

Apalachicola Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 15, 2024

Attendees:

Members (6/7)

Torben Madson, presiding
Julie Bishop
Faye Gibson, secretary
Donna Ingle
Mark Milliken
Elinor Mount-Simmons

Guest:

Despina George, City Commissioner

I. Call to order

Torben Madson called to order the regular meeting of the Apalachicola Parks and Recreation committee at 5:30 PM on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at the former Apalachicola City Library/City Municipal meeting space.

II. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes from the January 18, 2024 meeting were distributed. The motion to accept the minutes, made by Donna Ingle, seconded by Mark Milliken, carried unanimously.

III. Business Matters

A. . Update on pertinent matters from the January city commission meeting

1. The revised tree committee mission statement was approved by the city commission with Commissioners George and Grove opposed.
2. The city commission tabled with date specific (March meeting) DEP's plans for construction in Chapman Botanical Gardens. Commissioners felt the pavilion was too large, the style was not in keeping with the historic guidelines and Orman House and that it was not acceptable to cut live oaks in order to construct bathrooms.

B. Update on Lafayette Park

No progress has been made in January/February. Steve Oliver has expressed a wish to donate a memorial bench. The city has been non-responsive to requests to meet with the homeowner to resolve the boundary dispute on the west parking area. Mrs. Marshall has not received the estimate yet for the brick walkway repairs. The city has not removed any of the trees/shrubs marked for removal and markers designating plants for removal have been tampered with. Donna will attempt to get the project back on the rails.

C. Mission statement development

Julie Bishop led the group in development of a mission statement by answering these four questions:

1. What do we do today?

2. Who do we serve?
3. What are we trying to accomplish?
4. What impact do we want to have?

The mission statement:

As stewards of community parks and recreational areas, we advocate for Apalachicola residents of all ages, cultures, and abilities to enhance and protect our parks with visionary leadership.

Elinor Mount-Simmons moved to adopt the mission statement Donna Ingle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. Announcements

The date and time of the March city commission was announced.

V. Adjournment

Torben Madson adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Faye Gibson, secretary