

The following draft minutes are subject to changes and/or revisions by the Park Board and shall not be considered the official minutes until approved by the Park Board.

**TOWN OF MALABAR – PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
April 20, 2022, MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting of the Malabar Parks and Rec Board was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road. It was called to order by Chair Bienvenu at 6:00 pm. Prayer and pledge were led by Chair Bienvenu.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER, AND PLEDGE

2. ROLL CALL

Chair	Eric Bienvenu - Present
Vice-Chair	Vicky Thomas – Present
Members	Tom Taylor – Present
	Jennifer Bienvenu – Present
	Hans Kemmler - Present
	Parnel Jean – EXCUSED
	Evan Hall – Arrived 6:06
Recording Secretary	Richard Kohler – Present

Public

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES: NONE

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of Minutes of 2/16/2022

MOTION: THOMAS/KEMMLER to accept the minutes of 2/16/2022 as amended. VOTE: All Ayes

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

6. ACTION ITEMS:

7. DISCUSSION:

a. Potential Dog Park Opportunity

Discussion: Chair informs the Board that Mr. Pieloch has offered to grant the Town \$80,000 for the completion of a dog park. Mr. Pieloch has completed several dog parks in south Brevard, most recently he completed a park in East Viera.

BM Bienvenu gave a detailed explanation of the Viera, Florida Ave and Crane Creek Park, including the shade, seating, and dog washing areas. She stated she has been to all of the parks with her dog, and the people she interacted with loved the shade and build up.

BM Thomas discussed the potential issues with liability insurance and stated in her research, municipalities are usually successful in avoiding court cases due to dog park incidents.

BM Bienvenu stated that Mr. Pieloch would prefer Malabar Community Park as the selected location and will gift the Town \$80k.

Chair states that there is also the promise of several volunteers that do site work that will be included.

Chair also discussed the park requirements discussed by Mr. Pieloch (Included in Agenda).

BM Thomas asked if Malabar has the staff to pick up the dog waste.

Chair states that it is a self-serving station, the Town's only responsibility will be to keep the bags supplied. There should be a double fence, such as the other parks designed by Mr. Pieloch.

BM Kemmler states the location has been an issue with Tortoises in the past.

Chair states there were none seen on the site visit. The Town can clear the land and bring in fill dirt.

BM Kemmler asked how expensive it would be to move the tortoise?

BM Hall stated he believes it is about \$5k, and the issue is that the mitigation banks are full.

BM Kemmler states he thinks it will be a wonderful addition to the area.

VC Thomas states it is a wonderful presentation.

BM Hall asked if we have asked any of the other municipalities have estimated their costs for maintenance?

Chair said he will investigate.

BM Kemmler asks if the park will be 24 hours?

Secretary states that Malabar Community Park is open Dawn to Dusk, and as a part of Malabar Community Park the Dog Park will also follow those hours of operation. He also noted that the American Kennel Club states an ideal dog park is 1 acre. The proposed site is under half an acre.

BM Kemmler states the area to the south could be added and includes nice shade. The bigger the better.

Chair states a sprinkler system will be required.

Chair reiterates that Mr. Pieloch will donate the funds, and not require the Town to do a fundraiser.

BM Kemmler states that he believes that we can do the project for under \$80k.

BM Bienvenu states the next step would be to present it to Council.

MOTION: BM Kemmler/BM Bienvenu to recommend that council approve and begin moving forward with this project. Vote; All Ayes (5-0)

BM Kemmler reiterates that the agreement included in the agenda will be what goes before the Council.

Secretary states it will.

Chair states we will begin to look at the features once the site has been finalized. We will have the volunteers that assisted in the building of the other parks to help determine what will go in.

BM Kemmler suggests we focus the area on low maintenance features.

BM Bienvenu commended Malabar resident Megan Wolfghram for her appearance on Shark Tank for a dog lure idea.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

a) BOARD MEMBER/STAFF REPORTS:

- Richard E. Cameron & Volunteers Wilderness Preserve – VC Thomas states she walked the Impala trail. The car is beyond repair, but it's a fun trail. She is concerned with the increase of cigarette butts. People are picking up their dog waste regularly. BM Kemmler asked about the pavilions. Secretary Kohler states Council has approved it and TM Stinnett is working on the RFP.
- Disc Golf Sanctuary – BM Kemmler states that the volunteers recently removed what they believe was the last Brazilian Peppers from the site. He states there are some Melaleuca plants that they haven't removed. BM Hall asks if they can be replaced? BM Kemmler states that is a good idea. In the past they have planted Cyprus, oaks, and coconut trees. In other news the fence on the West has been violated by the neighbor, and the Town is actively working to correct the situation. There will be a small tournament on May 7th. The Town paid for some materials to repair the fence and build a new bench.
- Thomas Eschenberg Memorial Conservation Area – BM Bienvenu asked if the T&GC was interested in using the park for trails? Secretary Kohler stated the area would be tough due to the wetlands and brush.
- Malabar Community Park – BM Bienvenu states it is wonderful to see how many people use the park.
- Sandhill Trail Head – BM Hall states use has dropped to next to nothing. The ROW of Marie Street has been mowed, and the paved path can be accessed from there. Someone has mowed a path through the old Huggins Park.

- b) Staff Reports – Secretary Kohler informed the Board that he spoke to BM Jean, and he is still interested in serving and appreciates the leave of absence he has been granted. He believes his schedule will return to normal and he will return to regularly attending meetings in September of this year.
- c) Next Scheduled Meeting
- May 18th, 2022, 6 PM
 - Chair and BM Bienvenu will be out of town for the next meeting.
 - VC Thomas stated her appreciation to the Chair for his hard work on the Dog Park project. This has been in the making for a long time, and she looks forward to working on the project.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion. **MOTION: Thomas/Kemmler** motion to adjourn the meeting
VOTE: All Ayes. This meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

By:

Original Signed
Eric Bienvenu, Chair

ATTEST:

Richard W. Kohler
Richard W. Kohler
Recording Secretary

Date Approved: 10/19/2022

NOTE: THERE MAY BE ONE OR MORE MALABAR ELECTED OFFICIAL ATTENDING THIS MEETING

If an individual decides to appeal any decision made by this board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, a verbatim transcript may be required, and the individual may need to ensure that a verbatim transcript of the proceedings is made (Florida Statute 286.0105). The Town does not provide this service. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting should contact the Town's ADA Coordinator at 321-727-7764 at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting.