

**TOWN OF MALABAR – PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
05/20/15 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 Hans Kemmler at 7:40 pm. Prayer and pledge was led by Vice-Chair Vickie Thomas.

A. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE

B. ROLL CALL

Chair Hans Kemmler, excused
Vickie Thomas, Vice Chair
Patricia Foster
Helena Ausley
Board Secretary Cynthia Kelley

C. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES:

D. PRESENTATIONS: None

E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of Minutes**
Regular Park and Recreation Meeting – 03/18/15
Exhibit: Agenda Report No.1
Recommendation: Motion to approve

Discussion: None

MOTION: Foster/Ausley move to approve the minutes of March 18, 2015 as presented.

VOTE: All Ayes.

F. PUBLIC:

Chris Howard, Duncil Lane, came forward and addressed the Board. He has lived here for 23 years and know pretty much every inch of the town along with the trails down to Grant Valkaria. Mr. Howard has a question; he's not here to complain. He is asking if the Park Board is interested in mountain bike trails. If not, who would he need to speak to for off-road trails? There are plans to connect with Grant Valkaria; they want trails that are not paved. The trails have been around for a while but now they are sanctioned.

Thomas stated that they have had a lot of issues on the trails with almost misses with bikers, walkers and horseback riders. They are trying to make some of the trails one way to accommodate everyone. Foster asked if he is specifically speaking of a separate trail park for mountain bikers. Mr. Howard stated that he wants to know if the town is interested in off-road trails. Thomas asked what he would like to see happen. Mr. Howard stated he would like to see mountain bike trails where the opportunity is available to keep riding the trails under good conditions. Thomas asked what conditions he was speaking of. He wants to see the trees left in place. Thomas stated that a burn got out of control at one point and then the beetles were eating and killing the pine trees. Mr. Howard stated that he understood that but there have been a lot of trees cut down and removed. Thomas asked Foster for her thoughts on the trails; Foster stated that she hadn't ridden the trails to be able to give any input.

Thomas advised Mr. Howard that he may be better served by the T&G Committee as they are the group that addresses issues with the trails in Malabar. Mr. Howard stated that this concern is the trees being taken out. Thomas stated that the EELs have taken down the trees to protect the Scrub Jays we have in our area; there aren't many but they are being protected as they don't like the density of the trees as the large birds hide at the top of them.

Mr. Howard asked if there is any way to protect the trails. He would like to see a 50' section to the left and a 50' section to the right of the trails where trees are not taken down. When the trees are removed, the trails become very sandy because the sun beats down on them; the trees protect the trails. Thomas stated that the EELs Program are responsible for taking the trees down; we can't control them. Mr. Howard stated that we want them to stop taking the trees down. Kelley advised Mr. Howard that he may want to make contact with Brevard County and express his concerns with them as well. The people to contact would be Chris O'Hara and Mike Knight of Brevard County. Mr. Howard stated that he would get their contact information from the website. Mr. Howard stated that they like the Scrub Jays on the trails; it's cool to watch them check us out. Thomas and Kelley invited him to speak with the T&G Committee as well; their meeting is the second Monday of each month here at Town Hall at 6 pm. Thomas advised him that Murray Hann is also on this committee and he is an avid cyclist.

Thomas thanked Mr. Howard for coming in and addressing his concerns to the Board and representing all the people in the audience this evening.

G. ACTION:

H. DISCUSSION:

2. Survey for Thomas Eschenberg Memorial Park

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 2

Recommendation: Discussion and Recommendation

Discussion: Kelley stated that this is something that the Chair had on the agenda.

MOTION: Foster / Ausley moved to table this until the June meeting. VOTE: All Ayes.

3. Playground Shade Structure – Malabar Community Park

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3

Recommendation: Discussion and Recommendation

Discussion: Kelley gave a brief update on this. She advised the Board that CM Ball will be assisting with this. We are 5 years into the warranty; there is no more warranty left. The shade structure will be taken to Mays Canvas in Grant; it will be looked at to see if it can be repaired. If it can't, we will address purchasing a new one at that time. Kelley also corrected a statement made at a previous meeting regarding the shade structure having been repaired before. The structure was never repaired, it was reinforced to help keep the structure from being damaged in the wind. Once we hear back on this, the Board will be updated with the findings. At this time, the Board did not need to take any action.

I. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

New Business: Malabar Indian River Water Quality Checks – Thomas

Discussion: Thomas stated that this was something she was reporting on at the request of the Chair. She asked that a motion be made to table this item until such time he is able to be in attendance.

MOTION: Foster / Ausley moved to table this until June meeting. VOTE: All Ayes.

Old Business: New Park Board Members; How Can We Recruit

Discussion: This is being worked on; Anna Leigh Harvey is present this evening and picked up an application. Mr. Howard, prior to the beginning of the meeting, was also given an application.

J. BOARD MEMBER/STAFF REPORTS:

• **Cameron Preserve – Thomas**

Thomas reported that motorized vehicles are still coming into the trails; we are working with the T&G Committee regarding the trails and the users of the trails. T&G is also working on the kiosk and providing a telephone number to assist people so they don't get lost out on the trails as well.

• **Disc Golf Park – Kemmler**

Kemmler is excused.

• **Thomas Eschenberg Memorial Park - Kemmler**

Kemmler is excused. Foster asked if she could speak to this. She stated that the park was full of cars; she believes that most of the cars parked there are the cyclists. She has never seen it so full. Thomas stated that it's good that the park is being used.

• **Fern Creek Crossing Park – Ausley**

Ausley reported that Heritage Girls Club is going to be out there in June to do a Cross-over. Thomas suggested to have the Hometown News out there and take some pictures and do an article. The event is scheduled for June 6; it is a great place for photo ops. Foster stated that she is very involved with this group.

• **Huggins Park – CLOSED**

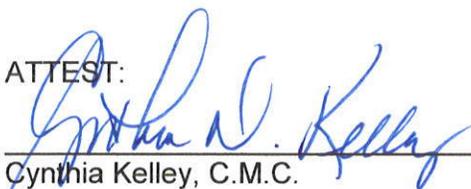
• **Malabar Community Park – Foster**

Foster reported that the drainage issue with the pipe has been fixed and it looks really good; they did a great job of repairing it. She also reported that two Saturday's ago, the American Heritage Club had a fishing derby out there. Prizes were donated for the winners of the competition. The fish were put back in the lake; catch and release. This is a very active group; both the boys and girls. The boys do a lot of hiking in the Cameron Preserve. The park looked very nice. Thomas asked what the age group is; Foster stated 5 to 18 years of age. They have various stages they go through while in the Club.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, general consensus. **MOTION: Foster / Ausley to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: All Ayes.** This meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

By: 
Hans Kemmler, Chair

ATTEST:

Cynthia Kelley, C.M.C.
Recording Secretary

Date Approved: 6/17/15