

# Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

January 6, 2021

## Board Attendance Record

William Dryburgh 4/4  
Don McCormick 4/4  
Kay Tvaroch 4/4  
Debra Anlauf 4/4  
Erick Toth 2/4  
Maria Greenberg 2/4  
Fred Pazona 3/4

## Present

William Dryburgh  
Don McCormick  
Kay Tvaroch  
Debra Anlauf  
Fred Pazona

## Absent

Maria Greenberg  
Erick Toth

## County Representatives

Ken Doherty, Commission Liaison  
Tommy Scott, Director  
Maureen Broderick, Recreation Manager  
Tina Powell, Natural Resources Manager  
Mike Koenig, Resource Manager  
Cindy DiGiacomo, Customer Services Coordinator  
Mike Norton, Recreation Supervisor  
Kathy Koroschetz, Administrative Assistant

## Guests

- Chairman William Dryburgh welcomed members, staff and visitors to the meeting.
- Roll Call
- Minutes
  - Motion to approve the 2020 December Minutes made by Don McCormick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debra Anlauf and was unanimously approved.
- Division Reports – November 2020
  - William Dryburgh asked if anything extra had to be done to the pools because of COVID, Tommy Scott responded that the chemicals take care of everything, but additional cleanings are being done.

- Old Business
  - **Myakka River Park – Final Park Master Plan** – Mike Koenig gave a recap of the Myakka River Park Master Plan and handed out a copy of the final plan. The first public meeting was on 9/17/19 where basic ideas were explained of what was planned for the park and the public gave feedback of what they wanted to see; we held a second public meeting on 12/3/19. Then COVID19 hit so we had a virtual meeting on 12/1/20 showing how we incorporated the public's ideas, changes and concerns into the final plan of bike paths, walking trails, parking, fishing pier, restrooms, picnic benches, and sitting areas throughout.
  - Commissioner Doherty asked if there would be lights throughout the park and Mike Koenig replied there will be some path lighting and lights on timers.
  - Tommy Scott added that the Gulf Cove community has been very active and involved in this project. The public/private membership bicycle club will help with the creation and ongoing maintenance of the bike paths. Also, having adopted this Park Master Plan will allow Charlotte County to go after grant funding from the Recreation Trails Program.
  - Commissioner Doherty asked about the adjoining roads to the park (Spire Street and Gallagher Blvd) would be given additional 25' right of way in the plan. Tommy Scott responded saying we have the capacity to make the road wider in the future.

Motion to approve the Myakka River Park Master Plan made by Kay Tvaroch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debra Anlauf and was unanimously approved.

- New Business
  - I. **Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman** – Motion to approve William Dryburgh for the 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chairman made by Don McCormick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred Pazona and was unanimously approved.
 

Motion to approve Maria Greenberg for the 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Vice Chairperson by Fred Pazona, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don McCormick and was unanimously approved.
  - II. **Annual Program Attendance Comparison** – Tommy Scott explained how the Annual Program Attendance Comparison was created a few years ago to show how all our programs are doing at all various facilities and how this year COVID significantly affected every facet of our business due to being closed or at limited capacity.
    - Fred Pazona asked how Charlotte County will attract collegiate teams to the Centennial Park Pool and if we have a program in place to do that. Tommy Scott replied we work with the Tourism Department and we created a collateral piece of information we can share out and we were registered to attend Collegiate Swim Coaches Conference this past May but that was canceled due to COVID. We do have plans in place along with our own contacts and our staff reaching out directly.

- Mike Norton, Recreation Supervisor added that we use the NCA database for all divisions and reach out to every coach in the country.

**III. Division Training Matrix** - Cindy DiGiacomo, Community Services Coordinator and Mike Norton, Recreation Supervisor passed around the Division Training Matrix. Mike Norton started by saying the Training Matrix won the National Association of Counties (NACo) award in 2018 which we are very proud of. Mike Norton went on to explain how the Training Matrix works by showing the breakdown by position and broke out by provider of the training, such as Human Resources internally, outside source training, or OTIS which is our online training by management. The Training Matrix is continually being developed.

Tommy Scott emphasized we like to recruit the best and we *train them to retain them*, we want people to go to any one of our facilities and see that it is run in the same manner and they can expect the same consistent service at all of our locations.

- Sports Council Update
  - No Youth Council Meeting in December
- Member Issues
  - Fred Pazona asked about the status of the Harold Avenue Park location being used to distribute COVID19 vaccines.

Commissioner Doherty updated the board members by saying all doses that were allocated to Charlotte County last week were distributed effectively and with organization by Patrick Fuller, Emergency Management Director and Joseph Pepe, Administrator of the Charlotte County Florida Health Department along with the entire team.

People can go online to schedule an appointment, but once the doses are gone the system shuts down sending a message that there are no appointments left and to try back again. The appointments are filling up within an hour, so right now we are just waiting to receive more supply.

Tommy Scott added we are prepared with setting up testing sites, distribution centers etc. and have worked with Emergency Management, the Health Department, Charlotte County Sheriff's office and traffic control coordinating this type logistics, and we have an additional six distribution sites for the vaccine when needed. Also, we are working on the challenges of the system crashing due to the large number of people logging on to schedule appointments.

- Kay Tvaroch mentioned the Englewood Community Coalition has the grant funding available to provide scholarships for kids for sports or arts in the

Englewood area, and this information was provided to Ann & Chuck Dever Recreation Center for the basketball clinic.

- Debra Anlauf asked about the status of the letter of recommendation that was to be sent to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) regarding the boat ramp at Tippecanoe Environmental Park.

Tommy Scott provided the letter from 2019 where the PRAB voted to send a letter to the BCC in support of a cut through at Tippecanoe II suggested in a presentation by the Manchester Waterway Civic Association (MWCA). Tommy stated this letter can be used as a reference when structuring a new letter to the BCC to support a boat ramp at Tippecanoe.

Commissioner Doherty also offered his guidance to the board when drafting the letter by saying, in order for this boat ramp to be completed it would need a permit modification through Habitat Conservation which can take several years and thousands of dollars. Commissioner Doherty suggested writing a letter of recommendation to the BCC asking them to look into the cost and permitting time in order to identify a process of the steps that will be needed.

- Directors Report
  - Tommy Scott welcomed back Commissioner Doherty to the Parks and Recreation Parks Advisory Board (PRAB) as the Commission Liaison after having the pleasure of Commissioner Tiseo serving on the PRAB the last couple years. Commissioner Doherty commented he was pleased to be back and was anxiously awaiting to work with the PRAB again.
  - William Dryburgh asked of any upcoming events, Tommy Scott responded they have been talking with the Tampa Bay Rays regarding Spring Training and Maureen Broderick added the Tampa Bay Rays schedule is available on their website and the first game is February 27<sup>th</sup>, however that could change.
- Announcement
- Adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

CC: Commissioner Ken Doherty, District 1  
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2  
Commissioner Bill Truex, District 3  
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, District 4  
Commissioner Joe Tiseo, District 5  
Hector Flores, County Administrator  
Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator

