

**TOWN OF MALABAR – PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
02/19/14 MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road. It was called to order by Chair Vickie Thomas at 7:30 pm. Prayer and pledge was lead by Chair Vickie Thomas.

A. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE

B. ROLL CALL

Chair Vickie Thomas
Vice Chair Bernadette Knudson
Hans Kemmler
Bill Sastram
Board Secretary Cindi Kelley

C. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES: Chair Thomas asked that a discussion of Sunshine be placed on the agenda; this was added to the agenda under H. Discussion.

D. PRESENTATIONS

E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of Minutes**
Regular Park and Recreation Meeting – 12/18/13
Exhibit: Agenda Report No.1
Recommendation: Motion to approve

MOTION: Kemmler/Sastram to approve the minutes of December 18, 2013 as presented.

VOTE: All Ayes.

F. PUBLIC:

G. ACTION:

H. DISCUSSION:

This was added to agenda at beginning of meeting.

Thomas stated that she asked that this be discussed. She had heard from the grape vine that there is going to be something on the Council agenda regarding liaisons'. She feels that they are very important and we should have them between the boards/committees as needed. She explained the difference between a conduit and a liaison. Using someone as a conduit is going around the sunshine law and is illegal. As a liaison, it is legal to go to the board/committee and make reports and give information; it's not working in the shadows. Going around the sunshine is illegal. As a liaison, it is legal; it is not working in the shadows. She reminded the Board that there will be a webinar next Thursday from 10 am to noon; encourages everyone to brush up on their knowledge of the Sunshine Law. She feels that it is very important to have a liaison between the Park Board and the Trails & Greenways Committee. Kemmler stated that he brings things to both this Board and the T&G Committee to keep everyone in the loop; it is important that this takes place.

I. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**New Business:**

Knudson stated that she would like to see the Town purchase three of the event signs like they post in Palm Bay with the movies in the parks, etc. We could use them to advertise Springfest, the Cow Bell 5K Race, the Christmas Tree Lighting, etc. It would be an inexpensive way to let people know the events happening in the town. Kemmler stated that it would be an action item for the next agenda. We need to discuss what would be advertised and who will be responsible for changing out the signs. Knudson stated that one could be placed at the Eschenberg Park on Weber Road, one could be placed at the corner of Corey and Malabar Roads at Fern Creek Crossing and the other could be placed strategically in another place in the town. Knudson stated that she will call Sue Hann to see what the cost of the signs is and where we can get them. She will report at the next meeting in March.

Thomas reported that a bell was donated to the Town. She liked the bell; it has character and could be used to announce events for the Town. It could be placed at the entry of the Malabar Community Park at Malabar Woods Boulevard. Kemmler stated they have a bell very similar to this on the dock and if you pull too hard to ring the bell, it jumps off the track. Someone has since glued his bell and now he has to figure out how to get it unstuck. Thomas stated that there is some rust on the bell and asked if the rust removal stuff would work. Both Kemmler and Sastram stated it would and there really isn't that much rust on it. It's a very cool bell. We need to have something to keep it from jumping off the track when it is rung. Thomas asked where the Board would like to put this. Kemmler stated that this should go on the next agenda as an action item; the Board can think about where it should go and report on it at the next meeting. Kemmler did state that it should be present for the Cow Bell 5K Run. It was suggested that Brian Vail may be the best person to ask about this. Thomas will take it to him and see what he says. Sastram stated that it could be welded with black iron. It could also be put on a portable stand so it can be moved to where events are happening. Thomas liked the idea of it being portable. She would also like to have a thank you note sent to the person who donated it when all the work is done and it is in place.

Kemmler stated he should have brought this up under old business. The Trails & Greenways Committee would like to see information on our website regarding the parks and trails. Thomas stated that she had a meeting with the Town Administrator and it didn't go well. He asked what information she provided to the Town Administrator. Thomas stated that she had a person who could do the web page and the Town Administrator said no. She also provided pictures with brief descriptions of the parks and trails available for the Town Administrator. Kemmler stated that he has a Facebook page that he has set up for the Disc Golf Park. Thomas stated that anyone can set up a Facebook page but then cannot use the Town's seal. Knudson stated that a meeting with Thomas and Thompson should take place with the Town Administrator. Kemmler suggested they research a small town's website and gather information as to what we would like to have on the website. Knudson stated that the state park website is a great place to go to see what is on it. Kemmler stated that if nothing is done, this may take on a life of its own. Thomas stated that we don't want to sound threatening. He stated that he isn't; people will do what they want.

