

Parks Safety Council

Meeting Summary

Monday, January 22, 2024,

Ed Ball Bldg., 214 N. Hogan Street, 4th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Attendance

- **Park Safety Council Members:** Chair Bruce J. Tyson and Walter Bryant.
- **Zoom Members:** None.
- **Staff and Elected Officials:** Daniel Piastuck, James Taylor, Lyndsey Smith, Michelle Godwin-Ware, Douglas Brooks, Terrence Hurst.
- **Zoom Staff:** Wallen Magnus.
- **Visitors:** None.
- **Zoom Visitors:** Donna Philbrick, San Mateo Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Bruce J. Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified there was no quorum.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Summary:** Meeting summaries will be approved when the Park Safety Council has full membership.
3. **Elected Officials Report:** None.
4. **Introductions:**
 - **James Taylor**, Park Facility Safety Officer, reported fewer reports of unsatisfactory hazards. The issue of depleted mulch at many playgrounds is an ongoing problem and is being replenished frequently.
 - **Chair Tyson and Walter Byrant** stated that the PSC needs four additional members. One from Planning Districts 1, 2,5, and 6. Mary Jane Brewer resigned this month because of work. The PSC is having difficulty fulfilling its duties because it cannot establish a quorum to vote on items and move things through. Chair Tyson stated he would like to receive the safety reports before the PSC meetings because everyone needs time to review them and make notes and comments. It would be preferable to receive the report monthly. The PSC members can send their questions to Mrs. Godwin-Ware, who will forward them to the Parks Recreation and Community Service (PRCS) Department. The PSC would also like an update on the individuals who expressed interest in joining the council several months ago. Chair Tyson asked the following questions: What is the length of the PSC? What is the directive? What can remedy the problem of obtaining and retaining PSC volunteers? Can the PSC Executive Order be amended to allow more than one member from each of the six planning districts, or could the number of members needed for a quorum be waived? Four members must be present to constitute a quorum. However, there are only six members, making it difficult to obtain a quorum if more than two are out.
 - **Magnus Wallen**, City Safety Manager, stated that the Park Safety Council was mandated based on a lawsuit. He has received a push from the administration to follow up on the status of new members for the PSC. Mr. Wallen advised that the Executive Order only states that the mayor must appoint members. Members do not have to be CPAC members but must reside in the district they are interested in representing.
 - **Walter Bryant** offered to contact his many contacts, regarding interest in becoming part of the PSC. Mr. Bryant asked Mrs. Godwin-Ware for the boundaries of each CPAC and will invite interested individuals to become PSC members.
 - **Daniel Piastuck**, Chief of Recreation and Community Programming, introduced Douglas Brooks, Park Maintenance Supervisor, and thanked PSC members for their time and commitment. Mr. Piastuck asked how the PRCS Department could narrow down the report. Perhaps filter the report

for specific items the PSC would like to see. Would the PSC prefer the report on a weekly or monthly basis?

- **Chair Tyson** stated that the report has looked great since Ms. Smith took over. Receiving the report monthly with notes on the various items would be ideal.
- **Walter Bryant** asked if the report that the PSC produces needs to be modified.
- **James Taylor** advised that the report should stay brief to ensure it is understood.
- **Daniel Piastuck** advised that the report should continue capturing the overall findings to provide an overview of the safety report and the progress that is being made. Mr. Piastuck asked if Ms. Smith could add a category to the safety report indicating the findings on open items. Also, when closing out an item, include in the report that there are no hazards. Various safety issues may not get resolved right away because of equipment or parts being on back order or no longer being available. Equipment is often removed until PRCS can obtain new equipment or parts. Ms. Smith will have the report to Mrs. Godwin-Ware on the 15th of each month.
- **Walter Bryant** asked for a summary indicating the definition of the various findings.
- **James Taylor** stated that the report would be starting over every six months.
- **Daniel Piastuck** suggested creating a report for 30, 60, and 90 days. Anything that cannot be resolved in 90 days should be listed as a Capital Improvement project, or in the safety report, explain the actions being taken. Beginning in May, the PRCS will use a new program, "The Production Park Program." The program will help track work, parts, and findings that can be added to the safety report. Items Mr. Taylor reported as hazardous more than twice will be moved to priority one in the safety report. Notes are vital and will be added to the report.

5. **Chairs Report:** None

6. **Public Comments:** Donna Philbrick of San Mateo Neighborhood Association, Inc. expressed the need for citizens to take more of an interest and pride in how their parks look and partner with the PRCS Department. The PSC may be having difficulty recruiting members because of the number of parks in Jacksonville. There may need to be more than one person from each planning district on the PSC.

7. **Subcommittees and Liaisons:** None

8. **Chair Tyson, Park Safety Council Chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.**

NEXT MEETING: March 25, 2024.

LOCATION: Ed Ball Bldg., 214 N. Hogan Street, 4th Floor Conference Rm.

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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