

Apalachicola Parks and Recreation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 20, 2021

**Attendees:**

**Members (6/7)**

Elinor Mount-Simmons, presiding  
Diane Brewer  
Delores Croom (Alternate)  
Faye Gibson (Alternate), secretary  
Donna Ingle  
Torben Madson

**Guest**

Commissioner Anita Grove

**I. Call to order**

Elinor Mount-Simmons called to order the regular meeting of the Apalachicola Parks and Recreation committee at 5:30 pm on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at the Apalachicola Margaret Key Memorial Library.

**II. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Faye Gibson circulated the minutes from April 15, 2021. Torben Madson requested that on page 1, bottom of page the word "lease" should be "lessee" and, with that change, moved the amended minutes be approved. Donna Ingle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**III. Business matters**

**A. Old Business**

**1. Adopt-a-Park**

Elinor Mount-Simmons reported that as of mid-May there have been eight adopters of parks:

Madison Square (Square 5): Historic Apalachicola  
Lafayette Park (Park 7): HAPPI, Historic Apalachicola Plat Preservation & Lafayette Lovers (headed by Michalin Watts)  
Riverfront Park (Park 10): River's Edge Gallery  
Commerce St. Park (Park 5):  
Scipio Creek Marina (Park 12): Apalachicola Riverkeeper  
Marks Park (Park 9): Marie Marshall  
Franklin Square (Square 3): Carole Barfield

The committee agreed that the city should be reminded that only one group may adopt a park. It was agreed that since HAPPI and Lafayette Lovers are closely aligned in their intent, they can co-adopt Lafayette Park.

Elinor Mount-Simmons brought a copy of the new city newsletter recently sent out with the water quality report. The back of the newsletter publicizes the Adopt-a-Park program. Faye Gibson volunteered to put together a print ad to send to the

*Apalachicola Times* and Diane Brewer confirmed that she has contacted Oyster radio requesting some public service announcements.

2. Citizen recognition plan

Elinor Mount-Simmons met with Travis Wade, Leo Bebeau, and Despina George to discuss the citizen recognition plan. The committee has been given specifications from city manager Travis Wade for the benches that have thus far been ordered for existing parks. The city requests that all materials placed in parks be approved by the city. There was discussion about the desirability of consistency of styles of benches vs the desirability of variation. The committee suggested that components of a citizen recognition plan could include benches, trash cans, relabeling lampposts, naming existing or requested trees and shrubs, bricks, letters of commendation, city resolutions, and a volunteer recognition program. There was discussion about inviting city organizations to nominate volunteers who would participate in a luncheon to honor their service.

3. Park Plan

Homework assignment for committee members is to visit the park(s) they signed up to supervise and bring to the June meeting a list of items needed for that park. Suggestions for items to propose: benches, trash cans, signage, plantings, shrubs, and trees.

4. City's 6<sup>th</sup> Street work yard

Diane Brewer reported that the engineering firm working with the city has done an assessment of the old water works building and a report is expected soon on its viability.

**IV. Elinor Mount-Simmons adjourned the meeting at 6:26 pm**

After some shared news, Elinor Mount-Simmons adjourned the meeting at 6:26 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Faye Gibson, secretary