Minutes
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting – January 10, 2025, 7:30 AM
T.Y. Park, 3300 N. Park Rd., Hollywood, FL 33021

Board Members Present

Michelle Brown	Kimberly Jean	Kristen Reineke
Joseph Carter	Javier Lasaga	Willie Wilcoxen
Terry Danger (Vice-Chair)	Daniel Mulieri (Chair)	
Howard Garson	Howard Nelson	

County Staff in Attendance

Debbie Battista	Trevor Fell	Dan West
Katherine Burnell	Katherine Fermenich	Erik Westberg
Anamaria Cretu	Nadine Levy	

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Board) meeting was called to order by Chair Mulieri at 7:31 AM. Roll was called.

Approval of Minutes: Terry Danger (Vice-Chair) MOTIONED for approval of the December 6, 2024, minutes; Howard Garson seconded. MOTION carried.

Announcements: Reminder Parks and Recreation Division's Annual Meeting is January 29, 2025, at Long Key Natural Area & Nature Center beginning at 8:30 AM.

Parks Manager Update: Debbie Battista, Parks Manager, Sr.

Debbie Battista, Parks Manager, Sr. provided a general overview of various amenities and activities available at TY Park, including a 61-site campground, water park, walking path, basketball courts, fitness zone, playground, and pavilions for rental.

Upcoming projects include repainting a portion of the roadway, refinishing the big pool, and replacing a compactor.

Parks Planning and Design Update: Nadine Levy, Capital Program Administrator

Nadine Levy, Capital Program Administrator provided an update to the status of various projects throughout the County. A few projects that are in the planning and design phase include a renovation of the Hollywood North Beach parking lot which will provide a renovated parking area for 200 vehicles. It includes turtle-friendly site lighting and new landscaping, new drop off areas for beach shuttles and taxis, renovated picnic areas, and an area for a future banquet/restaurant facility; the development of a new wetlands area with walking trails and boardwalks; the renovation of an existing mid-century modern building and stables into a rental facility and outdoor STEM/Environmental Ed classrooms at Long Key Natural Area; Phase 2 of the Central Broward Park stadium improvements which will include enhancing the existing storm/surface water capacity, adding new permanent restrooms and concessions to the new grandstands; and replacing Everglades Holiday Park's water supply source from existing on-site treated well water to a new municipal service.

Phase III of the Tradewinds Park Educational Farm & Gardens project is waiting for construction to begin. Phase III, scheduled to begin in early 2025, includes redeveloping the farm area to include a

new barn, a welcome center, shelters, a water feature, new playground, and associated support facilities.

Construction of the new aquatics building at CB Smith Park is expected to be completed by mid-2025, with lifeguards potentially utilizing the facility by summer.

The Hollywood North Beach Mooring Field project is well underway. This project includes improvements such as a new services building (restrooms, showers, and laundry facilities), a replacement shelter, a new floating dock with ADA gangway, and dredging of north cove to provide 29 boat moorings.

Phase 1 of the Central Broward Park Icehouse project is expected to be completed mid-2025. Phase 2, which includes the purchase and installation of the ice plant, is in the procurement phase.

Construction will begin this year on two long-awaited projects:

- The addition of 18 new asphalt parking spaces with site lighting and drainage swales at Lafayette Hart Park.
- Upgrading over 115 existing RV parking areas from grass to concrete parking pads with new drainage swales at the Markham Park Campground.

Ms. Levy spoke to some key future projects. These include the construction of a new 20+ mile long multipurpose greenway trail system and a new 20,000 sq ft facility to replace the existing concessions building at Everglades Holiday Park; continued improvements at Deerfield Island Park; substantial restoration and renovations at Secret Woods Natural Area (seeking FEMA's Public Assistance or a Hazard Mitigation grant for funding); continued redevelopment at Delevoe Memorial Park, including surface water management, a replacement community center building, increasing parking, and water quality improvements to the park's lake; structural repairs and elevator equipment upgrades at Fern Forest Nature Center; and upgrading existing halls throughout the park system to better accommodate current audiovisual needs. In addition, an existing under-utilized site at Plantation Heritage Park will be developed into a new Cultural Arts Park that will also house a new 30,000 sq ft Parks Division Administrative Building.

Special Populations Presentation - Katherine Fermenich, Operations Manager and Anamaria Cretu, Program/Project Coordinator

Ms. Katherine Fermenich, Operations Manager, and Anamaria Cretu, Program/Project Coordinator, presented an overview of the Parks' Special Populations Section which plans, develops, implements, and evaluates a variety of year-round recreation and leisure programs, special events, and services to meet the interests and needs of children, teens, adults, and seniors with disabilities.

Beyond programming, the Special Populations Section also provides ADA planning and review for special events hosted on park property and partners with local municipalities and non-profit organizations to provide a variety of programming services.

Ms. Fermenich and Ms. Cretu provided a comprehensive summary of the types of programming provided, highlighting the bowling program which provides instruction on proper bowling etiquette to participants ages 13 and over with developmental disabilities. Bowling is the section's most popular program. The unique CORES (Connecting with Others Recreationally, Educationally, and Socially) program provides developmentally disabled adults ages 18 and over with weekly activities and events.

Another program highlighted was the Special Olympics Little ELITES, which is a developmental sports program for children ages 6 – 12 with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The program focuses on

sport-specific skills for athletics (basketball, flag football and soccer) while encouraging peer cooperation and socialization.

The section is in the planning and development stages of creating communication boards for 31 playgrounds, three splash pads and four water parks. The communication boards will assist those with limited verbal communication and are being sponsored by the Parks Foundation.

Partnering with Broward County Transit and Human Services, and working with the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program, Special Populations is in the planning stages for a mobile sensory space that will be utilized at events for those with disabilities to have a safe space to decompress.

Discussion was had related to families needing to request accommodations two to three days prior to an event or program. The advanced notice provides the park with additional time to ensure the park has all the necessary equipment and staff required to provide the appropriate accommodations.

Parks and Recreation Update: Dan West, Director

Dan West provided a brief overview of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and discussed the process behind allocating capital funding to allow for the best use in infrastructure development and upgrades while also providing capital maintenance.

Mr. West introduced the two Parks Superintendents, Chris Deal and Trevor Fell to the new members.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:33 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2025, at 7:30 AM
Plantation Heritage Park
1100 S. Fig Tree Ln.
Plantation, FL 33317