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West Melbourne

F L O R I D A

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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

May 13, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Daniel McDow called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Members present were Brett Tam, Jack Masson, Sandy Carbon and Linda Smura.

Motion made by Chairman McDow to excuse Member Linda Palardy from the meeting.
Motion seconded by Member Masson.

Also present was Parks & Recreation Director Rich Boprey.

Chairman McDow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approve the minutes of March 11, 2020.

Motion made by Member Brett Tam to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020,
seconded by Member Linda Smura - motion carried 5-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Chairman Daniel McDow

Chairman McDow stated that he appreciated Deputy Chairman Tam for conducting the March 11, 2020 Advisory Board meeting. Chairman McDow was thankful for the input from City Manager Scott Morgan including the updates on a potential Community Center in the future. The Chairman said that he is interested in a potential third party assessment of how the City of West Melbourne compares (parks / facilities) with other municipalities of the same population. The assessment would include "does the Parks & Recreation Director have the right resources – not all strategic but technical as well". A document - may help to develop a road map for the future.

B. Park Maintenance building update

During the last Council meeting a company was awarded the contract to perform the refurbishments of the Parks maintenance building. A date has not been set to commence the project. Chairman McDow pointed out that the accepted bid came in significantly less than the budgeted money for the capital project. He was wondering if the money saved could be used for another purpose within the Parks & Recreation department.

C. Clements Wood

The restroom renovation project is still with the architects. The bidding process will take place as soon as the architects are finished. The award of the construction bid is tentatively set for the August 11, 2020 Council meeting.

D. Parks & Recreation Director updates

On April 2 the parks / facilities and the spine road at the Community Park were closed down. The majority of staff were deemed non-essential and placed on administrative leave. Parks Maintenance workers Patrick Lewetzki and John Keable were deemed essential and worked full time during the month long shut down. They did an outstanding job during this difficult period and completed several needed projects as well as maintaining the daily / weekly routine work required of the department.

All department staff returned to work on Monday, May 4th. Most of the parks remain closed and all classes / courses, meeting and pavilion rentals will remain postponed for the month of May. We will watch the progression of the Co-vid phases and respond accordingly.

Other updates:

The tennis / racquetball ball courts opened up on Monday, May 11th.

Jan Lieson gazebo is being scraped down and will be re-painted.

We will be re-mulching the Welcome to West Melbourne signs

Performance lawn at the Community Park – expensive Bermuda grass – requires a lot of maintenance – we spread 30 bags of fertilizer on it and will do this 5 to 6 times per year.

Chairman McDow mentioned that he had a tour of the parks / facilities with Parks & Recreation Director Rich Boprey. He feels that all Board members should have an orientation and see all of the facilities. Chairman McDow said that after touring the parks / facilities he has a better appreciation for the work and efforts of the Parks & Recreation department.

Member Masson commented that it is very good to see the parks firsthand and learn to understand the challenges that some of the parks present. He also felt that all members should take advantage of a guided tour.

Member Carbon stated that she has lived here for many years and in the last five years the parks and facilities have been greatly improved from the conditions of the past. The work that has been done is awesome. The parks were not very good in the past.

Chairman McDow said that these comments need to be reflected in the minutes as a testimonial to the facilities and staff of the City of West Melbourne.

Field of Dreams update

Member Masson updated the Board on a meeting he had earlier today with Parks & Recreation Director Rich Boprey and a contractor to identify some of the current needs and repairs at the Park.(primarily maintenance and capital project issues). The FOD Board asked Member Masson to look (with limited funds) at a few ways that the FOD Board may be able to contribute to assist with needs at the facility. Per the discussion the Contractor has been instructed to generate a few quotes for further discussion. Member Masson will present the quotes to the FOD Board and will work with Parks & Recreation Director Rich Boprey on allocation of agreed funds.

Finance update – final commitment to FOD from Waste Management = \$ 50,000 (five year agreement).

\$2,500 = other donations

Total = \$ 52,500

Chairman McDow mentioned his passion for the Field of Dreams Park and was curious about any potential to link with the Special Olympics for events. It was explained that such discussions had taken place in the past and due to playing surface size restrictions the Special Olympic management did not see the Park as a possibility. However, Member Masson stated that there has been a change in the top management and possibly the potential link could be re-visited.

Member Tam commented that our interests should stay local and not wear our equipment / surfaces out. Member Smura agreed with Member Tam.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Public Comments

7. SUMMARY

Member Masson asked that Parks & Recreation Director Rich Boprey communicate with the Board members for awareness of any changes that affect the Parks.

The next scheduled meeting will be July 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Sandy Carbon made a motion to adjourn at 6:43 p.m., seconded by Brett Tam – motion carried 5-0.