MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAKE MARY PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD held March 7th, 2016, 6:00 P.M., Lake Mary City Commission Chambers, 100 North Country Club Road.

I. Call to Order

Danny Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call/Determination of a Quorum (not less than 4)

Members Present
Lynette Swinski
Nicholas Carlin
Robert Boardman
James Buck- Absent
Danny Williamson- Absent
Christopher Mullins

Also in attendance were Bryan Nipe, Director of Parks and Recreation; Gunnar Smith, Recreation Supervisor/Events Center Manager; Kathy Gehr, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Robert Boardman and seconded by Christopher Mullins to approve the minutes of March 7th, 2016, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Citizen Participation

No one came forward at this time.

V. Chairman's Report

- Lynette Swinski said she enjoyed Lake Mary Little League opening day and the fields and the area overall looked great.

VI. Director's Update

A. Open Positions at Events Center

- Bryan Nipe reported the new Assistant Manager for the Events Center has come on board and is doing well so far. Also the Parks & Events Center Coordinator position is being filled.

B. Arbor Day

- Bryan Nipe confirmed the Arbor Day celebration will take place on April 30th coinciding with a farmer's market day so that more people will already be out and about in the park. Le Fleur Nursery is to be there donating trees to help promote Arbor Day. Also if any board members would like to volunteer they can come out and help.
- Bob Boardman and Nick Carlin both said they would come out to help.

C. Senior Center Expansion

- Bryan Nipe reported the City is planning to redesign some unused storage/office spaces at the Senior Center to have more classes able to take place.
- Trailblazers group is willing to raise and donate funds to put towards the expansion.
- The department is currently in the process of getting a proposal for design.

D. Event Recap/Upcoming Events

- Gunnar Smith reported Little League opening day was a big success and a lot of people came out to celebrate.
- Also the Car Show series has started again. This is a recurring event on select Sundays throughout spring and summer time. It helps fill the void of no football on Sundays and the local shops and restaurants really enjoy the extra business.
- Family Fun Day is coming up on April 2nd from 9am-2pm. Also taking place in April will be the Trailblazers 5K on the 23rd, to help fund Heritage Park.

E. Summer Camp

- Gunnar Smith Reported the Summer Camp will be running again this year June 6th – July 29th. It is a Monday-Friday camp with field trips and a lot of activities for the kids.
- Chris Mullins said the first week of August is teacher planning week and when he will go to work he will have nowhere to put his kids since camp is not taking place.
- Gunnar Smith replied that it was a staffing issue for the camp to run that that week, as most of the counselor are still in college or also teachers so they will not be available.
- Lynette Swinski said she thought the camp was a great success.

E. Lake Mary Arts Fest Moving

- Bryan Nipe reported the Lake Mary/ Heathrow Arts Festival will be changing the time of year they hold the festival. This is due to so many surrounding areas having festivals on the same date. They hope to receive more attendance by moving it to spring 2017.

G. Central Park/ Heritage Park Update

- Bryan Nipe reported there is a project to add a paver area in Central Park for extra walking space around the tree. Also this will help staff to decorate the tree as they can pull the tractor on the pavers and not ruin the sod every time. Also an entry feature for the park is being designed by a landscape architect. This is just one piece of the overall Central Park project to start with.
- Heritage Park will include a veteran's memorial in the center circle for anyone who was associated with or lived in Lake Mary and is a veteran. The edits to the design are almost done and the plan is to hopefully break ground on the project this year.
- Trailblazers are working on soliciting sponsorships for the park.

H. Volunteer Board Dinner

- Bryan Nipe reported there will be another volunteer board dinner for all members of the City volunteer boards. It is planned to be at the Events Center and invites will go out to everyone with more information.

I. RFP for Catering/Tennis

- Gunnar Smith reported the catering proposals for the Events Center were submitted and scored. This will be for a new 3 year contract for the Events Center catering list.

- Nick Carlin asked if it is an exclusive list, which Gunnar replied yes.
- The tennis contractor RFP is also open right now. Steve Huber is doing a great job but the contract is expired so it is open for bids now. Christopher Mullins commented that he only hears good things about Steve Huber at the tennis center. The tennis center might be receiving the Copeland Meeting which is a very big deal in the tennis world.

J. Batting Cage/Tunnels

- Kathy Gehr commented that staff has done a lot of in house upgrades on the batting cage area, and now has bought 3 new machines. The time and days the facility is open has been expanded so we are seeing more use on them.
- Gunnar Smith reported the batting tunnels are being installed, which is a partnership deal with Little League so 6 months of field rentals will be waived for them to contribute the funds for the tunnels.
- Bob Boardman asked how long they should last, which Gunnar replied somewhere between 5-10 years based on weather and wear & tear.

VII. Old Business

- Bob Boardman asked about the County sports complex. Bryan Nipe said it's due to open in May. Christopher Mullins commented about fees to go, but it is mostly going to be used for tournaments. Bryan Nipe also reported a scientist came out to review the turf and found no evidence that it would cause any issues.

VIII. New Business

- Christopher Mullins commented that he wished the City had more sports activities as his kids have to go to other locations to play their sports. Bryan Nipe replied that we have activities including a huge Lake Mary Little League participation, soccer shots program, fields available for rental, and summer camp now for summer time.
- Christopher replied he would like for more activities for kids as they grow older, Little League is only meant for up to age 13. Bryan Nipe replied the little league does not have the demand for older kids to play in it. That is mostly why they go to surrounding locations that offer the next age group of play for the sport. There was some back and forth discussion as Christopher didn't agree and thought the City needed to try harder to have more programs for older kids. Bryan concluded the discussion and told Christopher to bring any ideas he had on how to do this to him and it would be reviewed.

IX. Member Reports and Announcements

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Robert Boardman and seconded by Christopher Mullins. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Lynette Swinski adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Lynette Swinski, Chairman

Chelsey Blow, Parks & E.C. Coordinator