

Parks Safety Council

Meeting Summary

Monday, February 27, 2023,

Ed Ball Bldg., 214 N. Hogan Street, 8th Floor Conference Rm. 851

Meeting Attendance

Park Safety Council Members: Chair Bruce J. Tyson, Walter Bryant, MaryJane Brewer.

Zoom: None.

Visitors: None.

Staff and Elected Officials: Director Daryl Joseph, James Taylor, Michelle Godwin-Ware.

Zoom: None.

Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Bruce J. Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified there was no quorum.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Summary:** The Park Safety Council (PSC) will approve the November, January, and February meeting summaries at the next Park Safety Council meeting scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023.
3. **Elected Officials Report:** None.
4. **Review of Safety Reports:**
 - No Review
5. **Park Safety Council's Member Comments:**
 - **Chair Tyson** stated that the Park Safety Council (PSC) met with Daryl Joseph, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, and Keith Meyerl, Chief of Recreation and Community Programming, on Monday, February 6, 2023, for a work session. During the work session, Chair Tyson stressed that the 1,2,3 Prioritization Ranking System should be used to assist with tracking severe problems. It will help with preparing the PSC Quarterly Report. Mr. Tyson also stated that they discussed concentrating on repeat issues and how to properly track and document the action and progress being taken to complete the repairs and remove the case from the safety report.
 - **Walter Bryant** stated that during the work session, he and Mr. Tyson briefly reviewed the draft of the Park Safety Standards with Mr. Joseph and Mr. Meyerl. No feedback regarding the Park Safety Standards was provided at that time. The difference between maintenance and safety items was discussed to assist the PSC in determining the type of safety items they want to focus on. To ensure the PSC Quarterly Report accurately depicts the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Department, it is essential to focus on safety, not maintenance issues. During the work session meeting, Mr. Joseph said he would speak with James Taylor about including the 1,2,3 Prioritization Ranking System in his park safety report. Chair Tyson requested, and Mr. Joseph agreed to research how to provide the PSC with a summary of safety issues reported by the public. The PSC will aim to complete the fourth quarter report by March 2023.
 - **Director Daryl Joseph** stated that the work session was a good meeting and that the safety report presented to the PSC will look different moving forward. The goal is to provide the PSC with a document that will allow everyone to have a better understanding of the steps that will be taken to resolve an issue.

- **Walter Bryant** stated that it would be helpful to finalize the safety standards because this is what the quarterly report should be based on. He would like feedback from the PRCS Department as soon as possible.
- **Chair Tyson** stated that the PSC requests that the PSC's draft of the Park Safety Standards is prioritized and reviewed by PRCS. The PSC also is requesting that a recommendation or approval of the standards is submitted to Mrs. Godwin -Ware to pass on to the PSC as soon as possible. The fourth quarter is near, so the fourth quarter PSC report format will remain unchanged until the Park Safety Standards are approved. The next work session's focus will be the quarterly report format.
- **Director Daryl Joseph** reported that PRCS is researching various ways to decrease the need for mulch on playgrounds. Mulch is one of the maintenance items that needs to be replaced frequently. Swing clamps also need to be replaced regularly. PRCS has spoken with various vendors to see if there's any other option for those clamps because they are a repeat issue. PRCS is closely monitoring fencing that is in place to block access to pools and retention ponds. If the fencing is not in tacked, it will be closed off until repaired or replacement has occurred. Director Joseph stated that PRCS presented a list of projects to the Special Committee on Parks and Quality of Life. The list of projects totaled 50 million dollars in improvements. The funding for replacing 45 to 50 playgrounds will assist with eliminating some of the safety items listed in the safety report.
- **Chair Tyson** requested a copy of the presentation given to the Special Committee on Parks and Quality of Life for the PSC. He asked for clarification on how PRCS is keeping people off the playground and playground equipment deemed ready to be replaced or dangerous.
- **Director Daryl Joseph** advised that because of the backlog of materials and labor, it can take between 12 and 15 weeks to replace playground equipment. To prevent a child from potentially getting hurt, PRCS demos the play structure, and a sign is displayed stating that a new playground is coming to the site soon.

6. **Chairs Report:** None

7. **Public Comments:** None

8. **Subcommittees and Liaisons:** None

9. **Chair Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.**

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 27, 2023, at 11 a.m.

LOCATION: Ed Ball Bldg., 214 N. Hogan Street, 8th Floor Conference Rm. 851

Meetings are recorded. A copy of the audio recording can be obtained through a public records request at MyJax.com or 630.CITY

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