

## Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

Date: March 13, 2025  
Time: 4:00 pm  
Location: Freedom Community Center  
7340 SW 41 Place, Gainesville, FL 32608

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm

Members Present: Sarah Bruning, Jane Luzar (Vice Chair), Stephen Rodriguez, Steven Scott (Chair) Adriana Carter

Members Absent:

Allen Kurian

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

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

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Jane Luzar made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Stephen Rodriguez second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 4. Parks & Open Space Director Update - Jason Maurer

Cuscowilla Summer Camp is more than 50% booked so far registration has been going well.

Gator National - The gator national turnout was lower than 2024. We had provided Water hook ups, but we did not provide electrical. The campsite was operated in a first come first serve bases. However, all went smoothly.

Cuscowilla is at 49% ahead of last year revenue. The programs that have been implemented by Jamies Bass are doing great "Nature and educational Programs".

Spring Feast - The festival did not have as much turn out has it did previous years. However, mentions were made that the festival indeed turned out well, even thou it was a bit of rain.

Westend - There are a few final touches that is taking place for the World Masters Event.

#### **4.1 Hawthorne Park Property Acquisition Discussion**

This is a potential property that has become available. The master plan was printed out and issue to each member of the committee along with a map of the property.

### **5. Park Projects Update - Ed Williams**

Cuscowilla Parking lot light - There was a lottery search for solar powered lighting, due to us considering that solar lighting would be more cost effective and last longer. A company was chosen, and we are combining forces with Public Works so we have the same brand throughout the County.

The trees that are in the parking lot we have found a solution around that; therefore, we would not need to remove them.

This will be the first Solar power lighting for the County.

Westend- Most of the work have been completed, just some small changes and touches needs to be completed for the games. The electricity and water have been completed. There has been all hands-on deck in helping to get it completed.

Poe Springs - There are two projects that is being working on currently, we are evaluating pricing, after which it will be taken to the board for approval. The Engineer is finalizing drawings as well.

Copeland and Montechoa Park - There is not much progress so far, however we do have the layout from the engineers now. The first pre-Ord meeting with the county will be held next week, to give them a chance of what we have come up with.

Jonesville- There is a plan to relocate the pickle ball court over to an area between soccer and baseball. We are estimating that we can get 6 pickle ball courts. We would like to trade the budget we had for the lighting to shade stands instead, due to the court expected to utilize more in the daytime.

Pinesville Park - There are good progress being made on the Development of the new Pocket Park.

### **6. Discuss Day/Time/Location of Future Meetings**

Next meeting will be held at Cuscowilla Nature and Retreat Center

Date and time of next meeting is May 8, 2025 @4:00pm

**7. Public Comment**

None.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm.