

**CITY OF
MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA
PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**



**July 17, 2023
City Hall
510 N. Baker St.
Mount Dora, FL 32757**

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Woerner called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Roll Call

Members Present:

Mark Woerner,
Elizabeth Bourassa
Derrick Campbell
Marsha Blum
Suzanne Scheck

Also Present

Troy Shonk, Parks and Recreation Director
Christopher Carson, Cultural and Special Events Manager
Amanda Ferguson, Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes

A. May 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE BY BOARD MEMBER BLUM; BOARD
MEMBER SCHECK SECONDED THE MOTION. Approved by all.

Public Comment

Lillie Taylor - 704 Pine Avenue, Mount Dora - Advised there is a problem with Cauley Lott Park; the lights on the basketball court and park hours conflict. She does not want the lights to be on in the park at 8:30pm so individuals can play basketball. She suggested the light shut off time needs to be altered to reflect the park closure time. Ms. Taylor expressed her thoughts that the "Park & Chill Thing" that happens on Sunday evenings is not okay.

Presentations

Action Items

Resolutions

Ordinances

Discussion Items

A. Parks Ordinance Update

Parks & Recreation Director, Troy Shonk, stated he would like to have an open dialog about the existing Parks ordinance, in hopes to get suggestions for additions. Staff have identified two major issues; individuals sleeping in the parks after hours along with open hours and alcohol being sold in parks. He also reviewed previous changes to the ordinance; the smoking ordinance to be in accordance with State Law and the removal of an ordinance prohibiting guns, as it goes against state statutes, that allows individuals with a concealed weapons permit to have guns in public parks.

Board Member Bourassa inquired if the unhoused individuals had anywhere to go. The staff were unaware, but advised that they would inquire with the Police Chief.

Board Member Blum inquired if we had periodic patrols. Director Shonk advised that there is.

Board Member Bourassa inquired if there are any situations where an individual could sell alcohol with a permit without being a city event. Chris Carson, Cultural & Special Events Coordinator, advised that they are not allowed to do so on public property without a permit, licensing and insurance. The verbiage of the ordinance needs to be adjusted to include events that are third party events. She also inquired if there is flexibility in the fines, due to them possibly occurring in a historically impoverished community. Director Troy advised that fines typically only occur if there is vandalism and damage is caused.

Director Shonk would also like to add restrictions to Forest Park, Palm Island Boardwalk and Mountain Bike Trail to limit what can access the areas specifically. Board Member Scheck suggested that a sign be placed at eye height specifically warning people of the danger of walking on the Mountain Bike Trail.

Chair Woerner suggested that the ordinance in regard to dogs be updated to be more clear, as the current verbiage seems to be missing some words.

City Staff

A. Parks and Recreation Update

Director Shonk advised that our main focus is our Summer Camp program at this time. The program has very high numbers of attendance, with a record broken with 226 children attending a field trip this year. The next program coming up is the Youth Soccer Program. The Lincoln Avenue Pool and Splash Pad are both now fully functional and open to the public. The kayak launch installation at Gilbert Park will be completed within the next few weeks. Lastly, Summerview Park Pickleball Courts have begun construction and the pads should be poured shortly and start their 30 day curing process.

B. Cultural and Special Events Update

Mr. Chris Carson inquired who was able to attend Freedom On The Waterfront, advised the event very well and that the department has a very great team that work hard to put on every event for the City. One of the sponsors, Adult Medicine, was in the crowd and Chris provided him with a poster of the event's art. He moved onto Last Call 2023, which will be taking place on July 29th at Sunset Park, at which the City will be collecting school supplies to donate to local primary and secondary schools.

Suds, pups and Pints - September

Pit Masters and Pourers - BBQ, Bacon and Bourbon collide - ticketed event in Elizabeth Evans Park with 8 BBQ vendors who are competing during the event Vidafredia event - Center for the Arts and the City of Mount Dora will be offering a one-day event

Elvis Weekend at Mount Dora Music Hall - 9/14-16 - this event sold out last year and is on its way to being sold out this year, too.

Matt from Adult Medicine advised that they are working to coordinate the Soap Box Derby that takes place at Elizabeth Evans. They're working with the Kiwanas Club to put the event on October 14th. Board Member Campbell inquired for pricing. Matt advised that they provide scholarships with Ace Hardware to provide all of the supplies for families that want to participate.

Communications and Reports

A. Board Member Elizabeth Bourassa

Member Bourassa inquired if she needs to respond to an email that she received from Mark Slaby that drew attention to trees in the City that need attention. Staff advised that it was sent to multiple boards, City Council and the City Manager and she does not need to be responded to.

B. Board Member Derrick Campbell

C. Board Member Marsha Blum

D. Board Member William Larkin

E. Board Member Suzanne Scheck

F. Vice-chair Amy Fortenberry

G. Chair Mark Woerner

Future Meeting Dates

A. Monday, September 18, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

B. Monday, November 20, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY BOARD MEMBER SCHECK; SECONDED
BY BOARD MEMBER BOURASSA.**

Chairperson Woerner adjourned the meeting at 6:44pm.



Mr. Mark Woerner
Chairperson


Mrs. Amanda Ferguson
Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Schwarz
Operations Manager