



**AGENDA
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2023
5:00 PM
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
204 ASH STREET
FERNANDINA BEACH, FL 32034**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 August 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 6.1 Peck Field Usage
 - 6.2 Meeting Frequency
- 7. STAFF REPORT**
 - 7.1 Project Updates
 - 7.2 Fees
 - 7.3 New Positions
- 8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

All members of the public are invited to be present and be heard. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in this program or activity should contact the City Clerk at 904-310-3115 or TTY/TDD 711 (for the hearing or speech impaired).

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee met for a regular meeting on Friday August 4, 2023 at 5pm located in Commission Chambers at City Hall 204 Ash Street. Present were Vice-Chair Cocchi, Chair Camera, Member Mountjoy, Member Norris, Member Burrero.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 July 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Vice-chair Cocchi made a motion to approve the July 2023 regular meeting minutes, second by Member Norris; All Aye.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No public comments.

Chair Camera introduced the newest member, Elise Pearlstein.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM

6.1 Bosque Bello Fencing Design

Catherine Vorrasi, Parks and Recreation Director, presented upgraded drawings of 3 concepts on a survey map; option 1, option 2, and a service road concept.

Option one has 2 gates on the north end at Holly or Pine with a fence going to tree line. Senior planner and city staff/engineer are determining the best place for this decorative gate. The city is not recommending Option 1 for access reasons.

With option 2, the decorative gate is at Holly or Pine again but also puts a gate at Cedar and Nassau Street, off 14th, and off Magnolia. This is the department recommended layout. There is a 6ft fence option for options 1 & 2.

Ms. Vorrasi notes they've changed the original recommended layout of a gate at Oak and it's been eliminated.

Service road concept map has no standard gates, just two decorative gates. Service road would be on the inside of the fence. There would be vehicular access within the cemetery but the gates off 14th street are not needed. The city engineer and city department do not recommend this option.

Ms. Vorrasi had inquiries regarding the cost difference between a 5ft vs 6ft fence. She spoke with the contractor and the difference is \$3,000 in cost for the change in gate height, approximately \$1.83 a linear foot. There is funding for this, and the Parks and Rec general park improvement account is being utilized for this project and this item is on the agenda for the August 15th city commission meeting. They will give final approval on the fence at that time.

PRAC MINUTES

08/04/2023

Ms. Vorrasi had a zoom call on July 10th with The Friends of Bosque Bello Group, she sent them the updated drawings on July 19th and another email on the 25th notifying them of the date change for this meeting.

Ms. Vorrasi received email responses from members of the Friends of Bosque Bello Group in support of the fence project, specifically supporting option 2 with a 6' fence.

Ms. Vorrasi also met with Amelia Island Restoration Foundation and they voted in support of option 2 with a 6ft fence. They also recommend she discuss these plans with Oxley-Heard Funeral Home. Ms. Vorrasi and Mr. Mikelson met with Kyle Adkins went through options and Mr. Adkins is in support of option 2 and 6ft fence height.

Member Norris asked about bollards and access and Ms. Vorrasi stated that they did discuss making the bollards removable for hearse access if needed.

Vice Chair Cocchi drove through the cemetery herself and said she is in favor of option 2 and supports the project but feels a 6' fence may be too high, in her opinion.

Member Norris mentioned people getting locked inside if the gates shut at night and how to monitor that to avoid that situation.

Kyle Adkins with Oxley Heard confirmed that option 2 is the most viable option. He discussed the substantial amount of vandalism at the cemetery these past few years and that a 6ft fence would be preferable to deter people from entering after hours.

Vice Chair Cocchi wants to reiterate that we use the right language this fence is a deterrent not secure.

Chair Camera asked if there were any other public comments at this time. There were no further comments, and he closed the public comments.

Chair Camera asked if there were any more comments regarding fencing from the board.

Member Norris asked if they should make a separate motion for the gates and a separate motion for the fence height or would they have it all in one motion.

Chair Camera said they could move forward with option 2 to get it on the agenda.

Member Norris said he had another question for Ms. Vorrasi and asked her if there is a cost savings by going with 2 gates as opposed to 4, taking out the Pine and Cedar gates.

Ms. Vorrasi stated that each gate is approximately \$2,000.00 and the original quote was for 4 gates. Option 2 is 3 gates.

Vice chair Cocchi expressed concerns with accessibility and maneuverability when eliminating gates.

Member Norris stated that he is in favor of the service road.

Member Norris confirmed that option 2 is viable and would be a cost savings due to specific gates being eliminated from the original quote.

Chair Camera asked for a motion for either option 1 or option 2.

Vice Chair Cocchi made a motion for option 2 but made note that she is in favor of a 5' fence but will accept a 6' fence. Member Mountjoy seconded the motion. Chair Camera called for the vote. All aye.

7. STAFF COMMENTS

7.1 Project update from Ms. Vorrasi

- Fencing at Veterans Memorial Park is completed, there will be extra sod going in, the irrigation layout will be changed. The football and baseball fields are also being worked on in the next couple of weeks.
- In the next couple of weeks Central Park will be completed.
- We are waiting on material for the Skate Park, slated to start August/September. The bid for the ramps is opening next week.
- Improvements will be made to beach access 24 and 29 by replacing the top rails and decking while reconfiguring the entrance. Estimated about 4-5 weeks to be completed.
- If operating dollars are available, they are considering another beach access.
- Beach access 40 and 16 will come up as well after turtle season is over and Seaside Boardwalk is coming up soon to be replaced.
- Master fee schedule

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Borrero stated he also drove through the cemetery and how this project will be a benefit to the community.

Vice Chair Cocchi thanked Parks and Recreation for the teen night and focusing on kids in that age group.

Chair Camera thanked the Parks and Recreation maintenance staff for all their efforts these past several weeks to accomplish all these projects while shorthanded.

Chair Camera reminded everyone that the next meeting is Monday September 12th.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm