

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



**May 15, 2023
City Hall
510 N. Baker St.
Mount Dora, FL 32757**

Call to Order

Chairman Mark Woerner called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM

Roll Call

Members Present

Mark Woerner, Chair
Elizabeth Bourassa
Derrick Campbell
Marsha Blum

Also Present

Troy Shonk, Parks and Recreation Director
Amanda Ferguson, Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes

- A. March 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes

***MOTION TO APPROVE BY COMMISSIONER BLUM; COMMISSIONER
BOURASSA SECONDED THE MOTION.***

Public Comment

Presentations

Action Items

Resolutions

Ordinances

Discussion Items

- A. Forest Preserve Phase II

Director Lunday discussed the second phase of the Forest Preserve expansion, which will include the area of the Simpson Farm House and a walkway to the existing Forest Preserve. The plan is to make the preserve accessible for all to be able to enjoy the forest and experience a natural urban forest, open from dawn to dusk. She also advised that she is anticipating adding a flower garden along Jackson Avenue to help teach visitors how and what to grow in their yards.

Commissioner Blum inquired about the sign that states that the area is a Preserve. Director Lunday and Troy advised that it has been converted into a Park, but the signage has not been changed yet. Chair Mark Worner expressed his concern and hope that the department will have additional staffing to maintain the new park.

City Staff

A. Parks and Recreation Update

- * Community Partners
- * FY 23/24 Budget Requests

Director Shonk gave an update on the department's community partners, advising that they are taking a step back from their partnership with Round Lake Charter School. He informed them that Round Lake Charter is now a full charter and they saw the program as a money-raising opportunity. The department is working on a working relationship within the Mount Dora community with Triangle Elementary, Mount Dora Middle and High School.

Director Shonk reviewed the 23/24 budget items that were submitted for approval for next year. An amphitheater, restrooms and gazebo added to Elizabeth Evan's park, Summerview Park playground and basketball courts, Gilbert Park 2-5 year old and ADA accessible playground equipment replaced, Mount Dora Music Hall irrigation and landscaping beautification, Donnelly Park tennis court to pickle ball court conversion, Frank Brown shade structure, pavilion additions, field upgrades and irrigation installation, upgrades to Sunset Park and Gilbert Park restrooms, Donnelly Park remedy of erosion issues by beautification, Pine Forest Cemetery fencing and lighting upgrades and lastly, the Summerview Park lighting upgrade.

Director Shonk reviewed the positions he has requested for the upcoming fiscal year, converting the Cemetery position from part time to full time, aquatics/recreation lead from part time to full time, adding a part time parks specialist position for CRA, and lastly two part-time Parks Ranger positions to assist with security of the parks after hours.

Director Shonk also expressed his appreciation of the CMAR process the City has, as it assists in streamlining processes and allows the projects to get done faster.

B. Cultural and Special Events Update

Mr. Carson reviewed the events coming up; Juneteenth at Cauley Lott Park on 6/17/23 from 5pm-10pm, Freedom on the Waterfront will take place at Elizabeth Evans, Simpson Cove and Palm Island on 7/3/23, and lastly, a new event, Barbeque, Bourbon, Beer and Bacon event at Elizabeth Evans's, date will be determined in September.

Communications and Reports

- A. Board Member Elizabeth Bourassa
- 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, July 17, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
- B. Monday, September 18, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
- C. Monday, November 20, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

***MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER BLUM; COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL
SECONDED THE MOTION AT 6:19 PM***



Mr. Mark Woerner
Chairperson



~~Ms. Amanda Ferguson~~
~~Administrative Assistant~~

Gretchen Gómez
Parks & Rec Administrative Coordinator