



Town of Surfside

SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

August 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Surfside Community Center
9301 Collins Avenue, Surfside, FL 33154

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Logan at 7:00 p.m.

The following were present: Chair Retta Logan
Vice Chair Nicole Travis
Committee Member Frank MacBride, Jr.
Committee Member Janice Tatum

Absent: Committee Member Marta Olchyk

Also, present: Commissioner Nelly Velasquez, Commission Liaison
Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager
Tim Milian, Parks and Recreation Director
Evelyn Herbello, Deputy Town Clerk

2. Agenda and Order of Business

Chair Logan thanked Parks Director Milian and his department for the amazing job they did under the terrible circumstances during the Champlain Tower Collapse. She stated the P&R Department dose and didn't get enough recognition for the job they did.

Parks Director Milian thanked the Chair and Committee for their recognition.

3. Approval of Minutes:

- June 21, 2021 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Vice Chair Travis to approve the June 21, 2021 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Committee Member

Tatum. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Committee Member Olchyk absent.

4. 96th Street Park Design Development – Parks and Recreation Committee Review and Design Team for Feedback.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian introduced the item and the members from Savino Miller who proceeded with the PowerPoint presentation.

Kelly Hitzing, Savino and Miller provided the presentation for the 96th Street Park Design Development and stated what their project schedule is for the design development and would like to have another meeting in the future. She also provided the site plan design development building layout. She provided the connection of the play field and still being able to hold an event. She provided the design development different site plan options and playgrounds in the area. She went through the playground design values where the children will not get tired of the same style playground while making sure the materials used are long lasting. She spoke regarding going with rope playgrounds which is very common now and the children will play more while engaging their minds. She provided playground conceptual sketches that will incorporate the sea into the design. She showed some of the playground companies and their different designs. She explained the fall playground safety and some have a large fall area. She spoke regarding talks that were discussed before regarding a splash pad in a different area and they are looking at misters instead and incorporate them in the play area.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if they can add a mister to any design.

Ms. Hitzing stated that they can make any have a mister.

Barry Miller, Savino Miller, stated that those types need to be in the sun and they do require maintenance.

Parks Director Milian stated that the items up there are the ones that were prioritized at the time and he stated that the idea is trying to get as much as you can in the location. He stated that the more you add, you might have to shrink or reduce the size of some of the equipment.

Ms. Hitzing continued with the design development site plan presentation. She spoke about possibly shaping the stairs and planters more and the dunes could be a sitting area. She discussed the pros and cons as well as cost when it comes to playground surface options, and poured-in-place rubber. They are made with recyclable material and the cost is between \$13.00 to \$30.00 per square foot. She discussed engineered wood fiber and provided the pros and cons with the cost of \$4.00 per square foot and that is also recyclable. She provided the bonded rubber mulch and provided the pros and cons with a cost of \$8.00 to \$13.00 per square footage. She stated they are looking into artificial grass but has many environmental

issues, she provided the pros and cons and the cost of \$6.00 to \$20.00 a square footage.

Ms. Hitzig continued with the shaded plaza exercise equipment presentation which included functional cluster exercise equipment. She also discussed the traditional component exercise equipment. She also spoke regarding game tables and site furnishings.

Ms. Hitzig continued with the park fencing presentation for the park and showed different parks in nearby municipalities and the 5-foot metal picket fence they used. She stated that Surfside's park has a very high fence and they are suggesting a 5-foot fence and described where they would be placing the fence and railing. She provided the plan diagram for the park fencing.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if where the mesh was if they placed the metal fence and how can they prevent people from getting in.

Mr. Miller stated that there is a ledge that will be closed, there will be a railing and also different options.

William Lane, William Lane Company gave different options including glass.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that glass would be very nice.

Ms. Hitzig spoke regarding the pool code and they follow all those guidelines.

Parks Director Milian stated that the Community Center is surrounded by a 4-foot fence that meets code.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that the issue is that the park is on the waterway which has current.

Mr. Lane gave an overview of the architecture design and new elevations of the schematic rendering of the building as well as the floor plan.

Chair Logan asked why they did not put air conditioning in the bathrooms.

Mr. Lane stated that they use natural ventilation.

Committee Member Tatum stated that she agrees with that because of the kids going in from hot and cold is not good.

Chair Logan asked regarding the mother needing to change the baby's diaper.

Committee Member Tatum suggested an air conditioning mother changing station.

Further discussion took place among Savino Miller, William Lane and the Committee Members regarding having an area for a mother to change their baby and/or feeding the baby as well as the design and the ventilation.

