

**Recreation Committee
Board Meeting of May 16, 2019**

PRESENT: Elinor Mount-Simmons, Diane Brewer, Torben Madsen, Mark Milliken

ABSENT: Tasia Jones

GUEST: Despina George

Chairman Mount-Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The agenda for today was approved.

The minutes of the prior meeting, March 16, were approved by all Board Member in a motion made by Mark and seconded by Torben. Copies will be sent to City Clerk, Deborah Guillotte and City Manager, Ron Nalley.

Old Business – City Park reports

Diane showed the completed final Hendels-Porter Park review to all. It was agreed that Chairman Elinor will have it put on the City Commission agenda for its June meeting and provide all Commissioners and City Staff with copies in advance. This is important and timely because Diane's report contains the history of the park, our recommendations and the City has been discussing the condition and future of the Popham Building.

The next park review is to be Riverfront park.

New Business – new Food Truck ordinance

Diane distributed copies of the approved ordinance. #2019-3, now in effect which may impact our parks. Discussion ensued. Among issues of concern are the approval to operate in all four (4) commercially zoned areas: C-1, 2,3,4 and Riverfront, RF, and, although the ordinance prohibits use in City Parks, the Squares are not mentioned. Allowing tables, the # of days per week permitted. were also noted as issues of concern, and the term of the permits. Mark and Torben brought up the payment of fees for use of food trucks implies approval for used year-round use which may conflict with permits for special events.

The ordinance was approved at their May meeting though many suggested revisions which could not be included and voted on then. Consequently, our recommendations for revisions to protect our parks should be made for inclusion at their June meeting. Elinor asked Committee member to send them to her by May 28

Guest Despina George brought up the poor maintenance of parks especially Gorrie Square's old library especially during the recent Tour of Homes compared with Gorrie's State Museum, monument and grave which are owned and maintained by the State of Florida. Ideas were

proposed to improve this: "adopt a park", volunteers especially residents and businesses adjacent to them. Diane will research what other cities do.

Announcements: Robin announced her resignation from the Recreation Committee which was accepted with regret.

Diane will be giving a History of the Squares presentation for the Historic Society on Saturday, May 22 at 4 pm at the Raney Carriage House.

Next meeting, June 20.

Diane Brewer, Secretary