



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

March 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Howey-in the-Hills Town Hall

101 N. Palm Ave.,

Howey-in-the-Hills, FL 34737

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board Chair Joshua Husemann called the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting to order at 06:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joshua Husemann, Board Chair | Mary Arnold, Board Secretary | Staci Mauro, Board Member | Meredith Bright, Board Member | Teresa Pileggi, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Morgan Cates, Public Services Director | Brianna Pino, Public Services Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration and Approval of the February 20th, 2024, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Board Secretary Arnold to approve of the 02/20/2025 Parks and Recreation Meeting; seconded by Board Member Pileggi. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Voting

Yea: Board Chair Husemann, Board Secretary Arnold, Board Member Mauro, Board Member Bright, Board Member Pileggi

Nay: None

OLD BUSINESS

2. Discussion: **Parks Assessment**

Board Member Mauro advised that there were fallen branches near the front and back of the cemetery.

Board Secretary Arnold noted that Central Park looked to be in good condition; however, noted that the garden beds behind the library required maintenance.

Board Chair Husemann stated that recently planted tree was dying. It was confirmed that the plaque placed by the tree had been removed until a new tree was planted.

Board Member Pileggi reported that Griffin Park was in good condition.

Board Member Bright reported that littering had been observed around the Sara Maude Mason Nature Preserve boardwalk

3. Discussion: Staff Parks Update

Public Services Director Morgan Cates advised that the broken equipment at Griffin Park would be replaced.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Discussion: Sara Maude Mason Nature Preserve Boardwalk

Public Services Director Morgan Cates stated that he would coordinate with the Town Planner to explore potential grant funding opportunities for the second section of the Sara Maude Mason Nature Preserve boardwalk.

Board Chair Husemann advised that resident, Madelyn Rodriguez, at 663 Avila Place, donated two commercial benches to Sara Maude Mason Park.

5. Discussion: Adopt-A-Bump-Out

Board Chair Husemann discussed the potential revitalization of the bump-outs, including benches and landscaping. The board agreed to review the bump-outs and determine whether renovations were necessary.

BOARD COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alan Hayes, 111 Island Dr. – Resident, Alan Hayes, provided comments regarding the cemetery, expressing concern that it appeared neglected. He suggested enhancing its appearance to create a more park-like setting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Board Member Mauro to adjourn the meeting; Board Secretary Arnold seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

The Meeting adjourned at 06:54 p.m. | Attendees: 7

ATTEST

Brianna Pino, Public Services Administrative Assistant

Board Chair Joshua Husemann