

**MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
CITY HALL  
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Ron Schelfo

**Invocation:** Chairperson Ron Schelfo

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairperson Ron Schelfo

**Roll Call:** Those in attendance were Chairperson Ron Schelfo, Vice Chairperson David Fawcett, Board Member Sheilan Runnels, Board Member Dean Jones, and Board Member Ronald Long.

Also in attendance were Parks and Recreation Director Richard Weed and Administrative Assistant Anaeli Quinones.

Meeting began at 6:01pm.

**Parks and Recreation Director Weed** welcomed new Board Member Ronald Long to the Board. There were no more announcements.

**Chairperson Schelfo** announced the recognition of citizens. Seeing no one, meeting moved on to the approval of minutes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: NOVEMBER 19, 2020**

**Vice Chairperson Fawcett** made a motion to approve the minutes for November 19, 2020; seconded by **Board Member Runnels** and motion was approved by unanimous voice call vote.

**Chairperson Schelfo** moved on to the next item on the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1) UPDATES ON PROJECTS, EVENTS, AND/OR PROGRAMS.**

**Parks and Recreation Director Weed** wanted to go through the different projects/programs so that the new Board Member Long would be up to date. He covered number of staff in the Parks and Recreation Department including the Library and Summer Recreation. He explained the duration of the Summer Recreation Program and the details for it. He went over the Parks and

Recreation Master Plan that was completed in 2018. Also, over the Site-Specific Plan that took place in 2019 that started at Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve, and it also covers Central Park. He noted that Parks and Recreation takes care of 15 parks and boat ramps with a total of 172 acres. He listed all the events that we have had since the beginning of this year, and a lot were canceled last year because of Covid-19. The events listed were Bluegrass Bash, Heritage Day, Community Cleanup Day, Fall and Spring Cruise-In Car Shows, Veterans Day (every other year since we partner with the City of Auburndale and take turns at hosting), the Christmas Parade, and the City Employee events, such as the quarterly training, and the Ridge League of Cities Dinner. He then moved on to describing the changes being done to the docks. He explained the CDBG Grant, which is a partnership with the county to work on different projects every year. It also helps to complete the Master Plan. One of the examples he mentioned was the sidewalk project that was completed this year thru the CDBG Grant. He then moved on to the Library and discussed the funding and the Co-Op. Some of the current projects being worked on this year are football field at Central Park and shelving at the Library that is also in partnership with the Friends of the Library, the Mackay trail that is being paved and upcoming lighting project for the trail as well. Another project that was mentioned was the Bass Art Project that some of the schools have painted and will be distributed throughout the City. **Chairperson Schelfo** asked where the locations would be. **Parks and Recreation Director Weed** said one would be on Shinn Blvd, by the Dollar General property, and the third one is still unknown. He showed the Central Park Site-Specific Plan and explained what is being done on it right now and when it should be done, which is by the end of June. **Chairperson Schelfo** asked if there were any kind of guidelines when allowing people to use the facilities. **Parks and Recreation Director Weed** stated that with the new facilities will come new guidelines to be able to protect the facility itself. Practices will not be allowed at the football fields, only actual games. The baseball fields will have a bit more flexibility since we do not have an actual league, but there are different groups that are interested in using them. **Board Member Long** asked about parking. **Parks and Recreation Director Weed** explained how the parking will be added along the park and how any overflow will go to the elementary school. How much we will be able to do will be determined by the FRDAP Grant. The next thing to do will be to move the basketball courts moved and at least one field built. He also showed the type of lighting that is being added to the sidewalks and trails. He showed different pictures of everything that is being done. Board Member Jones asked if there is funding for landscape on the trails. **Parks and Recreation Director Weed** explained about the maintenance of it being the biggest thing. He continued showing pictures of what is being done, such as a basketball hoop by the entrance at the Lakes so families can play together and maybe even later on add an exercise station too.

There was a discussion on the different developments that will be coming with different incentives, and for the community to be involved and work together so everyone can enjoy what is in our parks and trails.

**Chairperson Schelfo** moved on to the next item on the agenda.

## **2) DISCUSSION ON THE APPROVAL OF THE LAKE ALFRED CHRISTMAS PARADE FOR FDOT APPLICATION.**

**Parks and Recreation Director Weed** said we are opening up so the parade will be in great shape. He read the analysis on the agenda which explains the parade route for the FDOT application. Our parade is only a mile long so people do enjoy participating in it especially after

the bigger parades in the other cities. He explained how the parade used to start at Mackay Blvd, but then lighting became an issue. Now it starts in Central Park and lighting is great there and it works very well. It is also easier for people to just come out of their house and see the parade. The parade has grown in the past few years and people enjoy it a lot. With the upcoming changes at Central Park, it will also work starting the parade from there. He showed attachment A that showed the route and shared how Santa has been in the parade on different types of floats each year.

**Vice Chairperson Fawcett** made the motion to approve the parade for FDOT application, seconded by **Board Member Long** and motion was approved by unanimous voice call vote.

**Vice Chairperson Fawcett** asked if the City was doing anything for the Fourth of July. **Parks and Recreation Director Weed** said no we are not.

**Chairperson Schelfo** asked if there were any or comments. There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Anaeli Quinones  
Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant