

LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

August 10, 2016

8:30 am

CALL TO ORDER

Steven Miller called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

DEVOTION

Dwayne Murray

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Zone 1 - Amanda Glugover
Zone 2 - Steve Miller – Chair
Zone 3 – Vacant
Zone 4 - Carol Kilian
Zone 5 - Ashley Thomas
Zone 6 - John Huger
At Large - Dwayne Murray

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Percy Williamson, Director Leisure Services
Betty Covington, Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Carol Kilian made a motion to approve July minutes, seconded by Dwayne Murray, approval was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

City facility tour has been cancelled. Mr. Williamson was disappointed since this would have been an excellent opportunity to view all the parks and facilities. There are several issues before the City Commission that involve our parks. There are other issues that are interrelated, such as the homeless situation. The City attorney stated that this tour would violate the Sunshine Law if we assembled as a body to go on this tour. Since this is a public meeting, we have to be able to accommodate the public. There has been at least one city commission tour that go cancelled. Percy read an email that was sent to him from Bob Jagger, City Attorney. (Attached) Mr. Jagger will be available to meet with the board at the next meet to provide an overview of the Sunshine Law.

The good part of the cancellation of the city tour is that the board will finally receive training as it pertains to the Sunshine Law. The board has been requesting this training since the board was established. Percy stated that the City Attorney has been busy with other city issues such

as the homeless situation. Mr. Miller felt that the city was spending time and money on the homeless rather than focusing on our children. How did the homeless population become more important than our children? Amanda suggested that the board all go in their own vehicle and public could follow if they wished. It could be advertised as such. Percy brought that up and it was explained that doing it in that manner would be a clear attempt to circumvent the law. If everyone drive their own car and we met at the same place, it would be a violation. Mr. Jagger stated that would could hold our meetings at each individual location, that taking a long time. We can advertise to hold our meeting it at a specific location, but not travel to another location. Percy distributed a case in Seminole County stating there was a violation of Sunshine Law in Seminole County. There is a statute that states if a board that is appointed by elected officials is also governed by the Sunshine Law. Questions could be addressed to Mr. Jagger.

Carol suggested that we could pick 3 places that we really to visit and hold our meetings at. We could go to each location, one at a time and hold our meeting there and each board member driving their own vehicle. It could be posted as such with a specific location.

Percy offered to take any board member to see some of the facilities/parks individually. It would be a 45 minute tour. Amanda agreed she would like to do that at another day. Carol stated that she was available to do a 45 minute tour with Percy.

Dwayne feels that this is more of a reason to feel he is not needed in the advisory board capacity since he cannot even see the facilities/parks that he is advising on. Steve stated that the board only has four facilities to advise on: Midtown, YSG, Schnebly and Dickerson. But according to Dwayne, we have recommendations to include more than that.

Percy has agreed that there are a number of items, per previous minutes, that he will be following up on.

A guest, Mr. Neil Herrington that wishes to address the board at this time. When it comes to interpreting any law, the law is what the judge says it is. In reference to the bus ride, Mr. Herrington went thru this years ago with a developer. The entire City Commission had planned on taking a bus ride to south Florida. They had a meeting with the Sunshine people and it was explained that it was a violation of the Sunshine Law. That was the last time that issue came up, but Mr. Herrington feels that the ruling was correct. As previously stated, unless the public is there/available to attend, it could not be done.

Amanda mentioned that the Sunshine Law was enacted to protect, but it has come to prevent certain things, hindering efforts and therefore, frustrating. It is open to interpretation of the law and why can't we work around it if it benefits the city. We are not doing it for criminal purposes or trying to circumvent the law, we are just trying to do things without getting in trouble and still getting a job done.

Dwayne feels that we cannot change anything. We can meet every day and still we only have a recommendation. We can't even get a clear definition of what we are supposed to be doing. To say we are violating the Sunshine Law, we have no rights to do anything.

According to Percy, there are some subjective things that some people can say that these boards can influence decision makers. That is basically what they are set up for. This board should have influence. Typically when there is big issue with something in the department that this board oversees, the elected officials want to know what the advisory board's position in the matter. The board represents the people.

Percy inquired about the vacancy for Zone 3. The zone commissioner wishes to make the appointment. There are others that are interested. There is no time frame on the appointment. Steve would like to send the commissioner a letter requesting that this vacancy be filled. There are other people outside her zone that are willing and interested in becoming a board member. Percy requested that if any of the board members know of someone who is interested, even if they are outside the zone, please forward those names to him and he will present those names to the zone commission.

Percy did not invite Joe Sullivan from the Boys and Girls Club since they are now closed prior to the opening of school. Carol received a report from Joe Sullivan and forwarded it to Percy. But the board would still like Joe to join us at the next meeting. There was a concern that there was too much schedule for the next meeting since Bob Jagger will be training on Sunshine Law. Carol felt confident that it would not be lengthy training. She has been thru this training and advised that the Sunshine Law is cut and dry. Therefore, the training should not last long.

There was a letter sent to the City Manager and Deputy City Manager on behalf of the board in reference to the move to City Hall and being televised. The response was "no".

The second request was to get Brian Jaquet, Director of Golf at the Municipal Golf Course, and Tom Kelly, Tennis Manager at Florida Tennis Center, to attend a meeting to find out what they are doing at the facility. The first thing Percy did was to have a conversation with John Drago, Director of the Enterprise Funds. Brian Jaquet and Tom Kelly report directly to Mr. Drago. Mr. Drago declined their attendance and stated that it was a directive from the City Manager. Percy also had a conversation with the Deputy City Manager and he also confirmed the Managers stand.

Amanda requested clarification of an Enterprise Fund. Percy stated that an Enterprise Fund was a city department that was operated primarily like a business. The money that it generates does not go back into the city fund, but goes back into the facility. The golf course has been operating in the negative. Steve mentioned that we cannot put money into the general fund, but they can draw money out of the general fund to subsidize it. Can one enterprise fund subsidize the other? The enterprise fund is technically supposed to break even or make money every year. If it doesn't make money or break even for 3 years in a row, then a report has to be generated and presented to the city commission on a proposal to rectify the problem. Percy has heard that there are some proposals for the golf course to have a commercial development done. Carol clarified that they will take part of the 9 holes on the south course and sell it to developers to build houses. There are other proposals out, that have not come to fruition, but this one keeps coming to the forefront. She is aware of this because of her affiliation with the golf advisory board. This is prime real estate. The City could make a considerable amount of money doing this. They could keep the course to a 18 hole/27 hole facility instead of a 36 hole facility. These are all proposals, none of this has come to the city commission. The golf course restaurant has since shut down. Neil stated that the development of the property if developed will not be under Sunshine Law. Carol stated that the restaurant was having difficulties making payments and the city finally closed it down. It is imperative to have a restaurant on the golf course as it hinders the revenues of the golf course.

Helen Riger reports to Gary Shimun as well as Leisure Services, therefore, Gary has approved her attendance at these meetings. How we do business overlaps with Cultural Services. Carol would like her to continue to attend, therefore, either Helen Riger or her designee will be invited to attend.

Amanda asked what the reason was for them not being allowed to attend. When Carol and Ashley met as a sub-committee to discuss the mission statement of this board, a question came up. Are we in line with the intent of what this board was with the mission statement? Carol pointed out the mission of this board is extremely vague. (mission statement attached in agenda packet) There is nothing in the ordinance that prohibits the mission statement as it reads and does not have to go before the commission. The mission statement is generated by the board itself. We cannot invite Brian Jaquet because that entity is not under this board purview. The board members were misled as to the real purpose of this board when it was established. Carol wanted to still invite Brian as a guest, bypassing Mr. Drago. Carol could speak to Brian Jaquet on her own and then report back to board. Dwayne understood that they were going for form another board to encompass the golf course and be combined with Leisure. It has been discussed in previous meetings the configuration of this board. Even the commissioners were aware of the change. They would never start another board because of the cost involved. There are other boards that require legal representation. The original intent was to take an existing board and expand it so that it would not be an increase in cost. It was proposed by Commissioner Gilliland to take the golf board and its current configuration and expand it so that it would not be an increase in cost. They put a new name on the golf board and were supposed to expand the duties of the board. They cut the duties of the board and made it just Leisure Services, not golf. That is why Carol Kilian, John Huger and Dwayne Murray agreed to be on this board. Percy stated that the intent was correct, but in the meantime, there was a re-organization that took place that removed allot and sent it to cultural services. When it actually came together as an ordinance, what we thought was going to be in it was cut out already. But the ordinance is still vague. Amanda still feels we should go to the commission as a group.

