

## **Parks Safety Council**

### **Meeting Summary**

Monday, January 23, 2023,

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

### **Meeting Attendance**

**Park Safety Council Members:** Bruce J. Tyson, Walter Bryant.

**Zoom:** Kim Stephens-Perry.

**Visitors:** None.

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Keith Meyerl, James Taylor, Michelle Godwin-Ware.

**Zoom:** Daryl Joseph, Lisa Ransom.

### **Meeting Summary**

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Bruce J. Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:01 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 meeting summary at the next Park Safety Council meeting scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2023.
3. **Elected Officials Report:** None.
4. **Review of Safety Reports:**
  - **Keith Meyerl** provided a breakdown of the progress made from September 2022 through December 2022:
    - A total of 210 inspections were performed. Of the 210 inspections, 59.5% (125) were found to have no findings. A total of 14.8 % (31) were deemed satisfactory with findings. Twenty percent (42) were considered satisfactory with hazards, and 8.1 % (17) were deemed unsatisfactory with hazards.
    - One of the main goals of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Department is to continue to make progress by improving the number of unsatisfactory findings when conducting park safety inspections. As a group, we are progressing in attending to the items reported as well as making progress on those outstanding items.
5. **Park Safety Council's Member Comments:**
  - **Chair Tyson** commented on his concern about items listed as unsatisfactory with hazards repeatedly appearing on the park safety inspection report without follow-up comments to explain if there is action being taken and the progress of that action. Noting that the whole park is being renovated, if that is the case, would decrease everyone's concern. Chair Tyson suggested that the person monitoring and logging the responses from the park maintenance staff track or set a reminder to follow up on unsatisfactory with hazard issues every 30 days.
  - **Keith Meyerl** stated that PRCS has been working internally to provide Mr. Taylor with the necessary information. A hard copy addressing the unsatisfactory issues will be sent to Mr.

Taylor. An example would be Brunson Park which is shown as unsatisfactory with hazards on the report and has been open for over a year. This location is receiving a new playground installation and will be noted on the report.

- **Walter Bryant** expressed his concern with the definition of safety when placed in the executive order for the purpose of the PSC. The PSC seems to be reviewing primarily maintenance items. Most of the maintenance items are potential safety issues. However, if things were maintained, there would be no safety issues. Perhaps Council members can consider possibly narrowing down the scope of the PSC.
- **Chair Tyson** stated he doesn't want people who read the PSC report to think the PRCS Department is not doing its job. Perhaps the PRCS needs to hire more maintenance personnel to assist with completing issues more efficiently.
- **Keith Meyerl** stated that staff has been able to identify issues and have addressed them before and during the inspection. The goal is that every park has no findings.
- **Walter Bryant** stated that the third quarter's report was simplified, with data and the PRCS's comments. Mr. Bryant said he would add more narrative to the fourth quarter report identifying safety items versus maintenance items.

**6. Park Safety Standards Review:**

- **Chair Tyson** stated that a draft of the Park Safety Standards with comments had been completed. It was discussed and decided that a workshop with PRCS staff and PSC members would be beneficial. Mrs. Godwin-Ware will confirm the time and location of the workshop with PRCS staff and PSC members.

**7. Chairs Report:** None

**8. Public Comments:** None

**9. Subcommittees and Liaisons:** None

**10. Chair Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.**

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 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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