

Approved 9-19-19  
Recreation Committee Meeting  
August 15, 2019

**PRESENT:** Elinor Mount Simmons, Diane Brewer, Torben Madsen by phone

**ABSENT:** Mark Milliken, Tasia Jones

**GUESTS:** Marie Marshall, Michaelin Watts

**I Called to order at 6:10p.m.**

**II Agenda approved.** Torben moved and Elinor seconded the approval of the minutes of June and July meetings.

Motion passed unanimously.

**III.A. Old Business not discussed in favor of B. New Business: City's Capital Improvement Plan**  
The Plan was introduced and discussed at Commission meeting of August 6 and does NOT cover FEMA related projects, only those with a life longer than 1 year and a cost greater than \$5,000. The Plan shown at the meeting did not include anything for parks as City Manager stated the staff did not have any input other than Project Impact's \$515,000 5 year grant. He said there was no time to consult the Recreation Committee. There will be public hearings on the Plan in August and September with adoption along with the 2019-20 budget in September. Thus, it is important for our Committee to provide data for the Plan for our parks asap.

Marie Marshall described hurricane damage to Lafayette Park and restoration improvements as yet undone  
estimated as follows:

**Hurricane Michael damaged**

gazebo, columns, other carpentry and pressure washing	\$12,000
5 electric lights damaged, + 25 light globes need replacement	20,000
landscaping	12,000
pier repair	70,000

**Total hurricane related damage at Lafayette Park** **114,000**

Sources for repairs are the City's insurance, FEMA and grants. City Manager has stated that Hurricane damage repair are NOT to be included in the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan.

Diane said she heard the City's insurance on the Popham Building was \$200,000. Questions arose as to

whether this money is restricted to be used to repair the Popham Building.

**Completion of restoration project (non-hurricane related)**

Granite border, bricks, gravel parking spaces at west end	_____
Paving 15 <sup>th</sup> Street to park border at bay	21,000
Replacing hedge at bluff of Park	_____

**Total estimated restoration completion** \_\_\_\_\_

The Watts paid \$70,000 for the new playground equipment and also have a bench and mini-library so that children can be read to in the park. Michaelin Watts stated that these should not be installed until Park repairs are completed. The Watts had also paid for tree treatment and removal of trash trees blocking view of the bay.

The Marshall's Historic Apalachicola Foundation partnered with the City previously on the cost of restoring Lafayette Park and are willing to do so again.

Torben and Diane recalled City Manager saying the City is about to receive it first FEMA check of \$79,000.

Questions arose about prioritization of repairs. There is a FEMA report Elinor volunteered to request.

Diane will provide the Battery Park improvement detail from our report for the Plan and will send the above to City Manager asap. Someone from our Committee should attend every budget and CIP hearing to ensure our concerns about the parks are addressed for BOTH hurricane and non-hurricane projects. Torben volunteered to attend the next one on Tuesday, August 27.

**IV. Announcements** – next budget/CIP Workshop Tuesday, August 27 (time not yet posted on City website)

**V Meeting adjourned** at 7 pm

Submitted by,

Diane Brewer, Secretary