Parks Director Milian spoke regarding the air-conditioned bathrooms and you want them in and out and not create an area where it can become an issue.

Commissioner Velasquez suggested having some air conditioning in some area. She believes these are things that need to be considered now and not have it be done after the project is done.

Ms. Hitzig stated that they would have to redesign the project if they want to have air conditioning.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Jeff Rose stated that due to COVID, many places are removing the front door to the bathrooms.

Mr. Lane stated that this is what most people are doing with parks.

Further discussion took place regarding the ventilation system of the project and there will be an air-conditioned bathroom in the offices on the second floor.

Mr. Lane asked Parks Director Milian regarding the storage room and if he would like it to be air conditioned.

Parks Director Milian stated that storage is key and he is fine with it being not air conditioned.

Chair Logan suggested the storage area should be air conditioned because of the heat it will deteriorate, at least one storage room.

Mr. Lane stated that they are proposing to use the mechanical equipment next to the kayak launch and the units will be at the same elevation of 10 feet as required. He stated that they are working with the engineers to get their input. He stated that at the next meeting they will provide details of lighting fixtures, etc.

Committee Member Tatum stated that she prefers hiding places, natural climbing features and higher climbing area. She asked regarding the swings.

Ms. Hitzig stated that slides can come from the top of any design.

Committee Member Tatum spoke regarding the rope design and does like the pirate ship design.

Chair Logan likes the octopus and jellyfish because it gives them different options.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if they could do a merge of some things.

Further discussion took place among the Committee Members and Savino Miller representatives on the different options and concepts of the playground equipment while incorporating different options together to keep them entertained and not bored.

Committee members prefer shade over misters.

Vice Chair Travis spoke regarding surfacing and they should be willing to spend the money and prefers mulch and make sure that whatever they choose for it to be environmentally safe.

Committee Member MacBride stated that the rubber matting in his experience, had to be sprayed once a month with Downy because it would help maintain the color and material and prevented the kids from shocking other kids.

Discussion took place among the Committee members and Savino Miller regarding a possible zip line in some area of the park.

Chair Logan stated that she is not a fan of the artificial grass and it is very hot. She is a fan of the mulch and not a fan of the rubber matting, but whatever works. She is fine with the height of the fence and netting. She likes the heavy glass in front of the water. She mentioned parents having to discipline their children and not allow them to go over the fence. She likes the concept of everything being free form. She mentioned that her children love the monkey bar and some of the old school stuff with the new school twist.

Ms. Hitzig addressed the comments made by the Committee Members.

Chair Logan stated she also likes the other equipment for the older teens and maybe create an area for the older ones as well as the elderly.

Parks Director Milian stated that might be a concern of staffing being an issue. He did say that he did receive good feedback with that type.

Mr. Miller asked Chair Logan which mulch she was referring to.

Chair Logan stated she likes the regular mulch not the rubber mulch.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that many people do not like it because it brings mosquitos.

Ms. Hitzig stated that it is real mulch.

Commissioner Velasquez commented that the rubber matting is conducive to creating a nice design.

Mr. Miller spoke regarding the cost of the different options.

Further discussion took place regarding the mister and use of the park.

Committee Member MacBride spoke regarding the misters and is not a fan of it and code is not particularly happy with misters.

Mr. Miller showed the bonded rubber mulch that is bonded and the City of Coral Gables uses this type.

Discussion took place among the Committee Members and Savino Miller regarding the type of playground surface options and what is recyclable.

Vice Chair Travis asked why they would not put a taller fence or net on the bay.

Ms. Hitzig responded to Vice Chair Travis' question.

Committee Member MacBride reminded them that the Town does not have the staff to remove the netting prior to a hurricane.

Discussion took place among the Committee Members, staff and Savino Miller regarding the fencing and netting.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if by placing the palm trees will it defeat the purpose of the view of the water.

Mr. Miller stated it will give shade and you will be able to see through the palm trees.

Committee Member MacBride asked how raised is the park.

Mr. Miller answered Committee Member MacBride's question.

Committee Member MacBride asked regarding the surface and different hoops of the basketball court.

Parks Director Milian stated that it is painted and they will be able to choose the hoops and possibly something retractable and professional looking.

Mr. Miller stated that there are some basketball courts with art inspired design as well.

Parks Director Milian stated that his concern with art is that art is very subjective.

Committee Member MacBride suggested placing the Surfside logo into the court design.

Parks Director Milian spoke regarding the basketball court design and first work on the essentials and the rest esthetically pleasing and looks good.

Chair Logan stated let's build the park and then commission for an artist.

Committee Member Tatum asked if there will be space for all the ideas they provided, including game tables and exercise equipment.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that there are elderly and can they also be able to use the park.

Further discussion took place regarding things for the seniors to be able to use and movable furniture.

The following individual from the public spoke:
Jeff Rose

Mr. Miller addressed the comments made by Mr. Rose and the process and time it will take for the permit process including DERM.

Chair Logan asked if there is a way to start with the permitting in advance.

Ms. Hitzig stated that they are not going to gain much time by putting the building permitting first.

Ms. Savino stated that the kayak launch is one thing that will take longer.

Ms. Hitzig stated that they cannot put the building out to bid just like that because they have to go out for LEED certification as well.

Commissioner Velasquez asked what is the plan and timeline.

Ms. Hitzig spoke regarding the different phases.

Parks Director Milian clarified the meeting and time frame to get the second feedback from the Committee.

Chair Logan asked if Savino Miller could send the committee more information and have it sent to the Committee members.

Committee Member Tatum stated it is basically the surface and fencing.

Ms. Savino stated she received their feedback and they will send out the information.

Ms. Hitzig stated that they would send out information with the playground equipment.

Mr. Miller stated that they prefer to go with one vendor and can he do the things they want to do. Then they can start adding things. He stated the vendor is crucial.

Chair Logan stated for them to send Parks Director Milian their information and they will provide the information through the Deputy Town Clerk for their feedback.

Parks Director Milian commented on the design concept for the playground as well as the playground matting material.

Commissioner Velasquez clarified that on September 14, 2021 they will have a presentation with the equipment and everything for the Commission to vote on.

Mr. Miller stated if the Commission is happy and supportive then the idea and concept will stay.

Chair Logan explained what the possible budget issues could be encountered.

Discussion took place regarding trying to keep the sidelines and views across the park.

Deputy Town Clerk Herbello reiterated the direction by the Committee for Savino Miller to provide the updated presentation to Parks Director Milian to then send to Deputy Town Clerk Herbello to disseminate to the Committee Members for their suggestions and questions.

5. Special Design Team Meeting with Parks and Recreation Committee Date and Time TBD

Parks and Recreation Director Milian introduced the item and provided dates for the special design team meeting.

This was discussed in connection with item 4.

6. Update on Parks and Recreation Fall Programming following the Champlain Tower Tragedy

Parks and Recreation Director Milian provided an update on the fall programming. He stated that the after-school program started today and they had 45 children. They are also looking at what to do with the tennis center and it has sustained a lot of damage. He stated that all the damage will be covered by the insurance company.

They are shooting for a goal to reopen and they have to check on the cracks and hoping for the second week of September.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if 88th Street is open.

Town Manager Hyatt stated that they are hoping to reopen 88th Street soon and a second lane on Collins Avenue as well soon.

Chair Logan asked if History Miami is taking the memorial wall.

Town Manager Hyatt stated yes and possibly next Monday.

Commissioner Velasquez spoke regarding Friday having an event that was honoring the first responders and they spoke regarding the wall.

Chair Logan stated that History Miami will curate it and then give it back to the Town.

Town Manager Hyatt stated that tomorrow there will be a memorial service.

Parks Director Milian spoke regarding some of the obstacles they encountered during the summer.

Chair Logan asked if the tennis program is the only one that cannot be confirmed.

Parks Director Milian stated yes, that they need to take care of the memorial and cannot do anything with the tennis court until the memorial is taken care of.

Parks Director Milian stated that Miami Shores is still offering use of their tennis courts for residents to use. The idea is to let the residents know they can play tennis.

Parks Director Milian spoke how great Miami Shores has been with Surfside.

7. Public Comments - (2-minute time limit per speaker)

There were no public speakers.

8. Next Meeting: October 25, 2021

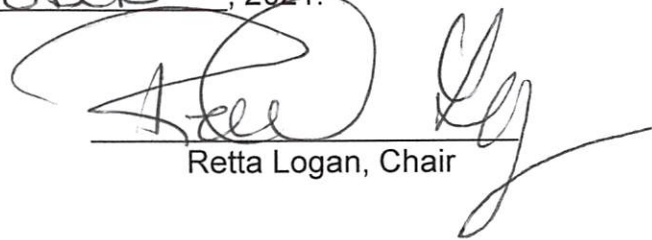
Consensus was reached by the Committee members to have the next meeting on October 25, 2021.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Chair Travis to adjourn the meeting without objection at 8:51 p.m. The motion received a second from Committee Member Tatum. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Committee Member Olchyk absent.

Respectfully submitted:

Accepted this 25 day of October, 2021.



Retta Logan, Chair

Attest:



Evelyn Herbello
Deputy Town Clerk