

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 - 4:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Hebert called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 in the Destin City Hall Boardroom.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Teresa Hebert
Myra Williams
Matthew Sweetser
Nikki Johnson
Mark Nacol

Members Absent

Karen Parrish
Dot Jones

Staff Present

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk
Lisa Firth, Recreation Director

3. MINUTES: July 30, 2019

Motion by Committee member Johnson, seconded by Committee member Williams the members voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2019 meeting as written.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

• **Welcome to Destin Sign**

Committee member Williams thanked staff regarding the Airport Road trees inventory and which ones may need to be replaced.

She then spoke of her concern over being informed that the water truck that was going to be used to water the palm trees is broke down and cannot be promised.

Mr. Allen French of Trees on the Coast spoke of how he first wants to get the city behind the project before he approaches the TDC for funding and spoke of how the City Manager, at a past City Council Meeting, committed his staff to maintaining the trees for 6-months with a watering truck as well as trimming of the palm fronds; as needed. And Council supported the project with a motion.

Mrs. Firth spoke of how important it is for her to be included in all of the information and conversations for this project. She also said that she personally will look into the watering truck issue and find out what that status is and report back to the Committee.

The Chairman stated that Luciano, the owner of Delta Pavers, is on standby and ready whenever he is needed to lay the pavers around the perimeter of the sign. There was a lengthy discussion regarding how the landscaping would be maintained. According to Mrs. Firth, the landscaping company that Mr. French will use to plant everything will need to provide the city with a yearlong maintenance plan for their care. She explained how there was not a plan in place for the Oak trees that were planted on Airport Road and the reason why they got overlooked in

their necessary care. Mr. French agreed to obtain bids on the landscaping for the job. Mrs. Firth also mentioned that she will also need to make sure the plantings will have a warranty for at least a year.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

Schedule of Upcoming Events:

- City of Destin Open House – 30th Anniversary
- Fall Fest, Monday October 28th
- Pinfish Classic
- Turkey Bowl – Pee wee football
- Holiday Craft Show
- Christmas Tree Lighting December 5th
- Christmas Parade December 14th @ 10 a.m.
 - Discussion regarding the Committee having a float in the parade next year.
 - Committee member Johnson will work on getting The Friends of the Destin Dog Park to participate again this year and she will provide information to Mrs. Firth.
- Recycling: Public Recycling Bins Removed
 - Mrs. Firth explained the bins were removed for public use because of the constant contamination and abuse. She described the signage staff had put up informing the public what can and cannot be left and how the contamination continued so the decision was made to have them removed.
 - April - End of Tax Shred It/Recyclables – Mrs. Firth spoke of her plan to have an event at the Community Center for all different types of items to be brought in by the public that they no longer use but don't know what to do with them such as eyeglasses, cell phones, prescription meds, etc. She also spoke of a plastic straw to paper straw initiative that she would also like to work on as well as littering; which seems to be a big problem right now.
- Pickle Ball Courts pulled
 - Mrs. Firth explained that council made the decision to not fund the pickle ball court and use the funds for batting cages instead. She explained how she would keep an eye on her revenue that the city gets during Snowbird Season for their pickle ball court usage.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS:

- **Committee member Williams** – Again spoke of Airport Road tree inventory and what needs to be replaced or gaps that may need filled for future donations from Trees on the Coast; and thanked staff or their assistance. She also spoke of a future endeavor that she will keep up with regarding the medians on Scenic 98 in Crystal Beach.
- **Committee member Johnson** – Mentioned that the shovel that used to be in the large Dog Park to fill in the holes dug is missing and asked for another one. Committee member Johnson also spoke of the Christmas Light Contest and feels that the information needs to be put out earlier to get more people involved.
- Chairwoman Hebert introduced two public volunteers:

Angelic Cooper and Veronica Quesenberry who both work for Compass Resorts stated they and the company staff are interested in volunteering their assistance for events in the city.

Mrs. Firth provided the members with the following updates:

- **Destin Seafood Festival – 1st weekend in October**
- **Capt. Royal Melvin Heritage Park & Clement Taylor Park Funding**
 - The Okaloosa County Commissioners have agreed to both the parks plans and the applications are now in the funding process with the Treasury Dept.
- **Clement Taylor Park Seawall Repair and Gazebo**
 - Reported if FEMA approves; she may be able to use the same company that repaired the Joe's Bayou Boat Ramps, since they provided specs for it as well. And if so, the reconstruction would be able to start sooner than anticipated. The old gazebo will have to be demolished and removed down to the concrete base; which FEMA is reimbursing the city for the cost of it being repoured but the city and staff will have to pay and construct a new Gazebo.
- **Morgan's Sports Center Children's Modules** – Scheduled to be replaced in FY-20.
- **Captain Leonard Destin Park** – On schedule for being finished in 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Adopted and approved, 29th day of October, 2019.

Teresa Hebert
Teresa Hebert, Chairwoman

Kim Montgomery
Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk