

Town of Windermere
Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2023

Members Present: Doug Bowman, Tracy Mitchell, Pacho Sierra, Jill Ata, Dena O'Malley, Sue Anne Reichard

Others Present: Mandy David

Guests: Tracy M, Officer Mark Wilson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dena O'Malley based on a quorum present to conduct business.

Business Agenda

Open Forum

A. No public attended for open forum comments.

Old Business/Items

Parks & Events Updates

A. 21st Annual Run Among the Lakes – Dena walked the committee through a 2022 advertisement recap of the RATL ad placements and costs.

B. 2023 Halloween Costume Parade & Hayride – Event chairperson Tracy Mitchell indicated she has already started making initial plans and developing new ideas for this year's event.

C. 2024 Petfest – The committee discussed the initial date of February 24, 2024 for the event and possibly moving the February Food truck event to February 16th. Many agreed to check and see if moving the date up is acceptable. Committee persons made a motion, seconded and unanimously approved this idea if this is acceptable to the Town.

D. Tennis – The committee discussed the idea of a Fall adult tennis social. This was last done at WRC prior to the pandemic. A resident tennis member could bring 1 non-

resident tennis guest with them at no cost to tennis members and their guests. The committee discussed doing this on the Wednesday nights of October 4th, November 1st and December 6th. A motion was made, seconded and approved to host 3 sessions at a cost not to exceed \$500 in total for all sessions with MG Tennis providing the tennis instructors. Doug indicated he would send a note to Diane Edwards to get in the Fall town newsletter for this.

The ClubSpark company tennis software was discussed and the basics of the technology. The system has compatible software that combines online booking capabilities that also send a code that works in unison with the court locks. Doug mentioned that he met with Peter Hall, a rep for the company and the system would run around \$6k depending upon how many gates we need. The committee asked to schedule another meeting to review the system, and Doug will coordinate with Dena.

Officer Mike Wilson, in charge of community affairs for the Town walked the committee through some of his parks management experiences and the protocols he follows to maintain order. Officer Wilson also covered his engagement with issues at the tennis facilities. All of the committee members thanked him for his service to the Town and maintaining order in the Town's recreational space

MG Tennis requested use of 2 WRC courts for its annual Summer Kid's Tennis Camp that is well attended by beginner and intermediate kids in town. These will start on June 5th at 9 am to 11:30 am Monday – Thursdays in 4 consecutive weeks. The committee discussed and a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

E. Pickleball – Tracy mentioned she is checking on nets for Main Street Court 1 with Varsity Courts. She noted that the paddleholders are \$65 and National Pickleball Day is on August 8th. The committee also approved a "Pickleball & Pints" event TBD at Main Street one evening coming up.

F. Parks (Lake Down Park) – The town is working with FEMA on getting quotes for repair. The dock stays at 18 inches In other parks discussion, Officer Wilson mentioned that Big Cypress Park is being monitored for trespassers. There have been some complaints about the general public accessing the lake illegally from this area.

Palmer Park – Jill gave her recommendations for removal of the initial section for safety. She referenced an area of the park to redo including her recommendation for replacement equipment for a big kids area. She cited some desirable equipment including a climbing structure, balance beam and small zipline.

Town Square Park – Sue Anne agreed to get a new quote for a commercial soccer goal that could be attached to the ground for security. She can have this ready for the next meeting.

New Business/Items

A. Meeting Minutes – A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 13, 2023 meeting minutes as amended.

B. Liaison Mandy David – Council Member David made a brief comment about items being left in the parks to be possessed by the Police Department.

C. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:38 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 8th at 5:00 p.m. in Town Hall.