

Town of Melbourne Beach

PARKS BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY JUNE 12, 2019 MASNY ROOM – 507 OCEAN AVENUE MINUTES

PUBLIC NOTICE

**The Parks Board conducted a meeting on
Wednesday, June 12, 2019 in the Masny Room
located at 507 Ocean Avenue to address the items below.**

Board Members:

Chair Jason Judge
Member Pat Zabinski
Member Jayne Waters
Member Andrew McKay
Member Ed Struttman

Staff Members:

Interim Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

I. CALL TO ORDER –Chair Jason Judge called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Members:

Chair Jason Judge – Present

Member Pat Zabinski – Present

Member Jayne Waters – Absent

Member Andrew McKay – Present

Staff Present:

Interim Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented for approval.

IV. SPECIAL EVENTS

No new special events were presented.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Wrap Up Founder's Day

- Discussion on whether the rain caused too much of an issue
- Overall it was concluded that the rain didn't do much harm and most people were aware of the impending weather
- It was suggested that in the future have a prepared protocol to be implemented in the event of inclement weather.
- Member McKay was asked about the basketball tournament. He said he believes it was a good foundation to build from and a lot of kids and parents seemed interested in it.
- The total number of vendors came to about 100, and it was pointed out that a lot of vendors commented that the flow for setup seemed smoother than in past years.
- The surf contest was brought up, and how it is one of the more stressful events to put on. The board discussed possible alternatives, such as a skim board contest, but it was determined that there would not be enough of a draw to this kind of event.
- An issue with Gatorade bottles being given out was brought up, and it was questioned whether the Town Ordinance applied to all plastic bottles or just plastic water bottles. The bottles were not being sold, and the vendor was asked to put them away. Overall, not a significant issue and was easily resolved.
- There were no reported injuries or police calls made this year.
- A board member requested that a theme be decided in January so that bands can be selected in February and not at the last minute.

Skate Park in Melbourne Beach

- A local business currently has a small skate ramp for kids to use and a board member said it has been very popular. He said it does not just benefit that business, but also surrounding businesses where the kids go to buy food or drinks.
- A board member suggested that the property on Ocean Avenue which is currently an abandoned building would be a good spot to put a public skate park. He thinks it is ideal as it is a central location in town and would be highly visible to residents and visitors.
- Another board member said he spoke with a company that specializes in the construction of “skate spots” which are smaller than a large park, typically around 5,000-6,000 square feet. He said their average pricing is around \$33-\$35 per square foot.
- The board member also said he believes there is a sort of stipulation with liability insurance that would allow the Town to assume less risk if the park was open and free to the public, but more research into that would need to be done.
- Interim Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro said the Town received an email from a local kid about a public skate park. It was brought to the Commission and their main concerns were finding space to put the park as well as the liability to the Town. She has already spoken to the Town’s insurance company who said they’d prefer the Town install just about anything else as skate parks can be huge liabilities. She said there could be ways to mitigate the risk.
- The board discussed possible locations to install a skate park. Some options include converting one of the volleyball court, using a portion of Ryckman Park, or Circle Park on Riverside Drive. Since both Ryckman Park and Circle Park are beside or surrounded by residential property, there was agreement that the residents would likely not want the park so close to their homes.
- Flutie Park was also brought up as an option, as it would fall under the County’s insurance policy where all risk is assumed by the visitor except in a case of neglect by the County. Elizabeth Mascaro said the Town would be able to contact the County to discuss this as a possibility.
- A board member said that by putting up a few small ramps on private property, the Town could generate public interest in the project and encourage fundraising efforts.
- The board asked the Interim Town Manager to contact Brevard County Parks and Rec about using some of their property to build the skate park. A board member suggested asking for 12,000 square feet, and that they would be satisfied with 6,000.

VII. REPORTS

No reports were given.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ed Struttman, second by Pat Zabinski. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.