the sport to meet the needs of its local residents and make it a sport-related economic driver for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Campillo also informed the board that one of the ways the City of Fort Lauderdale can capture and grow the base of the sport is through the development of in-school and after school youth programs, adult training classes and develop best in class type facilities.

5. **Board Comments**

Board member Carey Villeneuve informed the board that since the Panthers last presentation to the board, the project plans have changed significantly and

recommends that the board invite them back to provide an updated presentation of the project plans and timeline.

6. **Communications to the Commission**

There were no communications to the commission.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.