

Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

March 13, 2025

4:00 pm

Freedom Community Center

7340 SW 41 Place, Gainesville, FL 32608

Pages

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
4. **Parks & Open Space Director Update - Jason Maurer**
5. **Park Projects Update - Ed Williams**
6. **Discuss Day/Time/Location of Future Meetings**
7. **Public Comment**
8. **Adjournment**

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Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

Date: January 9, 2025
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Rotary Park at Jonesville
14100 NW 32nd Avenue, Jonesville, FL 32669

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm.

Members Present: Sarah Bruning, Allen Kurian, Jane Luzar (Vice Chair), Steven Scott (Chair) Adriana Cater.

Members Absent: Stephen Rodriguez

2. Approval of the Agenda

Jane Luzar made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Sarah Brunnig second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Jane Luzar made a motion to approve the November minutes as presented; Sarah Brunnig second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

4. Parks & Open Space Director Update - Jason Maurer

There will be a Special meeting with the Board in February, in relates to the funding of upcoming projects. Mentions were made about the upcoming community engagement for Westend, also an overview was given of what to be expected at the special Board meeting.

John Weber the new Parks Manger was introduce to the Committee and gave a brief introduction of himself.

5. Park Projects Update - Ed Williams

1-9-25

ROSCO Park Projects Update

· Veterans Memorial Park - New inclusive playground, Gold Star Families Memorial, a secondary asphalt entry drive & parking lot, accessible sidewalks, and associated stormwater and utility infrastructure. Improvements also include

installation of additional site lighting, landscaping, and temporary irrigation using reclaimed water.

Bids were received on 12/13/23, contract was approved by the Board on 2/13/24, the purchase order for this work was issued on 3/5, and construction onsite began on or about 4/22. Due to delays for supplies & weather work onsite is a couple months behind schedule. A ribbon cutting for the new playground & dedication ceremony for the GSF Memorial were held on Veterans Day (11/11/24). The playground & sitework contractors are working to complete their remaining punch list items. GRU is scheduled to install the additional site lighting.

- MK Rawlings Park/Kate Barnes Ramp - Replacement of the existing boarding dock, addition of a courtesy dock on the south side of the channel, paved accessible parking, and accessible sidewalks.

Plans have been submitted for DRC and water management district approval. Comments provided by the SJRWMD have been addressed, and the boarding dock has been approved. Further work, however, will be needed to gain approval for the courtesy dock planned for the south side of the channel. We are working with the consultants to find the quickest route to construction, even if that means implementing a phased approach.

- Poe Springs - Two projects underway here, the first being replacing the existing spring-side restrooms and the second being improvements to the boat launch that include replacement of the boarding dock, and accessible kayak launch, paved accessible parking, and accessible sidewalks.

- o Construction documents have been completed and we are exploring a job order contracting (JOC) option to expedite the construction process.

- o Boat Launch - The water management district requested delineation of the wetlands and high water levels in the vicinity of the proposed improvements. That work was completed, we met with the SRWMD onsite 5/30, and we received their approval on 11/5 (one year after submittal). DRC approval was granted on 8/15.

- Copeland & Montechoa Parks - New playgrounds, additional parking, pavilion(s), better accessibility, landscaping, site lighting, and additional amenities as appropriate.

Purchase orders for A&E were issued on 4/23. Surveys have been completed, and we're currently working on schematic designs. Once the A&E and permitting processes are complete, bidding & construction phases will occur.

* FRDAP grant was applied for on 10/14 for \$200K for improvements to Montechoa Park.

- Jonesville Park - Construction of a new soccer stadium, additional parking, better accessibility, and new pickleball courts.

Purchase order for A&E was issued on 6/4. Survey has been completed as well as design of the building containing press box, bleachers, locker/restrooms for officials, and storage. We're currently working on schematic design for the site. Once the A&E and permitting processes are complete, bidding & construction phases will occur.

* In addition, purchase order for sinkhole remediation was issued on 11/20, and that work has been completed.

- West End Park - Fast-track demolition, clean up, and improvements in preparation for the upcoming World Masters Athletics (WMAi25) event. Includes a 2K cross country course, an internationally certified area for javelin, discuss, and hammer throw, additional parking, and associated utility infrastructure.

The County closed on this property on 6/14, and with the assistance of Parks & Public Works staff cleaning & demolition operations began immediately thereafter. All of the existing buildings have been demolished and associated septic tanks have been decommissioned. The event field (old driving range) has been re-graded, throwing facilities have been built (i.e., discus, javelin & hammer throw), irrigation and well/pump restoration are nearly complete, and new electrical services have been built wellside & up front. The event field was hydroseeded yesterday & this morning.

The WMA Council's technical visit in early December went well. Next, we'll be installing additional utilities infrastructure and repaving the existing walks & parking lot adjacent to Newberry Road.

- Lake Alto Park - Renovation of the existing parking lot, including excavation of asphalt and limestone to make way for tree islands and subsequent seal coating & re-striping.

Purchase order for this work was issued on 10/17 with costs split between Parks & EPD (tree mitigation fund). Everything has been completed, and staff have installed wood bollards to protect the islands. Trees are scheduled for planting later this month.

- Pinesville Park (St. Peter) - Development of a new pocket park on 2.2. acres just north of Archer.

Purchase order for A&E was issued on 12/5. Survey has been completed, and we're currently working on schematic designs. We anticipate the whole A&E

process will take 6-8 months, after which bidding & construction phases will occur.

Note: Completion of the underlined projects will make us substantially complete with the Risk assessment.

6. Discuss Day/Time/Location of Future Meetings

Our next meeting will be held on the 13 of March @ Freedom Community Center.
@ 4:00 PM

7. Public Comment

None.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44pm.