

**MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
CITY HALL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: Chairperson Gary Johnson
Invocation: Vice Chairperson Mike Jones
Pledge of Allegiance: Chairperson Gary Johnson

Roll Call: Those in attendance were, Chairperson Gary Johnson, Vice Chairperson Mike Jones, Board Member David Fawcett, Board Member Tom Bryan and Board Member Yvonne Thornton.

Also in attendance were Parks and Recreation Manager Richard Weed and Administrative Assistant Anaëli Quinones.

Member not in attendance was Board Member Becky Roach.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: JULY 21, 2015

Chairperson Johnson asked to make a motion to approve the minutes for July 21, 2015; **Board Member Fawcett** made the motion, seconded by **Board Member Bryan** and motion was approved by unanimous voice call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

1) UPDATES ON CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS.

Chairperson Johnson opened the floor for **Parks and Recreation Manager Weed** to speak. **Parks and Recreation Manager Weed** started by welcoming everyone. He then moved on to the saying that on October 4th, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve there will be a live bald eagle presentation hosted by the Lake Region Audobon Society and the Maitland Audobon Center for Birds of Prey. They will go over the biology of the eagle then the challenges they face throughout the years with DDT and their recovery and everything like that. They will also conduct their eagle watch training because as they go into the nesting season they will train their members what to spot, what to look for, etc. On November 7th, 2015 the final centennial celebration will be hosted and it will be called "The Flashback to the Good Ole' Days". It will feature an antique car show, the Little Ms. and Mr. Lake Alfred Pageant, live music, games, prizes, and fireworks. On November 11th, 2015 the Lake Alfred / Auburndale Veterans Day Service will be held at Gardner Park. On December 4th, 2015 the annual Lake Alfred Christmas Parade will take place and the theme this year is "100 Years of Magic". Applications are currently being accepted for this event.

He also wanted to give a follow up on a few things from the past. He mentioned Mr. Jonathan Fisher with his eagle scout project to rebuild the grill at Lions Park will start during his Thanksgiving break in November. Also, from the previous meeting, we had discussed the two-

step approach to either raising the deposit rate at Mackay or requiring longer police stay when there is alcohol involved. Currently, the easiest step to do is letting them know that they have to have an officer if alcohol will be present from the start of the wedding until the end of the wedding. No more time frame, that way when there are people there, there is a way to staff the event. Soon, renovations at Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve will begin. Jeff had applied for a \$50,000.00 50/50 matching grant through the Florida Division of Historical Resources so all together is \$100,000.00 grant that will be used to restore the upstairs portion of the Mackay House. The old storm shutters will be taken off, structural fixes will be done to make it safe, painting, fix all the windows, the wood trim, any dry wall that needs to be done, electrical, floors redone, so it can be used to open up one day for pictures, wedding parties, etc. This will begin very soon, the contract was received from the state today and the bids will start soon. Been going over capitol and the final reading of the new budget will be next week on Wednesday. In the capitol budget for Parks and Recreation this year, a new lawn mower is being budgeted for which is very much needed, as well as a new wooden deck at the Lions Park redone. He has already started taking quotes on that so as soon as October 1st comes, that can get started on. Everybody that has come out there to do the quotes he has asked if there is anything that can be done to restore any of it and they all say the best thing is to tear it down and rebuild the whole thing since it is in that bad of shape. Also, looking to contract with Applied Aquatics to clear out the beach front there at the park. It is not to open it back up for swimming but to get the grass line pushed back. Want to leave some natural stuff, but get rid of the paragrass and the alligator weed and open it up so it is not so thick and vegetative there. With this being done, the boats can pull up and land in there, also the boat races, that will give them a wider space to have the hot pits.

He then explained how the Bluegrass Bash and the Grillin' & Chillin' will be combined in January. It will take place at Lions Park instead of Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve. With the end of the year celebration taking place in November, and the consensus of combining the two events, a really good turnout will be expected. **Vice Chairperson Jones** asked what that event will be called. **Parks and Recreation Manager Weed** said it will be called "Grillin' & Chillin' Bluegrass Bash". He asked if anyone had any questions. **Vice Chairperson Jones** inquired of a date for the event in January. **Parks and Recreation Manager Weed** responded it will be on January 9th. **Chairperson Johnson** asked what time will it be. **Parks and Recreation Manager Weed** said it will be an all day event. He explained how both events struggled a bit this past year, with Bluegrass Bash being a little colder this year than previous ones, but this way being combined they are synonymous to each other.

Parks and Recreation Manager Weed asked if there were any other questions.

There were none.

Chairperson Johnson suggested to make a motion to adjourn. **Vice Chairperson** made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Board Member Thornton**. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. (it started at 6:17 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,



Anaeli Quinones

Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant