Minutes
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of January 6, 2023, 7:30 a.m.
Topeekeegee Yugnee Park, 3300 N Park Rd, Hollywood, FL 33021

Board Members Present

Michelle Brown	Howard Garson	Howard Nelson
Joseph Carter	Javier Lasaga	Derek Silver
Christina Clifford	Lawrence Martin	
Terry Danger	Arthur McNeil	

County Staff in Attendance

Debbie Battista	Cathy Hagen	Jay Sanford
Linda Briggs	Kelton Harvey	Tim Waln
Chris Deal	Meoshi Jackson	Dan West
Trevor Fell	John Pipoly	

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Board) meeting was called to order by Chair Arthur McNeil at 7:36 a.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Howard Nelson MOTIONED for approval of the October 2022 minutes; Howard Garson seconded. MOTION carried. Howard Nelson MOTIONED for approval of the December 2022 minutes; Howard Garson seconded. MOTION carried.

Parks Manager Update: Debbie Battista, Senior Parks Manager

Topeekeegee Yugnee (T.Y.) Park encompasses close to 140 acres, with an attendance drawing in $2.5 million dollars in annual revenue. T.Y. Park has a 61-slot RV park, a 2.5-mile walking trail, and a water park that has three pools, a swimming lagoon, and a small children's play area. The park offers many other amenities like basketball courts, volleyball courts, tennis courts, and 13 pavilions ranging in capacity from 30 to 300 people. The park also receives support from a nonprofit organization called the Friends of T.Y. Park, which was formed by members of the surrounding community.

There are multiple developments taking place such as an irrigation project that will connect the piping into the City of Hollywood's reuse water. It began last spring and should be completed March 2023. The water slides will be coated with slide renewal gel, the concession area will receive new shade covers, and the water park's kiddie pool will be resurfaced.

T.Y. Park will begin hosting a monthly Food Truck Frenzy event on various Thursdays of each month. The park offers an ongoing campfire hayride series in the fall and early spring, with the next two events scheduled on January 27 and February 17, 2024. Camelot Days, one of the park's largest events take place every November. The Friends of T.Y. Park sponsors a concert series that showcases various musical styles and bands. The events are held annually at the corporate shelter from October through March.

Parks and Recreation Update:

Erik Westberg, Assistant Director

Over 30,000 cars drove through the annual Holiday Fantasy of Lights event at Tradewinds Park, which ended on January 1st. Staff received very positive feedback this year. The Parks Foundation has a new board member, Charlotte Mather Taylor, CEO of the Area Agency on Aging for Broward County. ParksFest Love & Music Day, which is presented by the Parks Foundation, will be held on February 12th at Plantation Heritage Park beginning

at 1 p.m. The Florida Youth Orchestra and Grammy award-winning jazz flutist Nester Torres will return to perform. The Antique Automobile Club of America will also showcase 30 to 40 antique vehicles at the event.

Tim Waln, Park Superintendent

In FY2022, the Parks Maintenance Group (PMG) received over 3,000 work order requests for park projects. Not only did they reach a 95% completion rate, but the County saved approximately $1.1 million as a result of the projects being completed in-house. Some of PMG's projects include the interior renovation of the Anne Kolb Nature Center, improvements to Deerfield Island's amenities and features, and replacing decking and boardwalk along the Intracoastal Waterway at Hollywood North Beach Park.

Linda Briggs, Environmental Manager

On December 29th, the Parks Environmental Planning and Management Group (EPMG) conducted a prescribed burn at the Highlands Scrub Natural Area. The prescribed burn planned for Military Trail is still pending. On January 9th at 6 p.m., EPMG will offer their first evening naturalist-led hike in Spanish. EPMG obtained a $500,000 grant from South Florida Water Management District for the construction of a reuse irrigation project in T.Y. Park. This project will help reduce the amount of wastewater that goes to the ocean.

Chris Deal and Trevor Fell, Parks Superintendents

The Parks and Recreation Division staff is in the process of applying for national reaccreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. Staff meets regularly to work together to meet over 150 standards in order to achieve this. One of the standards includes supplying a system-wide master plan, which will be a first for the division. Staff will submit all of their information in April 2023.

Dan West, Director, Parks and Recreation

In addition to preparing for reaccreditation, there are many ongoing capital improvement projects taking place, including Tradewinds Park renovations and Vista View Park's new splash pad. Areas of concentration for this year will include post-COVID attendance, customer service, and bringing people back into the parks. Mr. West stated that he would like to request that the Broward County Land Use Plan be reevaluated to call for more acres of park land per resident in the County park system.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:26 a.m.