



**Parks & Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting**

**July 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Howey-in-the-Hills Town Hall
101 N. Palm Ave.,
Howey-in-the-Hills, FL 34737**

Join Zoom

Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89206903448?pwd=NFRUV1Uyd3dYTkhmRHBpRnd4OGk0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 892 0690 3448 | **Passcode:** 237908

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.** Consideration and Approval of the June 8, 2023, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.
- 2.** Consideration and Approval of the May 18, 2023, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

- 3.** Discussion: **Parks Assessment**
- 4.** Discussion: **Staff Parks Update**
- 5.** Discussion: **Fiscal Year 2024 Budget**

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

To Comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

Qualified individuals may get assistance through the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1. Florida Relay is a service provided to residents in the State of Florida who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind, or Speech Disabled that connects them to standard (voice) telephone users. They utilize a wide array of technologies, such as Text Telephone (TTYs) and ASCII, Voice Carry-Over (VCO), Speech to Speech (STS), Relay Conference Captioning (RCC), CapTel, Voice, Hearing Carry-Over (HCO), Video Assisted Speech to Speech (VA-STTS) and Enhanced Speech to Speech.

Howey Town Hall is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

Time: **Jul 13, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time** (US and Canada)

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Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 892 0690 3448

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Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89206903448?pwd=NFRUV1Uyd3dYTkhmRHBpRnd4OGk0Zz09>

Please Note: In accordance with F.S. 286.0105: Any person who desires to appeal any decision or recommendation at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purposes may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. The Town of Howey-in-the-Hills does not prepare or provide this verbatim record. Note: In accordance with the F.S. 286.26: Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact Town Hall, 101 N. Palm Avenue, Howey-in-the-Hills, FL 34737, (352) 324-2290 at least 48 business hours in advance of the meeting.

Howey-in-the-Hills
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Town Hall, Thursday, June 8, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order: 6:03 p.m.

Attendance: Josh Huseman, Morgan Cates, Jim Steele, Vicki Steele

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The May minutes were not available and will be reviewed at the July meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. Discussion : Parks Assessment

- Josh shared the following updates/concerns regarding Central Park: Power has been installed in the covered area, the basketball court remains the same. Some spikes are sticking up on the swing set border. An oak tree is touching the canopy and should be cut back before the canopy is damaged. A bubbler head is missing from the far oak tree. There are weeds in the swing area.
- Vicki provided Morgan with a report on Griffin Park: All along Lakeshore Blvd was freshly mowed/edged. Looked nice. The grill tray was replaced!! No new concerns but some ongoing repairs that need to be addressed.
- Jim gave Morgan a report on Blevins Park which stated: Blevins Park looks the same. The perimeter areas looked quite overgrown and needed clearing out, and lower tree limbs removed. A question was brought up about the need to have the fence replaced along the property line. Morgan will ask Code Enforcement to look into the fence

3. Discussion: Staff Parks Update

Morgan shared the many projects that had been completed/addressed since our last meeting.

- Cemetery – Landscaping rocks and mulch were added near the flagpole for the Memorial Day cemetery which was held on Monday, May 29th. The sign has been repaired, repainted, and is ready to be reinstalled.
- Lakefront – Getting a contractor to mow the vegetation along the shoreline as allowed by permit. Investigating options/permit needed to remove invasive weeds.
- Central Park – Power installed. Two fans should be up by July meeting. Added junction in the center to allow for addition of light if wanted in the future. Fountain to be installed behind the library.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. Discussion: FY2024 Budget Discussion

- Morgan shared two quotes for shade systems and one quote for a new swing set with a shade system for Central Park. The new swing set with shade system is less expensive. It was

suggested that the current swing set could be moved to the back of Sara Maude Mason Park and have the new swing set installed in Central Park. Discussion followed. Jim made a motion to move forward with the new swing set and relocate the current swing set to Sara Maude. Josh seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Continued discussion on how to repair or replace the basketball court, including concrete vs. asphalt, enlarging the court, multi-use options (basketball and pickleball), and the need for a fence.
- Pine Park is still being considered as a possible pickleball/bike station area. We discussed the need for a parking lot and entrance off of SR19.

Board Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and passed.

The meeting ended at 6:53 p.m.

**Howey-in-the-Hills
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Town Hall, Thursday, May 18, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: 6:06 p.m.

Attendance: Mary Arnold, Josh Huseman, Morgan Cates, Jim Steele, Vicki Steele
Guest: Thomas Harowski (by Zoom)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The April Parks & Rec Board minutes were reviewed.
Mary made a motion to pass. Josh seconded. Minutes were approved.

A motion was made by Vicki Steele to address New Business first. Josh seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Consideration and Recommendation: DEO Technical Assistance Grant

A document that outlined the DEO grant to prepare a master park plan was provided to each board member. Tom Harowski shared the details of the technical assistance grant program and, although Howey was not awarded a grant last year, another round of grant funding was expected shortly. Tom responded to the questions regarding the proposal which includes: Inventory of facilities and recreation/park assets, review of current comprehension plan requirements, needs survey (i.e. Survey monkey), alternative choices for parks and programs. A landscape architect would be assisting with the concept plan. Tom asked for the Parks and Recreation Board's support in moving forward with the application.

Josh made a motion to approve the submission of the DEO Assistance Grant. Mary seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

3. Discussion : Parks Assessment

- Mary reported the cemetery looks good, cleaned up around the mausoleum. She also reported that Sara Maude Mason needs some weed whacking and mowing, but is otherwise fine. The boardwalk is still closed.
- Josh shared that overall Central Park looks good, just the same concerns needing to be addressed (i.e. basketball backboards)
- Vicki provided Morgan with a report on Griffin Park identifying *completed projects* (covered area and new dock look clean) *new concerns* (the ground between the covered area and playground has little grass and many weeds, there is a bench to the left of the parking area, fairly close to the shoreline. Should it be moved?) and *ongoing projects*.
- Jim gave Morgan a report on Blevins Park which stated: the lawn has been recently mowed, and the landscaping areas looked improved. Discussion followed about the boundary lines of the property and that the perimeter areas looked quite overgrown and needed clearing out, and lower tree limbs removed.

4. Discussion: Staff Parks Update

Morgan shared the many projects that had been completed/addressed since our last meeting.

- Blevins – care of park is under Public Works, since May 1.
- Central Park – still investigating options for resurfacing the basketball court
 Week of May 22, power to pavilion, then fans installed.
 A water fountain will be installed on the back of library.
- Cemetery – sidewalk, flagpole, mausoleum area cleaned, exchanged large plants for smaller, adding colored rocks. Memorial Day cemetery on Monday, May 29th.
- Lakefront – Permit to address invasive weeds. Getting quotes form contractors. Harvesting (monthly or quarterly) to maintain

5. Discussion: FY2024 Budget Discussion

The Parks and Rec Board has been asked to generate a “wish list” of items to improve/enhance the parks. The following ideas were suggested:

- Focus on Pine Park (2 acres)
 1. Pickleball area (multiple courts, parking, etc)
 2. Bike Trail (and pumping station for bikers)
 3. Is Venezia HOA planning something?
- Storybook Trail in Sara Maude Mason – example pictures were shared of a Storybook Trail in a Ohio park.
- Bench Swings installed between Griffin Park and “the hill” to relax and look out over the lake. Swings could be shaded with a pergola.

Board Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Adjournment:

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 7:03 p.m.