

**WELLINGTON
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MARCH 31, 2021 - 7:00 PM
WELLINGTON CITY HALL**

MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Tomas Bueno

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.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Sam Falzone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by a 6-0 vote with Tomas Bueno absent.

IV. Approval of Minutes

V. Presentation

A. AECOM Parks Master Plan Presentation

Joseph Webb introduces him and Maria Rivera with AECOM and provides an update via a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Parks Master Plan.

Dr. Sam Falzone stated that decreases in recreational trends are attributed to percentage drops as numbers are increasing in other sports.

Joseph Webb asked the board members what they would add or change in Wellington.

Anthony Forgione complimented the Parks Master Plan and stated that he would focus on at-will recreation.

Neil Brooks agreed with Anthony Forgione and stated that there is a lack of activities for teens and there should be a greater focus on activities for that age group.

Stephanie Myron explained that she has two children who are younger and that a better marketing plan is important in displaying what Wellington offers.

Dr. Sam Falzone agreed with Stephanie Myron.

Joseph Webb mentioned how survey results support Stephanie Myron's comments.

Marc Coleman explained that there are affordability concerns in Wellington and free programming should continue.

Dr. Sam Falzone discussed the dilemma with social media and age groups. He also discussed how well we do sports and tournaments, but there are issues with limitations and open play areas. He also explained an idea on sports leagues with schools, churches, etc. to reach groups for some underutilized activities. Another idea Dr. Sam Falzone discussed was televised sporting events at the amphitheater such as World Series or World Cup games which could also include food trucks.

Marc Coleman asked Joseph Webb what the strategy is to be a premier park system.

Joseph Webb explained that you should focus on building a system that fits the people who live here currently, and that those who live away from here will hear about it and will want to visit.

Anthony Forgione discussed how Wellington is such a desirable location and that family loves to come visit here. He referred to visiting Wellington as a Field of Dreams concept.

Joseph Webb asked what would be a transformative change to make us a premier park 20 years from now.

Dr. Sam Falzone answered that developing a core center while also having multiple locations for gathering spots would help making us premier.

Marc Coleman discussed greater at-will recreation opportunities.

Neil Brooks stated he agreed.

Stephanie Myron stated marketing and messaging is important for all to know they are welcome here and what we have to offer.

Joseph Webb explained about picture worth places such as Wynwood that people will visit to take pictures for their social media.

Joseph Webb asked the board about their vision for Programs & Services as well as Operations and Maintenance.

Marc Coleman discussed being responsive to ensure we have clean parks and services.

Dr. Sam Falzone mentioned that we need to keep maintaining what we have in order to meet restrictions in the future.

Joseph Webb asked the board about what they would change in the next 5, 10, or 15 years.

Dr. Sam Falzone mentioned open play is one thing that we need to find a way to address in the short term.

Neil Brooks discussed the importance of easily and safely getting to the parks.

Joseph Webb asked the board if they had \$100, what would be their top 5 investment priorities.

Dr. Sam Falzone stated that we need to remember the smaller neighborhood parks throughout Wellington to ensure they don't get lost in our budget.

Anthony Forgione stated that Wellington does a very good job with the neighborhood parks already and Eric Juckett agreed.

Dr. Sam Falzone complimented the sports providers for taking good care of Wellington facilities.

VI. Staff Updates

Eric Juckett discussed the upcoming events such as the Eggstravaganza, Earth Day, and Bacon and Bourbon.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Public Comment

X. Board Comments

XI. Closing Comments

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm.

Chairperson