



# City of ALACHUA

**THE GOOD LIFE COMMUNITY**

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes October 3, 2022**

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**Chair Carol Richardson**  
**Vice Chair Jovante Hayes**  
Member Malcolm Dixon  
Member Laurie Hall  
Member Travis White

City Manager Mike DaRoza

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### **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board At 4:00 PM**

**Meeting Date:** October 3, 2022

**Meeting Location:** James A Lewis Commission Chambers

15100 NW 142nd Terr Alachua, FL 32615

**Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.**

### **PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Led by Chair Carol Richardson.

#### **INVOCATION**

Led by Chair Richardson.

#### **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Chair Richardson, with Member Malcolm Dixon absent.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Agenda was not approved.

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Approve Committee Minutes for March 28, 2022

Chair Richardson stated the minutes provided in the packet were for the incorrect meeting; therefore the approval of the minutes would be deferred to the next meeting.

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

B. Summer Camp Overview

Culture and Recreation Director Elliot Harris introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Chair Richardson asked if there was any feedback from the parents.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris stated there was a survey from Children's Trust, and many of the parents filled out the survey.

Member Laurie Hall asked how Staff plans for funding under circumstances where funds are unknown and not guaranteed.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris provided the information.

Member Jovante Hayes asked if local businesses donated funding to the summer camp.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris stated the summer camp did receive funding from local businesses, but for different things.

Member Hall stated in the past there was discussion regarding starting a STEM program with some of the businesses from Progress Park, and she stated this would be an opportunity for these local businesses to donate scholarships to the summer camp program as well as talk with the children about different professions and opportunities.

Chair Richardson opened the floor for comments or questions.

There were no comments or questions.

C. Hitchcock's Baseball Park Playground

Culture and Recreation Director Harris introduced the item and provided the staff report.

D. Cultural Event Update

Culture and Recreation Director Harris introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Chair Richardson stated her only concern was communication. She stated citizens were stating they hear about the events last minute.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris provided an update.

Chair Richardson also suggested Main Street Daily News.

Member Travis White suggested flyers in the elementary schools.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris stated he had utilized the school communication.

### **III. BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION**

Member Hall asked if Parks & Recreations Director Harris knew if funding from Wild Spaces / Public Places was forthcoming.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris informed the Board Wild Spaces / Public Places was on the ballot this year, and provided budgetary information.

Chair Richardson elaborated on the vote being presented.

Member Hall asked if the City had a Parks and Recreation master plan.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris informed the Board, in 2010 the City Commission developed a Master Plan, which included the Parks Department. He elaborated on the details.

Chair Richardson asked for specifics.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris provided the information. Member Hall spoke about including trails in the

Master Plan. Chair Richardson spoke of including vacant lots.

Member White asked if there was a way the City of Alachua could partner with the County in regards to sports tourism.

Chair Richardson stated the City needed to develop the relationship with the sports organizing committees and the hoteliers. She stated we needed to lobby for our community.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris mentioned the events hosted at Legacy Park

Multipurpose Center last year, and what was coming up. He stated the calendar was filled with events. He reminded the Board that Legacy Park Multipurpose Center also needs to be available to the citizens.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris announced upcoming events at Legacy Park Multipurpose Center.

Chair Richardson asked about the Senior events.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris gave an update.

Chair Richardson mentioned there was a new Martin Luther King, Jr. committee.

#### **IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

LaKesha Jenkins stated she was concerned about the kids of the City. She stated there was a need for volleyball coaches. She stated they were in need of more practice time in Legacy Park Multipurpose Center.

Chair Richardson thanked Ms. Jenkins for her comments. She asked if this was a City sponsored sport.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris provided information. He stated most of the sports were parent driven. He stated that only basketball and volleyball were run by the City of Alachua.

Chair Richardson asked if the team could be mentored by UF Volleyball, as other teams were.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris said he would look into it. He thanked Ms.

Jenkins for bringing her concerns to the Board.

Chair Richardson shared her concerns regarding the giving of time from the Alachua team to the High Spring team.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris addressed the concern.

Chair Richardson suggested getting corporate sponsors and UF volleyball team to help coach.

Member Hall stated there were other colleges that had volleyball teams that could volunteer.

Tempest Odem spoke of her girls who play volleyball, and how they want to attend Newberry High School because of the opportunities in volleyball. She spoke of her concerns for the youth who were not into sports.

Jessica Berryhill spoke of her concerns with the volleyball equipment. She stated events happened at the City, and no one was aware of the event.

Culture and Recreation Director Harris agreed that more support was needed. He stated there were two fulltime positions open right now.

ADJOURN

**Member White moved to adjourn; seconded by Member Hayes.**


**Passed by unanimous consent.**

ATTEST:

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY  
BOARD OF THE CITY OF  
ALACHUA, FLORIDA



Presiding Officer



Staff Liaison