

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
JANUARY 23, 2024 MEETING - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Trammell called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, in the Destin City Hall Annex Chambers with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Sandy Trammell
Nikki Sweetser
Daniella Piper
Lisa Mason
Leslie Schmidt
L'Rena Anderson
Isacc Birch

Staff Present

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Lisa Firth Recreation Director
Ryan Reed Dep. Recreation Director
Ryan Scott, City Engineer

3. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion by Chairwoman Trammell to change the order of the day to add Eco Clean Presentation to the beginning of the agenda. Committee member Birch provided the second to the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Chairwoman Trammell welcomed Committee member Birch to the committee.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the October 24, 2023, meeting minutes as written was made by Committee member Sweetser with Vice Chair Piper providing the second. The motion passed 7-0.

5. PRESENTATION:

- **Eco Clean Presentation - Courtney Dombroski**

Ms. Dombroski provided a presentation to the members about their initiative to install fish feeding food stations in some of the city parks. She spoke of how her company is a 501C and the incentive allows 10% of the income towards the Eco Clean Marine Campaign, which is a program to clean up the local waterways from Fort Payne, AL to Destin, FL. She further explained that currently they have several fish feeding machines located at various restaurant locations on the harbor.

Chairwoman Trammell spoke of how she really likes the idea however, there are currently ordinances in place that prevent commercial operations in city parks, therefore, they would not be allowed. She thanked Ms. Dombroski for her time and informed her that they would need to evaluate the current restrictions and determine if such a program like this would be allowed to operate in any of the city parks.

- **Pickleball Courts 30% Plans – City Engineer Ryan Scott**

Mr. Scott provided the members with the options for their recommendation to the City Council. He explained that in review of the Florida Building Code requirements, at least one unisex bathroom is required as part of the project (FBC403.3 – Required public toilet facilities). With the required bathroom and associated utility work, there currently is not enough funds remaining in the budget to have four courts and one being covered as previously directed. Therefore, the associated cost estimates, there is a need to increase the budget by approximately \$86,000:

- OPTION 1 - \$349,531.29 - One set of bathrooms and two uncovered courts
- OPTION 2 - \$613,663.13 - One set of bathrooms and four covered courts

Mr. Cozadd explained to the members that he has applied for a \$50k grant but won't know for sure if it will be awarded to the city until sometime in May.

Motion by Chairwoman Trammell to recommend to the City Council Option 1 for two uncovered pickleball courts and a set of bathrooms, with Committee member Sweetser providing the second. The motion passed 6-1 with Committee member Birch dissenting.

- **Tarpon Street 100% Plans**

Mr. Scott presented the plans to the committee members and explained briefly that the city and the County have an Interlocal agreement for this park and staff is needing a recommendation to City Council; however, no changes can be made at this point, because they are now at the 100%. He also explained that although the property is within Mobility Plan District, the County will only agree to a five-foot sidewalk along the front of the park. Therefore, staff is asking that they make as part of their motion to recommend a ten-foot sidewalk to be installed along the front of the property, in the permit requirements, to be consistent with the district, and the city will fund that portion.

Motion by Committee member Piper seconded by Committee member Birch to recommend City Council approve the 100% plans for the Tarpon Beach Park with

the stipulation that a 10-foot sidewalk be included in the permit requirements, and the city will pay for that portion.

Chairwoman Trammell explained that the Linear Park was discussed, and the dog waste stations, the bathrooms and the north/south roadway connection along Mattie M. Kelly were not approved.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Staff Comments**

- **Adopt-a-Park Signs** – Are ready to be installed when a park gets formally adopted. Currently Clement Taylor Park sign is ready to be installed since the park was officially adopted by the kids that attend the after school program at the Community Center.

- **Clement Taylor Park** - Ms. Firth informed the members that the subaward was executed for the park's funding.

Mrs. Firth briefed the members on the upcoming events taking place in the city.

Mr. Reed informed the members their park inspections are due, and they can turn them in to staff.

7. MEMBER COMMENTS:

Chairwoman Trammell – Spoke of how she feels parking requirements at certain city parks should be optional, especially the smaller pocket parks and suggests an ordinance should be created.

Motion by Chairwoman Trammell, seconded by Vice Chair Piper to recommend an ordinance be created for the purpose of parking as an optional requirement in certain parks in the city. The motion passed 7-0.

Leslie Schmidt – Spoke of not giving up on having more trees planted at the cemetery and would like to at least see some planted around the upper level of the cemetery adjacent to the fence.

There was additional discussion regarding National Arbor Day and how the previously planned planting of the Red Buckeye Tree at the Leonard Destin Park did not happen because of the inclement weather. The members agreed to have a tree planted on February 2nd at the Kellaire South Park, in an effort to replace the ones lost from the recent storms in January.

Committee member Schimdt then inquired about the speed hump process and was informed to contact the Engineering department.

- **Public Comment**

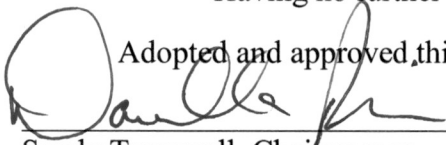
Niko Birch spoke to the members how she feels that disability should always be considered in all areas of the city, she agrees with the need to plant trees in the cemetery for people that come visit their loved ones and feels that all city park signs should also be in Spanish and Tagalog.

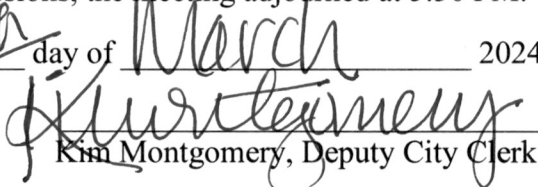
- **Next Meeting February 27, 2024**

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Adopted and approved, this 5th day of March 2024.


Sandy Trammell, Chairwoman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk

Daniella Piper