



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Parks and Recreation Department**  
**Central Area Parks Operations**  
840 Forrest Avenue  
Cocoa, Florida 32922

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT CENTRAL AREA PARKS OPERATIONS**  
**District 2 Merritt Island/Beaches Recreation Advisory Board Agenda**  
**August 18, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Debby Gauntlett  
Cathy Jarrell  
Jack Masson arrived 5:06 p.m.  
Mary Jane Nail, Chair  
Janice Scott

**Members Not Present**

Phil Barnes, Vice-Chair  
Ralph Williams, III

**Staff Present**

Terry Lane, Central Area Parks Operations Manager  
Fred Ameigh, Central Area Maintenance Superintendent  
Courtney Kellem, Central Area Recreation Superintendent  
Denise Hayes, Central Area Parks Operations Administrative Secretary

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

Chair Nail called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**II. Approval of May 19, 2021 Minutes**

**Ms. Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2021. Mrs. Jarrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Lane introduced Courtney Kellem as Central Area Parks Operations new recreation Superintendent.

**III. Old Business**

**Financial Report - Terry Lane, Area Parks Operations Manager**

Mr. Lane stated that Fund 1020 was approximately 68% expended and that there was approximately \$589,000 of encumbered dollars.

**Attendance and Programs Report – Courtney Kellem, Recreation Superintendent**

Ms. Kellem informed the Board that summer camp has been successful even with the Covid-19 challenges staff faced. Ms. Kellem stated that Kiwanis Island Park had 794 campers; Rotary Park Nature Camp had 27 campers,

and Woody Simpson Park did not have summer camp because they only had 6 campers registered, and that those 6 campers were transported to the Kiwanis Island summer camp.

Ms. Kellem informed the Board that youth football season had begun, as well as Lassie League softball and Little League.

Ms. Kellem reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual First Responders Event took place at Kiwanis Island on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and that everyone was happy with how the event turned out and that she hoped the organizers would continue to use Kiwanis Island Park with their future events.

Ms. Kellem informed the Board of the upcoming Movies in the Park; Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> "Grease" would be showing at Kiwanis Island Park from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> "Maleficent" would be showing at Mitchell Ellington Park from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Kellem stated the Haunted Trail will be cancelled, as well as all other programs that would be held inside the Kiwanis Island Park Community Center because it was being used as a Covid treatment center. She further stated that rentals of the pavilions and the Doyle Carlton room are still available for rentals.

Ms. Kellem informed the Board that Broderick Harris has been promoted to Community Center Coordinator at Woody Simpson Park, and Kate Wells has been hired as the Environmental Supervisor at Rotary Park Nature Center.

Mr. Lane distributed a press release explaining Governor DeSantis' announcement to open Kiwanis Island Park Community Center as a state-run Monoclonal Antibody treatment center for Covid positive residents of Brevard County.

Mr. Lane explained that the Kiwanis Island Park recreation staff will be moved the Karen Stallard-Rood building while the treatments are being done at the center and that it could be up to 10 weeks or more.

Mr. Masson suggested staff keep a record of staff time and the direct cost of utilities for the community center while Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is using it in case the State chooses to reimburse.

There was a discussion regarding the numerous vacant positions in the Parks and Recreation Department and the job fair that was held to try and find new employees.

**Parks Maintenance Report - Fred Ameigh, Parks Maintenance Superintendent**

Mr. Ameigh stated the Merritt Island Sports Association league that plays football at Jefferson Middle School bought a new scoreboard and staff was working with the league to get the scoreboard installed.

Mr. Ameigh informed the Board that Playmore Recreational Products and Services that Parks and Recreation purchases its playground equipment had a fire at their plant and staff was working with them to get the new playground equipment.

Chair Nail asked how staff was doing with their hurricane awareness.

Mr. Lane stated that staff prepares a hurricane plan manual at the beginning of April and coordinates with the EOC to staff the Brevard County shelters with County employees.

Ms. Scott asked how to have a memorial tree planted in a park.

Mr. Ameigh stated that the person would call his office and talk to him; he will provide the person with a list of acceptable trees and tree selected will be purchased by the person requesting the memorial tree, and that person would also cover all costs of the tree including the planting of the tree. He further stated that sometimes Rockledge Gardens will take care of the planting of the tree if purchased from them.

Mr. Lane stated that Parks and Recreation has established a criteria and policy for memorial/honorary tree, brick and bench placement.

Ms. Scott stated that staff should work harder at making the shower pads at the beachside parks slope more for better drainage.

Chair Nail recommended the use of grids or drains instead of a slope.

Mr. Lane stated that the problems with drains is they get clogged with sand.

Mr. Masson stated staff traditionally uses a french drain system to carry the water away from the shower pad.

## **IV. New Business**

### **Projects**

Mr. Lane stated Mitchell Ellington Park received a \$50k Recreation Development Assistance Grant and now completed the 2-5 year-old's playground.

Mr. Lane stated that the new roof installation on the Arnold Memorial Pavilion at Rotary Park has been completed, and the siding is scheduled to be replaced at the Rotary Park Nature Center.

Mr. Lane stated that the Parks and Recreation budget has been submitted and the Commissioners will hold two public hearings before the final budget approval in September.

### **Request for Naming of the Lori Wilson Park Hammock and Boardwalk**

Mr. Lane distributed a not to scale drawing of the Lori Wilson Park hammock and boardwalk. He stated the Tourism Development Office (TDO) asked staff to bring the request to the Board for consideration and recommendation to name the hammock and boardwalk "The Phyllis and Howard Mansfield Hammock and Boardwalk".

After a discussion of the Board members, Ms. Scott stated she thought the name should be either "The Mansfield Hammock or The Mansfield Maritime Hammock", and that verbiage should be on the plaque or sign that explains who the Mansfield's are. Ms. Scott provided staff with a written recommendation of what the verbiage should be to provide to the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Masson stated he agreed with Ms. Scott that verbiage should be added to the plaque or sign explaining who the Mansfield's were.

Mr. Masson further stated that this hammock was one of the few maritime hammocks in Brevard County and felt that the word maritime should be added because of that reason and therefore recommends it be named the "The Mansfield's Maritime Hammock".

Chair Nail asked for motion on the recommendation.

**Ms. Scott made a motion to recommend the naming of Lori Wilson Park hammock and boardwalk "The Mansfield Maritime Hammock"; that a narrative be added to the sign, and that a sign be added to both entrances of the hammock and boardwalk. Mr. Masson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken; Mary Jane Nail, Yes; Janice Scott,**

**Yes; Jack Masson, Yes; Debbie Gauntlett, Yes; Cathy Jarrell, No. The motion passed 4 to 1.**

Mrs. Jarrell voted against stating she felt it should be named as requested by the Space Coast Audubon Society "The Phyllis and Howard Mansfield Hammock and Boardwalk."

Mr. Lane stated the Board of County Commissioner would most likely invite Mrs. Mansfield to their meeting when the recommendation is presented.

Chair Nail asked Mr. Masson for a report on her request for Senior Games being brought back to Brevard County.

Mr. Masson stated that he brought the Senior Games up to the Tourism Development Council Sports Commission representative, Erinn Stranko, and she indicated that the Senior Games were being held in another city within Florida. Mr. Masson stated he would be able to give a full report at the Board meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Lane stated that the Tourism Development Office had always taken the lead on the Senior Games when they were held in Brevard County.

**V. Public Input**

None

**VI. Adjournment**

**Mr. Masson made a motion to adjourned the meeting. Mrs. Jarrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Nail adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

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Signature line for Chair Mary Jane Nail