We are just finishing up summer camp. We had approximately 150 kids at Midtown and 70 at Ortona. YSG through the Central Daytona PAL, there were 60 kids. There were 32 kids fully enrolled in the summer program here paid in full by Commissioner Woods. Halifax Urban Ministries runs the homeless assistance center on North Street. They have a unit within that called the STAR Center, where the families live, primarily woman and children. We have 22 children from the STAR Center attending our program. Commissioner Woods has paid for them to attend these programs for the past 4-5 years out of her Bike Week money. The Executive Director of the Halifax Urban Ministries recognizes that she is retiring and he wants to recognize her for all the years that she has donated to this program. These programs are all inclusive and treated no differently. The get to interact with other children and go on field trips just like the others. The Halifax Urban Ministries is going to present Commissioner Woods with an award/plaque at the next commission meeting which is next Wednesday. The board is invited to attend. This is a perfect example of a pro-active commissioner. She also funded 10 children from the domestic abuse council. Steve Miller suggested that the board attend the commission meeting and thank her for her generosity. This may be a good time to voice our opinion. Since this is the end of her commission, she may want to make a motion for change. Percy stated that our department has nothing to do with it. It is listed as a presentation from

Halifax Urban Ministries. Steve asked that we could do something as a board such as a certificate. Ashley Thomas made a motion that the board attend the next City Commission meeting on Wednesday, August 17 and present a certificate to Commissioner Woods for her service and commitment over her tenure and for her dedication to the children that attend this summer camp facility. Carol Kilian seconded the motion. Steve mentioned that he would like to present a small plaque versus a certificate. Motion amended to change it to a plaque. Motion was unanimous. Percy advised that this is already approved through the agenda process, therefore, the board would be required to present during the 2 minute section, public comments. The meeting starts at 6:00 pm, with presentations as first item, then the public comments.

Amanda wished to address summer camps at the gymnastics center. Angie Gowell was asked to re-do her participation numbers. Summer camps are sessions that the public pays for. Percy has a report that is forthcoming that will include the summer participation numbers and the numbers from the quarter we care currently in. Amanda asked that she get a copy of the report prior to the next meeting so she has ample time to review the document. Amanda would also like to receive a report on the income that is coming in to the gym. It will be a general report with a breakdown.

Percy is having conversations with the Special Olympics. We are looking at combining a Special Olympics program with our gymnastics. This has already been done at the pool. There is a need to increase therapeutic recreation.

Steve requested an update on the Campbell Pool. The pool is technically ready now. We completed the re-lining of the pool and spent over \$100,000 renovating it, complete with new pumps. The pool is ready for use. Summer season is over. In the past, we have only had that pool open for 3 months during the summer. Emory Counts in Community Development has agreed to give us CDGB money to purchase heaters for the pool in order to provide lessons year round. We are putting in a heating system. It will not be the same as the geothermal heater that was installed at the Cypress Pool. This cuts down on utility bills by 2/3. There is a significant cost up front, but after 3 years, it has paid for itself. Campbell will be heated by heat pumps and solar. Therefore, during the summer, we can run exclusively on solar. During the winter, the solar will heat to a certain point, then the heat pumps will kick in. We looked into heating with gas, but the cost analysis estimated it to cost approximately \$100,000 a year to heat the pool. Heaters should be installed by December. The heaters have to go out for bid. The specs have recently been submitted to Public Works. Then, the selection process begins. We can use the pool now and possibly up to October when the weather starts cooling down.

Steve stated that the biggest complaint from our citizens is why the pool is closed on Sunday? This is one of the days that the community can truly use the pool. And if this is a community pool, why is it not open. Percy responded saying the pool along with the centers are closed due to staffing constraints. There are not enough lifeguards to run the Cypress Aquatics Center and the Campbell Pool. In order to run 2 pools, we need more lifeguards that we just don't have. Steve would like to ask the City Manager to be a little more user friendly to the children in our community and open the centers and the parks on Sunday. Statistics show that in the 32114 zip code, there are more people with heart attacks and strokes due to obesity and 26% of the children under the 6th grade are obese. We have a responsibility to the community to meet

those needs. Percy suggested a couple options. One option would be to adjust the hours of the pool to accommodate opening on Sunday or increase staff. Carol suggested closing the pool on Monday. Percy explained that the Cypress pool is open to the public 6 days a week and in the evenings. When we open Campbell pool, the hours of operation will be very similar to Cypress. There are a number of swim clubs interested and people requesting swim lessons. We have to be able to justify more staff. The opening date for the Campbell Pool has not been determined. Ashley feels we could do a grand opening. John Huger wants to know what we are planning to do with the rest of the park. The surrounding area looks like a jungle and people will not want to come with the park in its current condition. The park looks outdated. This is not a user friendly park for the community, not a good representation of city parks. Percy clarified that the city does have a grounds maintenance crew that maintains the parks and surrounding areas. But they too are understaffed. Therefore, we have requested that we get back in the rotation of getting the park surrounding the pool cut and manicured. The playground equipment doesn't even look safe. Amanda asked that we invite the grant writer to a meeting. This is one of the items/parks that the board would have seen on your tour. There are a number of parks that look just like this. But this board is not over the parks. This would be a question for Helen Riger who is now responsible for the parks. The board needs to ask Helen if there has been money allocated in her budget for such things as playground equipment.

