
**Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee Annual Work Plan and
Accomplishments report October 1, 2023, to September 30th, 2024**

Chair: Steven Scott

Board Liaison: Shantel Walker-Bernard

Brief History of Board/Committee

The Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee was established in 1983. It is currently Govern by Resolution 21-14.

Responsibilities and Duties

1. Establish an annual work program for the Advisory Committee.
2. Engage in an annual review of the Capital Improvements Projects List pertaining to recreation projects and the Recreation and Open Space Element Update.
3. Assist and advise the Commission on future policies and directions concerning parks, recreation, and open space projects for Alachua County.
4. Assist the Commission in promoting community awareness of parks, recreation, and open space projects that are being considered by the Commission.
5. Assist the County to apply for eligible state and federal grants to

provide enhanced parks, recreation, and open space opportunities for Alachua County's citizens.

6. Educate and advocate at the state and federal level on issues affecting parks, recreation, and open space.
7. Develop an inclusive Master Plan for county-wide parks, recreation and open space that is reviewed every two (2) years and updated every ten (10) years.
8. Report annually, or as necessary, to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners on the goals and accomplishments of the Advisory Committee.

Mission Statement: To represent the citizens of Alachua County, promote community awareness of the recreation and open space projects under consideration, and to assist and advise the Board of County Commissioners on future policies and directions concerning recreation and open space projects for Alachua County.

Prior Year Accomplishments:

1. Regular updates were given on the improvement of the parks, as well as progress on the Risk Assessments.
2. Meetings were held every other month on the 3rd Thursdays. November 9th, 2023, January 18th, 2024, March 21st, 2024, May 16th, 2024 July 18th, 2024, and September 19th, 2024.

3. Westgate is the new major project that is in the works for the world Masters in 2024.
4. Majority of the items on the master plan was accomplished (Bundle Playground Veterans, new Parking lot veterans, currently working on the Restroom and Dock at Poe Springs just to name a few.)
5. All position within the Committee were able to be filled in a timely manner.
6. The MKR/Kate Barnes plan was approved by FDEP/state.
7. an update was given on the Department's tentatively approved budget enhancement requests and reviewed the park amenity replacement plan, which also includes a 10-year staffing plan
8. Community engagement meeting was held for Westgate and the Community of Pineville Community (St. Peter/St. Paul)

Goals for Upcoming Year

- Add restroom at Squirrel Ridge Park
- Work with the Equity and Community Outreach Manager to formalize a youth advisory board position on ROSCO.
- Give suggestions accordingly towards each Parks as their needs arises.

Optional: Feel free to attach photos/backup documents...