

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
JUNE 24, 2025, - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Weidenhamer called the Parks & Recreation Workshop to order at 4:06 p.m. on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, in the Destin City Hall Boardroom.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Autumn Weidenhamer
Jessica Julian
Jan McGraw

Members Absent

Allison Stephens
Aubrey Santucci
Bryan Otto

Staff Present

Lisa Firth Parks & Recreation Director
Ryan Reed P&R Deputy Director
Bryan Kellar Recreation Supervisor
Sharon Gardner Records Mgmt. Specialist

Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Ryan Reed clarified for the record that there isn't a quorum, so therefore they would not be approving the minutes.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 27, 2025 - POSTPONED TO THE NEXT MEETING.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A) July 7th City Meeting Parks and Recreation Proclamation

Deputy Director Reed announced that on July 7th the City Council will be announcing the Proclamation naming the month of July 2025 as the Parks and Recreation month. He invited all members of the committee to attend and would be sending an email out as a reminder.

B) Adopt-A-Park Schedule:

Deputy Director Reed announced that at the next meeting he will review the Adopt-A-Park Schedule, and they will finalize the list for the upcoming months. Chairwoman Weidenhamer volunteered for addressing any issues at the Dog Park during the month of July

5. NEW BUSINESS

A) Independence Day Bike Parade

Deputy Director Reed reminded the committee members of the Bike Parade at Destin Elementary on July 1st from 4p.m. to 7 p.m. and asked for anyone to volunteer as judges or to just help the kids during the parade.

B) Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Deputy Director Reed announced that the company that is working on the Parks Master Plan would like to present their information to the committee at a special meeting on August 7th. He advised he would send an email out with the details to all of the members.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

A) Jessica Jullian- Clement Taylor Park: Committee Member Jullian inquired about the status of the renovation timeline for the park. Deputy Director Reed explained that the park is next on the list for renovation, but he doesn't have the exact start date. Discussion then turned to Norriego Park and how much progress has been made.

B) Autumn Weidenhamer- Captain Royal Melvin Heritage Park Yoga Classes: Chairwoman Weidenhamer mentioned the free yoga classes at the park and asked if we can advertise it for more participation. She also mentioned the Adopt-A-Bench and Adopt-A-Tree programs and how there needs to be more information for them on the city website. Deputy Director Reed stated he would look into adding it to the website along with the Adopt-A-Street program that is already being advertised.

7. STAFF REPORTS-Friday Night Bites

A) Recreation Supervisor Kellar and Deputy Director Reed gave a brief overview of the event held on June 20th at Destin Elementary School. The discussion centered on the food trucks, the bouncy houses, and the water slides for the kids. Community participation wasn't as big as they had hoped for but with this being the first time for this event, they were optimistic for it to grow. Next event is scheduled for July 18th, for which Deputy Director Reed will send an email out to all committee members with the details.

B) United Way Learning Trails-

Recreation Supervisor Kellar spoke briefly about the learning trails and how they partnered up with United Way. They painted a couple of trails by the Children's Park, the pavilion, and a little bit of the sidewalk behind one of the fields at Morgans Sport Center. They were also able to put up the signs that tell you what to do for each little station, and he encouraged the committee members to take a look at them.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE -None

9. CLOSING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT- Next meeting date TBD.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS- None

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 4:21p.m.

Adopted and approved this 7th day of August 2025.


Autumn Weidenhamer, Chairwoman


Sharon Gardner Records Mgmt. Specialist