

Town of Melbourne Beach

PUBLIC NOTICE

MINUTES

PARKS BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019 @ 7:00pm
MASNY ROOM – 507 OCEAN AVENUE

Board Members:

Chairman Jason Judge

Member Pat Zabinski

Member Jayne Waters

Member Andrew McKay

Member Ed Struttman

Staff Members:

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

Deputy Town Clerk Walton Ray

Parks Board Members in Attendance:

Jason Judge

Lally Collins

Jane Waters

Pat Zabinski

Staff in Attendance:

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Judge.

Member Waters asked that a Town Commissioner be in attendance at Parks Board meetings so that the Parks Board knows more about the parameters of what is doable. (See below – Town Manager Mascaro elaborated on the potential benefit vs. possible complications of this approach later in the meeting).

Member Waters noted that Member Ed Struttman would like to be Chairman again. Chairman Judge noted that he had no problem with the change. Pat Zabinski made the motion. Jason Judge seconded; motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes from the November 13, 2019 Parks Board Meeting were approved unanimously.

Town Manager Elizabeth Mascaro stated that bands for Founder's Day need to be settled by February, per the recommendation of Member Struttman.

Ms. Mascaro mentioned the recommendation made by Member Struttman of a theme for Founder's Day and perhaps jugglers walking through the park. A one-man band was also mentioned as a possible attraction. Member Judge noted the advantage of spreading attractions out around the area a bit and suggested a Carnival theme. The date for the event will be May 2nd, 2020.

Chairman Judge inquired about the status of the Southern Squall event. Ms. Mascaro noted that Southern Squall had been approved by the Town Commission and that the Rotary Club has to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Chairman Judge noted that the Parks Board should help promote the event and suggested banner/s of some sort. Ms. Mascaro noted that the Town will promote the event on its social media. Chairman Judge asked if there could be a dedicated budget for promotion of the event; Ms. Mascaro will investigate the possibility of a promotional budget for things like banners; Chairman Judge suggested also including local publications as part of the promotion. Ms. Mascaro noted that for events in the park, proceeds have to go to a recognized not-for-profit organization; she also noted that Founder's Day and Easter events are budgeted as Parks Board events, approximately \$10,000, and that the Town just breaks even on its expenses for these events.

Ms. Mascaro noted that we need to touch base with Taryn Rockwell so that the Southern Squall event is clearly a Rotary Event. She also noted that tents at the perimeter cannot be erected for soliciting money for not-for-profit organizations, per Town policy, given that this is a public park; the Southern Squall event is a previously identified, unusual exception among just a few that the Town Commission has agreed to in the past based on direct benefit to the Town itself. As examples of park use, the Town

cannot charge for tennis lessons, Yoga, etc. She noted that if the Parks Board wants to do the Iceman's Ball, the Board needs to make a fully detailed proposal. Member Waters reiterated the need for the Parks Board to know the parameters of acceptable events and that the Parks Board must include specifics in proposals provided to the Town. Ms. Mascaro asked that completed, detailed proposals be emailed to her, after which she can then put the details before the Town Commission for consideration.

Ms. Mascaro mentioned that having a member of the Town Commission present at Parks Board meetings could raise issues with the "Sunshine" laws and that perhaps a better means of real-time communication between the Parks Board and the Town Commission would be to have a member of the Parks Board attend any Commission meeting where Parks Board proposals are being considered, in order to answer any questions from individual members of the Commission. Ms. Mascaro will include the Parks Board request for a Commissioner to attend the Parks Board meetings along with her request for a dedicated promotional budget. Member Judge stated that he was willing to attend the Town Commission meetings to answer such questions that the Commission may have.

Discussion ensued as to the importance of making proposals in a single, cohesive document for presentation to the Town Commission, such as the boat ramp, including timelines, costs, suppliers, etc. The Town Commission may have to refer such requests to other Boards for approval before taking their own final action; the more detail that the Parks Board proposals provide, the better and faster a decision may be reached. Ms. Mascaro noted that members of the Parks Board are welcome to present their suggestions at either Town Commission Workshops or Town Commission meetings; Workshops are often more detailed examinations of pending proposals.

The meeting adjourned 37:18 after it began.