

Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

Date: October 9, 2025
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Poe Springs Lodge
28800 NW 182nd Avenue, High Springs, FL 32643

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:19pm

Members Present: Sarah Bruning, Jane Luzar (Vice Chair), Steven Scott (Chair)

Members Absent: Allen Kurian and Adriana Carter.

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

3. Review and approval for Annual work plan

Report was discussed by committee members and was moved forward.

4. Approval of Minutes

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

5. Parks & Open Space Director Update - Jason Maurer

Mr. Jason was absent, however Mr. John Weber, Parks Manager gave the report on his behalf.

The supervisor position that was held by Mr. Jerome Lennon was recently filled by Glenn Blake. Mr. Blake has been with the County for almost 10 years. During the fall period we are planning on completing Maintenance activities that were difficult to complete during busy season. Concrete improvement will be done at Jonesville Park. There is a new fee schedule, that is being discussed for the facilities and the pavilions that are rentable.

There is a new flagpole that is being installed at the Veterans Park.

The Owen Illionios Boat ramp has been closed, due to low water, it is not safe to launch boats at this time.

6. Park Projects Update - Ed Williams

Mr. Ed Williams was absent; however Mr. John Weber present his report on his behalf.

10-9-25

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.

This project is substantially complete with only a few punch list items remaining. GRU has

completed installation of the additional site lighting. Remedial work on stormwater Basin 3 has

been completed and only minor adjustments to the landscaping work remains.

We expect to close

this project out soon and within the 5% contingency in the contract & budget.

- 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.

Consultants are working to finalize/detail the plans showing the courtesy dock slated for the south

side of the channel as a subsequent phase, due to SJRWMD concerns, and include specifications

for the new boarding dock. We hope to have the project out for bids within the next few weeks.

- 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 of the new spring-side restrooms is well underway. Bids for the foundation &

sitework were received on 4/2 with the low bid of \$380K, plus a 5% contingency,

resulting in

a total contract amount of \$399K. The department issued its recommendation to accept on

4/8, Board approval was given on 5/27, and Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor

on 6/9/25.

o Comments & requests by the SRWMD have been addressed, and our plans for boat launch

improvements have been approved. Consultants are working to finalize details & specifications for the new boarding dock and accessible kayak launch. We

expect to have

this project out for bids within the next few weeks.

- Copeland & Monteocha Parks - New playgrounds, additional parking, pavilion(s), better

accessibility, landscaping, site lighting, and additional amenities as appropriate.

We are currently working our way through the A&E and permitting processes. A pre-app meeting

(DRC) for the Monteocha Park schematic design was held on 3/26, and a second round of

community engagement took place on 8/16/25. After some coordination with Public Works

regarding proposed sidewalks along NE 27th Avenue, we're hopeful the

Copeland Park schematic

design won't be far behind.

* FRDAP grant was applied for on 9/30/25 for \$200K for improvements to Monteocha Park.

- Jonesville Park - Construction of a new soccer stadium, additional parking, better accessibility,

and new pickleball courts.

Construction documents are nearly complete for the building containing press box, bleachers,

locker/restrooms for officials, and storage. We're currently working to finalize the schematic design

for the site with pickleball courts located between the southernmost baseball field and the soccer

pavilion. A utility easement through this area was recently discovered requiring addition survey

work and revisions to the layout. Once the A&E and permitting processes are complete, bidding &

construction phases will occur.

- 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 6/14/24, and with the assistance of Parks & Public Works staff cleaning & demolition operations began immediately thereafter. All of the existing buildings were demolished and associated septic tanks were decommissioned. The event field (old driving range) was re-graded, throwing facilities were built (i.e., discus, javelin & hammer throw), irrigation and well/pump restoration were completed, and new electrical services were built well-side & up front. The WMAi25 event, during the last week of March, went off without a hitch. Community engagement meetings related to development as a community park were held on 8/13/24 and again on 4/29/25. We updated the Board on 5/27 and gained their approval to hire consultants to help us develop a schematic master plan for the park that can be implemented in phases and to explore public/private partnership opportunities for the golf-related amenities.

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

Plans for this project were submitted for DRC review in early June. Staff comments were received and addressed, and plans were recently resubmitted for approval. Construction documents are essentially complete, DRC approval was given on 9/18/25, and we're currently working to get this project out for bids.

- Cuscowilla Solar Lighting

Purchase of the solar lighting fixtures & poles is on the 10/14/25 agenda for Board approval. Once approved, we'll purchase the precast concrete footings locally and coordinate

with Public Works for
installation.

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

7. Discuss Day/Time/Location of Future Meetings

Next meeting will be held on December 11th @ Veterans Park @4:00pm

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52pm.