

**Recreation Commission
Board Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2020**

This meeting was conducted via teleconference

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the Office of Governor Ron Desantis on March 20, 2020, extended via Executive order no. 20-112, and further extended by Exectutive Orders No 20-

114, 20-150, and 20-179 municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54

(5)(b)2, Florida Statutes.

The City of Lake Wales held this virtual public meeting using the GoToMeeting Web/Teleconference service.

9/21/2020 - Minutes

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Members Present: Scott Blackburn - Chair, Robbie Shields, Deborah Waldrip, Laura Donaldson, Meryl Reese, Robert Lamar, Kara Wiseman - Lake Wales Library

Guests Present: Chris Wiseman, Keri Hunt

Staff Present: Stephanie Edwards, Support Services Manager; Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk

2. Communications And Petitions

3. Minutes

Robbie Shields made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2020 and July 20, 2020 meetings. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

4. COVID-19 Update

Stephanie Edwards said that most parks are open for organized play. Leagues can begin if they have submitted a plan for following CDC guidelines. The Soccer season will begin soon and Pram Fleet will also start soon. Robert Lamar said the Pram Fleet will start September 28 and go through to mid-November. Ms. Edwards said Soccer games start October 3. Robbie Shields said they have 300 kids that have registered.

Ms. Edwards said we are trying to get back to a new normal by being cautious and keeping people safe.

Meryl Reese asked if she has a template of an action plan. Ms. Edwards said it would be hard to put a template together as all the groups are different.

5. Parks And Recreation Updates

Ms. Edwards gave an update on the feasibility study. A draft may be available in mid October for the board to review at its next meeting.

She is interviewing a new staff person to primarily help keep the Gym open and schedule use of facilities. Mr. Shields asked what she is looking for in this person. Ms. Edwards said someone with Recreation and Customer Service experience.

Mr. Shields asked if the gym is open. Ms. Edwards said no and isn't sure when it will be open. The Boys and Girls Club will use the gym at the end of October during early voting that will be in the Austin Center.

Ms. Edwards asked if the Charter Schools will be using the fields soon. Ms. Edwards said she heard from a volleyball coach wanting to use the gym which is closed. Otherwise she has not heard from anyone.

the Chair said there will be no fall sports at the Middle School and reported on the sports going on at the High School currently including football and swimming.

Ms. Edwards reported on plans concerning the trail in Crystal Lake Park. It will split into two phases. One phase will connect the Lake Wales Trail up Park Avenue to the new streetscape on Park Avenue. The Chair asked about the timeline for this. Ms. Edwards said it would be done by the end of the fiscal year and reviewed the timeline.

Chair gave a Little League update. The organization gave permission to continue under strict requirements. They have decided to wait until next year to start a new season.

Chris Wiseman asked about Candlelight Academy sports. Ms. Edwards said to just reach out to her.

6. Recreation Master Plan

Ms. Edwards reported that an RFQ has gone out on this. The City has contracted with SM&E. A proposal will be taken to the Commission during the second meeting in October. Robbie Shields asked if this will include elements discussed for Crystal Lake Park? Ms. Edwards said it will be included. The budget for this next year will be approved next week. The plan will take 6-8 months. Elements will be worked on next fiscal year.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is October 19, 2020

Chair/Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary