

Parks Safety Council

Meeting Summary

Monday, November 22, 2021,

Ed Ball Bldg., 214 N. Hogan Street, 5th Floor Conference Rm. 5016

Meeting Attendance

PSC Members: Bruce J. Tyson, Mary Jane Brewer, Walter Bryant, Patricia Kidd

Zoom: Kim Stephens-Perry

Visitors:

Staff and Elected Officials: Keith Meyerl, James Taylor, Michelle Godwin-Ware, Jennifer Pope

Zoom: Chiquita Moore, Lisa Ransom

Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Bruce J. Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified that a quorum was present. The October meeting summary was approved by the Park Safety Council.
2. **Presentation:** None
3. **Public Comments:** Park Safety Council members and staff introduced themselves.
4. **Chair's Report:**
 - **Chair Tyson** provided each Park Safety Council member a list of parks for their planning district, as well as a copy of a Playground Audit Guide published by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). An electronic version of each document will be forwarded to Ms. Kim Stephens-Perry who attended the meeting by Zoom. The guide is used by the Parks Department during park inspections and may be used by the Park Safety Council Members as a guideline to assist with writing new policy. Mr. Taylor, Park Facility Safety Officer will work with Parks, Recreation, and Community Services to provide information to the Park Safety Council members concerning the violations and findings of the inspections conducted by the staff.
 - **Mary Jane Brewer** inquired about how often the parks are inspected. Mr. Taylor said that each Park should be visited once or twice a year depending on the kind of playground, size, and type of park.
 - **Chair Tyson** cancelled the December 20, 2021, meeting because of holiday travel plans for many. The Park Safety Council meetings will resume starting January 24, 2022. Chair Tyson suggested this would be a good time for each Park Safety Council members to visit a few of their assigned parks in their districts, and to prepare a list of questions and conditions of the parks visited to be shared during January's meeting.

5. Staff Report:

Keith Meyerl - Parks, Recreation, and Community Services reported that:

- Parks, Recreation, and Community Services was awarded \$50 million to be used over the next two years. \$20 million will be used this year for the improvements to playgrounds, courts, and restrooms.
- Parks, Recreation, and Community Services is in the planning and design phase for 32 of the 40 playgrounds and 25 of the courts scheduled for improvements. Approximately 25 tennis and basketball courts will be replaced or resurfaced and painted. Restroom facilities will receive improvements based on the set requirements established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additionally, 28 of the playgrounds on this year's replacement list have had their playground equipment removed because they were deemed unsafe for end of life due to the risk officer's inspections.
- Parks, Recreation, and Community Services continues to work on the issues that are presented by the Park Safety Officer. Mr. Meyerl said he would be happy to provide the park classifications or the amenities of the parks to the Park Safety Council for January's meeting.

Chiquita Moore - Neighborhood Department - Chiquita Moore reported that:

- There is a potential replacement for the vacant Planning District One Park Safety Council seat, Ms. Michelle Thomas. Ms. Moore provided follow-up concerning a series of questions presented to her during November's meeting regarding the role and responsibilities of the Park Safety Council.
- According to the Park Safety Council's Executive Order the Park Safety Council is to provide an evaluation update quarterly to City Council and the Mayor. Ms. Moore said she is working with Mr. Joseph who will be speaking with Mr. Meyerl on the suggested evaluation format and how the Park Safety Council should present their report.
- In section 3 of the Park Safety Council's Executive Order there is a brief description of how the Park Safety Council should start presenting the park evaluations. As discussed by Mr. Magnus during the meeting on November 22, 2021, the executive order also mentions that the report should begin with parks that have already been cited by the Public Facilities Safety Officer.
- Ms. Moore will be working with the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Office to come up with an evaluation format for the Park Safety Council to be presented to the City Council and to the Mayor's office.

6. **Comments:** Chair Tyson reminded everyone that the Park Safety Council will meet again Monday, January 24, 2022, at 11 a.m. The meeting location is to be determined. Chair Tyson also reminded Park Safety Council members to convey any questions they may have for the Chair to Michelle Godwin-Ware at michellegw@coj.net or (904) 255-8236.

7. Subcommittees and Liaisons: None

8. Bruce J. Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 24, 2022, at 11 a.m.

LOCATION: Location to be determined

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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City of Jacksonville, Neighborhood Services Office
214 North Hogan Street, 5th Floor, Jacksonville, FL 32202, Telephone (904) 255-8250