

**Town of Windermere
Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2022**

Members Present: Nora Brophy, Leshia Miller, Cindy Hunter, Dena O'Malley, Doug Bowman

Others Present: Tonya Elliott-Moore, Mandy David, Resident Guest

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Nora Brophy based on a quorum present to conduct business.

Business Agenda

Old Business/Items

Parks & Events Updates

- A.** Windermere PetFest – Nora summarized some of the planning for the event on March 5th. There are currently 41 booths set aside for copnaies or organizations. Volunteers are still needed for Friday set-up plus vols beginning on Saturday morning at 7 am. She indicated to Tonya that 2 Public Works team members are needed on Saturday. Nora also thanked Dena and Cindy for the 2 additional new sponsors. Dena and Cindy also summarized the new upgraded sponsor grid with available benefits for sponsorship.
- B.** Tennis – Nora thanked Dena for her work on acquiring new rollers for the tennis courts. Dena indicated that new houses are necessary to protect the rollers. The committee approved unanimously to fund up to \$300 of necessary equipment and signage for this project.

Doug indicated that a tennis event will be held at the Hyatt Grand Cypress on March 12-13. This tennis activity will be held in honor of the late Dan Steele with email invitations sent to Town of Windermere tennis members. The committee had no objection for use of the tennis member list for this mailing.

- C.** Parks – The committee reviewed plans for WRC playground equipment. The equipment is in process of being installed. The committee discussed a concern for the location of the swings near the fencing. After some discussion, the committee agreed that a professional recommendation had been made by the park planning consultant and ample space should be a buffer in that area.

The committee also thanked Tonya for approving the ant control treatments in some of the parks.

The committee also reviewed the projects listing from the parks walkthrough.

- D. Boathouses** – The committee discussed the disposition of the historic boathouses which have been the subject of discussion in the town. Council Member David noted that the Long Range Planning committee has made a recommendation to the Town Council to remove 4 boathouses and maintain 1 boathouse as a historic structure. The committee had a lengthy discussion on the recommendation of the PR committee. Tonya noted that \$35k would be necessary to bring all the boathouses up to standard. Lesha expressed concern that a removal of the boathouses without a larger plan would be unsatisfactory for most residents. Council Member David noted that the monthly amount charged for a boathouse lease would be roughly \$200 monthly based on research. Mandy also indicated that control measures could also be enacted to ensure that winning residents from the lottery are the primary users of each boathouse for personal enjoyment rather than using the lottery system for personal economic gain. The committee unanimously agreed that a lottery system with winners paying that rough \$200 monthly lease amount for personal enjoyment of the boathouses was the fairest method for all residents, and would provide a financial funding mechanism to maintain the boathouses. This would also recover the \$35k town investment to upgrade the boathouses in roughly 3-4 years as noted.
- E. Parks Survey** - The committee thanked Tonya for help setting up the parks survey with help from the Univ of Florida. The questions have been finalized, and Doug will send over these to Tonya.
- F. Run Among the Lakes Art Collection** – A motion was made and approved unanimously to approved \$2,000 for art rails to display the art in the new Town facility.

New Business/Items

- A. Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 13, 2022 meeting minutes.
- B. Liaison Report** – Mandy had no formal report for the committee. Tonya and Mandy did have a sample ordinance written for stronger control of commercial activities in the town parks. The committee discussed some of the ongoing problems that are occurring that hinder residents from using the parks. The committee reviewed the ordinance and agreed with the content as written. Mandy indicated that 2 readings will be necessary before Town Council can ratify this for approval.
- C. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 10th at 5:00 p.m. in Town Hall.