Amanda asked that if we have swim teams using our pools, could they not provide their own lifeguards. Percy stated that they have a contract with the city. Per Risk Management, this would be a liability issue if we did not supply certified staffed lifeguards.

Dwayne inquired if we have coordinated that opening of the Campbell Pool with the grounds maintenance department and Cultural Services. There are 3 departments that would be involved with the opening of the pool. Cultural Services is responsible for the park itself and grounds maintenance is responsible for the area around the park, the grounds. Helen's staff is responsible for cleaning restrooms in the parks and for the rentals of the parks. There are a lot of issues where we both have to work together. Before we schedule a grand opening of the Campbell Pool, we will be sure that the facility is operational, i.e. showers, restrooms, grass cut, and replace playground equipment. We are also speaking with a group who want to bring Head Start back, which was operating out of the front building about 3 years ago. There were about 40 kids who used to walk to Head Start.

Are there any comments on the mission statement? The mission statement is for this board and not contrary to anything the ordinance says. Dwayne Murray made a motion to adopt the mission statement for the Leisure Services Advisory Board, seconded by Ashley Thomas. Decision was unanimous in adopting the mission statement. Comments received and noted by guest, Neil Herrington.

COMMENTS - BOARD

Amanda Glugover – Confirmed that Percy will provide the quarterly breakdown for the gymnastics center. 3rd quarter will contain a complete quarter. Amanda would like to receive the 4th quarter as well when available. In reference to the grand opening of the Campbell Pool, it was unclear as to the direction of the grand opening. Confirming the attendance of Joe Sullivan at the next meeting.

Carol Kilian – Since there is now a sub-committee, could the sub-committee circumvent the Sunshine Law and take a tour with Percy. This is something that needs to be addressed with

Bob Jagger when he comes. Sub-committee is a committee to gather information and bring it back to the board.

Ashley Thomas – If there is a decision on the grand opening of the Campbell Pool prior to the next meeting, it is requested that the board be kept up to date with information as it pertains to the grand opening.

John Huger – My silence is representative of my frustration with this board and the mission of the board and lack of opportunity to be effective.

Steve Miller asked for an update of the programs for our youth since the summer is now over with. After school programs start on Monday at TT Elementary and Ortona. We are also partnering with Ortona to start an after school/homework program at Sunnyland and have children bussed from Ortona. These are children who live in the Sunnyland area, but are bussed to Ortona.

Dwayne Murray – Just because we are not allowed to visit the parks as a group, there is still a need to visit these parks. It may take a while, but it still needs to be done.

COMMENTS - CITIZENS

Neil Herrington – He has served on several city boards for 38 years. The frustration with the advisory has always been there with many of the boards, but has increased in the last 10 years. Mr. Herrington recommend concentrating on what we have power over.

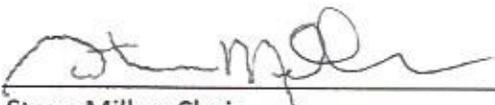
STAFF COMMENTS

Joe Wooden – The actual pool was signed off on yesterday by permitting. Now they are concentrating on the pump room which consists of new pumps, new valves and filtering for the system. We should be ready within the next 10 days to open to the general public. We are extremely understaffed. Joe is recommending cutting back on pool hours due to the limited staff. The summer staff is gone and there are 2 part time year round positions that he is unable to fill. We need to increase the pay rate. Next week, the Cypress pool hours will be cut back in order to send someone over to the Campbell pool to maintain it. The board talked about Sunday hours. It would take a while to get the information out to the public that the pool is open. The beach patrol is interested in having an office at the Campbell Pool, having free swim, and also lifeguard it. John asked what we are doing to increase lifeguarding with minorities. Joe has been meeting with the director of beach patrol. They have a total of 250 lifeguards, but no minorities. Joe shared an interest to create a *Learn to Swim* program with the African American community to enhance their swimming skills. Then select those who have a true interest and create a Jr. Lifeguarding Program. Joe would also like the participants in the Jr. Lifeguarding Program to be able to interact with the county beach patrol to further enhance their lifeguarding skills. Joe has been working with BCU in attempting to put a program together.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Steve Miller to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Steve Miller, Chair
Leisure Services Advisory Board

Reviewed by: 
Steve Miller, Chair

Transcribed by: Betty Covington, Board Secretary