Old Business:

Knudson stated that her assignment was to research the feasibility of turning the volley ball court into a golf putting green. After extensive research into this, it will cost anywhere from \$16,000 to \$20,000. This is not a possibility for the volley ball courts. We still need to brainstorm and come up with an idea for this area of the park to be utilized; get community input on this. The Board needs to keep in the back of their minds and think on it some more.

Knudson stated that Grant Valkaria has done some real innovative things with their new park. She is keeping her eyes open as she visits different parks in the surrounding areas. Sebastian has a really great water feature that turns on and spurts water as you walk in the area; shuts off when no one is using the area. The kids would love this at the park on the really hot days; she may even use it if we had one. She did not do any research on this as of yet; not sure of the cost involved in something like this. Everyone should keep their eyes open. Kemmler stated that there may be a water system used for this type of activity that the water may filter back through.

Kemmler reported that the EELs people have finished the swale in the trails for the hayrides for Springfest. He has walked the trail and there is one area that has a "V" in it but it should be passable with a tractor and trailer. Thomas stated that a thank you note needs to be sent to the EELs for doing this; they did it before the Springfest event so we would be able to access it. Knudson stated that it will also be used as part of the Cow Bell 5K Run. A thank you note should come from both the Park Board and the Trails & Greenways Committee. Kemmler stated he will write the note and send it to the Town Administrator for review. If it is good, he will ask that it be sent along from both entities.

Kemmler reported that the EELs have 11 x 17 sign posts up with maps along the trails. They have given five (5) of these stands to the Town of Malabar to be placed along the Cameron Preserve and other areas of Malabar trails. Thomas asked what the EELs think they should be used for. Kemmler stated that we need to place them strategically along the trail system in Malabar. The maps will have "this way to Boundary Canal", etc. Thomas suggested that they have signs that point different directions for the different destinations. She stated that some people were lost the other day and just wanted to be able to get back to their cars. Maybe the pointing signs would be another way to go to assist people on the trails. This is something to think about as well.

Knudson asked that the Board members promote the photo contest for Springfest. Kelley has flyers and so does she. We need to place them on the community bulletin boards. Kelley suggested that it be placed in the kiosk at the Disc Golf Park. Kemmler stated that he could place it there.

J. BOARD MEMBER/STAFF REPORTS:**• Cameron Preserve – Thomas**

Thomas reported that the area around the picnic table looks really nice. We are getting motorized vehicles in there from the Glen Brook area again; four-wheelers. She is seeing a lot of runners and bicyclists using the preserve as well.

- **Disc Golf Park – Kemmler**

Kemmler reported that is in really fine shape. All the dirt had been disbursed prior to the Malabar Madness in January. That event was a huge success. During this event, the Mayor noticed that people had to park across the street at the Malabar Community Park and he had concerns. This was just after the fatal accident at the Yellow Dog Café. Kemmler stated he sent his comments to the Town Administrator about this; it only happens once a year that the parking area is full and people use the park across the street. If we were to make the parking area larger, it would mean moving the tees for the game and this would be a major undertaking and really is not necessary. The Town Administrator is to pass his comments on to Council.

Kemmler reported that benches are at each tee pad now. Money for course improvements has been obtained. Thomas asked where the funds are coming from. Kemmler stated that each person pays \$5 per game and the funds go towards improvements to the park and when someone gets and "Ace", they win a prize of \$250.

Kemmler also reported that there is a new park coming at the end of Malabar Road. The group that plays donated \$400 for a tee basket for this new park as this group donated a basket for our park when it was first started. Just as in our park, there will be a plaque by the tee pad saying it was donated by Malabar.

- **Fern Creek Crossing Park – Sastram**

Sastram reported that the mowing is taking place but the weed eating is not.

- **Huggins Park – Knudson**

Knudson reported that there was a fire over in that area last week; burned about 2 ½ acres which may have helped with the weeds. The park is still the same; not being used. The Board really needs to think about what they want to do with this land. The possibilities are endless and we really need to come up with something.

- **Malabar Community Park – Thomas**

Thomas reported that the purple slide has been replaced. The baby swings looks good as well as the bathrooms. The whole park looks good; the ramps look really good and we thank Mr. Sastram for his hard work.

Kemmler asked about the next Mailboat. Kelley stated that we are trying to get it out before the Springfest. He would like to have an article in it highlighting the trails. Kelley asked him to write it and submit it to her by the next Springfest meeting on Friday, February 28th.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, general consensus. **MOTION: Sastram/Kemmler to adjourn the meeting.** **VOTE: All Ayes.** This meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

By: Vickie Thomas
Vickie Thomas, Chair

ATTEST:

Cynthia Kelley
Cynthia Kelley, C.M.C.
Recording Secretary

Date Approved: 03/19/14