

Apalachicola Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 20, 2023

Attendees:

Members (4/7)

Torben Madson, presiding
Faye Gibson (Alternate), secretary
Donna Ingle
Mark Milliken

Guests:

Dennis Winterringer, Tree Committee
Carol Barfield
Greg Golsawski
Connie Justice
Ken Justice
Michael (incomplete name)
Eli(incomplete name)
Trish McLemore

Call to order

Torben Madson called to order the regular meeting of the Apalachicola Parks and Recreation committee at 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at the Apalachicola City Library

I. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Faye Gibson circulated the minutes prepared by Donna Ingle from the March 16, 2023, meeting. With a spelling correction noted, Faye Gibson moved that the minutes be approved. Mark Milliken seconded, the motion was carried unanimously.

II. Citizen input

Carol Barfield requested permission to address the committee at the beginning of the meeting due to a schedule conflict. Ms. Barfield teaches tennis at the 6th Street courts to neighborhood young people.

III. Standing committee reports

A. No City Commission report.

B. Park Plan update

Dog Park Plan is being worked on by the Friends of the Dog Park and the Salty Barkers Krewe. The Justices, who attended the meeting on behalf of the dog park, requested routine city mowing and support. The supporters of the dog park were reminded of the collaboration possible with the tree committee and encouraged to use the written plan template to document the group's goals.

IV. Business matters:

A. Lafayette Park

Lafayette Park improvements are underway. Holes in the walkways were patched this month thanks to volunteer labor in partnership with city and prison crews. A contract has been signed for the completion of the painting of the gazebo. Thanks for Mark Milliken for drone footage that confirmed the integrity of the gazebo roof. Plans are being worked on with the Historic Apalachicola Foundation for the

replacement of railroad ties with granite coping. Longer term plans include updating the play area to create ADA compliance and to secure additional parking.

B. Pickleball court options

Additional citizen comments were heard concerning whether pickleball court lines should be added to both tennis court areas or only at the 6th street site. Private citizens who had contributed financially in order to upgrade the courts at 14th Street prefer to have those courts remain only for use of tennis players and that the courts at 6th street be marked for pickleball. The committee voted to table a vote to allow the committee to review citizen input forms from a recent Community Redevelopment Agency meeting.

C. Optimal parks and recreation projects in other communities

Torben set forth a Gainesville park as offering a good model with play areas for children, a walking trail, concession stands, soccer fields. Other ideas discussed included ways that the parks may develop an income stream that could be used for park development.

V. Adjournment

Torben Madson adjourned the meeting at 6:51 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Faye Gibson, secretary