



**CITY OF OKEECHOBEE
FLAGLER PARK DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MARCH 29, 2021
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robbie Chartier called the meeting of the Flagler Park Design Review Advisory Committee (FPDRAC) to order on Monday, March 29, 2021, at 3:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast 3rd Avenue, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida.

II. ATTENDANCE

Deputy City Clerk Bobbie Jenkins called the roll. Chairperson Robbie Chartier, Vice-Chairperson Bert Culbreth, Regular Members Susanne Clemons, Regina Hamrick, Kathy Scott, Jennifer Tewksbury, Denise Whitehead, Alternate Members Greg Maynard and Bob Burdge were present.

III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Motion by Member Clemons, seconded by Vice-Chair Culbreth to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**
- B. There were no comment cards submitted for public participation for any issues not on the agenda.

IV. MINUTES

- A. Motion by Vice-Chair Culbreth, seconded by Member Tewksbury to approve the March 8, 2021 minutes as presented. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. City Administrator Marcos MontesDeOca reviewed the maintenance budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 which is approximately \$81,500.00 for Flagler Park. Member Clemons inquired about and received information on the ease of providing irrigation for future park improvements.
- B. The City's Landscape Architect Tammy Cook-Weedon of Calvin, Giordano and Associates (CGA) provided a presentation outlining design possibilities as well as available grant funding. Those grants include: Florida Department of Transportation Small County Outreach Program and Beautification; Florida Department of Environmental Protection Land and Water Conservation; Florida Recreation Development Assistance, Recreation Trails and Florida Communities Trust; Florida Department of State Heritage Education; Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Urban Forestry; American Academy of Dermatology Shade Structure; Home Depot Community Impact; and Lowe's 100 Hometowns grants. It was confirmed that CGA has experienced grant writers on staff and could provide those services should they be warranted. She further explained the design process and how each park would evolve basically as individual projects with each moving through phases.

V. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Administrator MontesDeOca provided the Downtown Flagler Parks conceptual plan presented by the Economic Council to the City Council on August 4, 2020. Discussion followed concerning which block to develop first, and Public Works Director Allen provided input regarding the current limited electrical and irrigation related infrastructure. Flagler Park encompasses nine individual blocks surrounded by paved roadways. The Chamber of Commerce and City Police Department facilities are located on Block R of FLAGLER PARK; City Hall and Fire Station One are located on Block A of FLAGLER PARK. The FPDRAC agreed there needed to be a sense of design cohesiveness throughout the entire span of the area with each block to feature a different theme.

After a lengthy discussion, the consensus from the FPDRAC was that the City Council consider a proposal for CGA to create an overall conceptual master design plan for Blocks F,L,A,G,L,E, and P of FLAGLER PARK (TOWN OF OKEECHOBEE, Plat Book 5, Page 5, Okeechobee County public records) as well as create the conceptual design and construction phase documents for Block L of FLAGLER PARK (also known as Park 5) for the Cattle Drive Sculpture project. The life size sculptures have been approved by the City Council and is a project of Okeechobee Main Street Arts and Cultural Alliance Committee with several years of fundraising and donations from local ranches and families. The project is tentatively scheduled to be installed in the fall. Member Maynard turned the discussion to the block designated as the Veterans Memorial Park (Block E of FLAGLER PARK). Due to a recent vehicle collision, a portion of the memorial has been damaged. Materials and labor have been donated to make the repairs. He continued further explaining there is a renewed interest in elevating the Veterans Park helicopter eight to ten feet off the ground to display it properly and to prevent vandalism. The welding class at Indian River State College is willing to assist with this endeavor for free if it could be completed before November. It was agreed by a majority of the FPDRAC to move forward with elevating the helicopter, as this has been the intent for several years. However, the Committee did not want to hamper any conceptual design changes and/or improvements the landscape architects may propose by moving forward with the elevation project immediately. The goal would be that the Council receive and adopt the master conceptual plan, and that it would be done within the time frame to allow the welding class to be utilized for the elevation project.

- C. Administrator MontesDeOca provided a timeline for presenting information for approve to the Council. The consensus was to set the next meeting for May 24, 2021 and hold a conceptual plan open house for citizen engagement prior to the meeting.

- VI. There being no further items for discussion, Chair Chartier adjourned the meeting at 4:16 P.M.

Submitted by: Bobbie Jenkins, Deputy Clerk

Approved on: May 24, 2021

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the FPDRAC with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.