

**WELLINGTON
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 - 7:00 PM
WELLINGTON CITY HALL**

MINUTES

Members Present: Sam Falzone, Neil Brooks, Stephanie Cagnet Myron, Marc Coleman, Stephen Levin

Members Absent: Tomas Bueno, Anthony Forgione

Village Staff: Eric Juckett, Daryl Boyd, Branden Miller, Tanya Quickel

I. Call to Order/Opening Comments

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. The meeting was held at Wellington City Hall Council Chambers and all members were present excluding Tomas Bueno and Anthony Forgione.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Sam Falzone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by a 5-0 vote with Tomas Bueno and Anthony Forgione absent. The board approved to add items B and D to the agenda. Item B is Discussion of 2022 Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant application in the amount of \$50,000 for improvements to Staimford Park. Item D was the WCFL Sports Provider presentation.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. March 1, 2021

The minutes were approved 5-0.

B. March 31, 2021

The minutes were approved 5-0.

V. Presentation

A. Discussion of 2022 Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant application in the amount of \$50,000 for improvements to Field of Dreams Park.

Eric Juckett explained to the board the process we need to go through in order to receive the grant and that we have received this grant in previous years.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked if we are at the beginning stages of the application.

Eric Juckett confirmed that we were.

Steven Levin asked if this was a recurring grant that is pursued annually.

Eric Juckett responded that this grant is pursued annually, stating that the grant monies are allocated to parks in need of additions or repair.

B. Discussion of 2022 Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant application in the amount of \$50,000 for improvements to Staimford Park.

Eric Juckett explained to the board the type of parks that Staimford and Field of Dreams are, both being neighborhood parks, and confirmed the location of both parks.

Marc Coleman asked for examples of how the grant money had been spent in the past.

Eric Juckett responded that the funds had been used to purchase new playground equipment, to resurface rubber material floor, benches, basketball court rims, etc.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked if we have received this grant for 4 years.

Tanya Quickel confirmed and explained each of the parks that have been beneficiaries of the grant funds thus far.

Dr. Sam Falzone explained what makes the grant so great and complimented Wellington for taking advantage of the opportunity.

C. Update on Penny Sales Tax Revenue

Tanya Quickel presents the surtax update. She explained the breakdown of the current expenditures and what projects have been included in those expenses. Tanya Quickel also provided an update on the Town Center Phase II project including the project highlights, budget, and public hearings.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked if the expenditures of \$15,000,000 was budgeted or actually spent to which Tanya Quickel responded that it was spent. Dr. Sam Falzone then asked how much more is budgeted that has not gone out of the account. Tanya Quickel responded that approximately \$1.5 million to \$2 million.

Steven Levin asked about the utilization data of the amphitheater and whether or not there was a need for an expansion. Tanya Quickel responded that the concert series are very busy and that most events do really well. She also explained that Wellington has engaged with high school groups to have events there which would allow for different uses than what is currently offered with its existing set up. Steven Levin followed up by asking if any of this is crossing over to usage at the Community Center. Tanya Quickel has responded that the Community Center has been doing well with its usage.

Tanya Quickel informed the board that safety protocols have been strictly enforced to utilize the Community Center which has been working very well. Eric Juckett added that we have tied the Community Center into our events.

D. WCFL Presentation

Marc Basis, the president of the Western Communities Football League. He provided the board with the league history, number of participants served, and programs offered such as tackle football, flag football, and cheerleading.

Josh Zillmer, the newly appointed treasurer provided the board with a financial update which included their current operating and saving account balances, as well as the direction each program is headed regarding their participation numbers. He went over all of the expenses and highlighted the items which are costliest. He informed the board that new helmets are needed after previous helmets sat in storage for 2 years.

Eric Juckett informed the board that the WCFL now pays Wellington \$15 per participant to handle the lining of the fields as opposed to \$25 per participant.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked about the season dates for all of their programs. He also asked about the rates of each program, registration dates, and tryouts.

Marc Basis and Josh Zillmer both responded to these questions by informing the board about the multiple seasons throughout the year, the different rates, registrations dates, and when there are tryouts. Marc Basis explained that the WCFL has never turned away a Wellington resident from the program.

Steven Levin asked if the WCFL is able to subsidize some of the costs with concession sales.

Josh Zillmer responded that they are able to do so but this year they will not be grilling burgers and fries similar to previous years due to Covid.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked if the WCFL is still planning on holding their tournament fundraiser.

Eric Juckett confirmed to the board that it is included in the agreement for them to continue doing so.

Stephanie Cagnet Myron asked about the amount of girls who participate in the football program.

Josh Zillmer explained that there are quite a few girls who play. Marc Basis added that there is a need for a girls program and it is something the WCFL will be looking into.

Stevin Levin asked about the amount of kids who play both flag football and tackle football.

Mark Basis discussed that some parents are concerned about the safety of their kids playing tackle football. He also explained the safety methods that the coaches learn and teach to the children to ensure safe tackling. The program that the coaches are certified through is called Heads Up Football.

Dr. Sam Falzone discussed the idea of bringing back the sports provider annual meeting.

VI. Staff Updates

Eric Juckett gave the board members a departmental update including the upcoming events and programs.

Steven Levin commented on the popularity of these upcoming events such as the great turnout for the boat parades.

Dr. Sam Falzone asked about the Food Truck events and if they were back in full operation.

Eric Juckett explained that not only are Food Truck events completely back, so were the concerts traditionally held on Saturday nights. He also informed the board that these events are all flourishing.

Dr. Sam Falzone also asked if crowds are also coming back to the amphitheater.

Eric Juckett responded that crowds are returning but as people begin to feel more comfortable in returning to public events, crowds will begin to grow bigger although our amphitheater events are currently very successful.

Stephanie Cagnet Myron asked if schools will come for the movie nights.

Eric Juckett explained that some schools such as Polo Park have hosted events such as a graduation or a band performance at the amphitheater.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Public Comment

X. Board Comments

Steven Levin commented that it was good to be back in person at the PRAB meeting. He wished the Jewish community a happy new year and stated that he was excited for all of the upcoming activities, parks, and benefits of living in a great hometown.

XI. Closing Comments

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Chairperson