

**TOWN OF LAKE HAMILTON
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023
2:00 PM**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a Board meeting on Wednesday September 27, 2023, at 100 Smith Ave., Lake Hamilton, FL 33851.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Ellen Kehoe called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS BY THE CLERK

Joy Sutkus, Ellen Kehoe, Tammy Pence, Leslie Landon, and Elizabeth Kuykendall were present. Town Clerk Sandoval Soto, Senior Planner Kirby, and Town Administrator Hunnicutt were present.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE BOARD:

The Clerk gave a copy of an email sent by board member Walter to all board members as requested.

Chair Kehoe made a statement for the record. She wanted to reiterate that the board does not set policy and they only make recommendations to the Council for recreational purposes. The board does not vote on items and any input regarding the Council budget can be directed to the Town Administrator. The Staff is solely directed by the Town Administrator.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Sutkus and a second by Pence to approve the 08-23-2023 meeting minutes. No public comments were received. **Motion passed 5-0.**

LAKE HAMILTON CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION CONTINUED DISCUSSION

Chair Kehoe noted that at the last meeting, board members were tasked to bring forth ideas regarding the Centennial for Lake Hamilton. Members presented ideas which were: Carnival, parade, roaring twenties event, carnival/festival with karaoke, bingo, kickball games, one for children and one for adults or police vs. firefighters with additional citizens involved, Photo contest, corn hole, citrus cooking competition, food truck themed citrus, pie eating contest, haunted jail, comedian instead of just music, conservation about bats. There will be continued discussion at the next meeting to narrow those ideas down.

DISCUSSION REGARDING VETERAN'S DAY

Chair Kehoe noted that this item was discussed at the last meeting and there is not much time to prepare for a big celebration due to not much time to put something together. There was discussion regarding what was done in the past, including reading the names of those on the

Veterans wall, and ceremonies. There was a recommendation to do the reading of the names, a ceremony or a walk. It was discussed that maybe the Mayor could read the names on the wall, to have the event of Saturday morning.

Motion made by Sutkus and a second by Kuykendall to recommend to council to have the Mayor read the names on the wall, and Joy Sutkus play the taps or bugle and do a ceremonial walk after.

No further comments were received. **Motion passed 5-0.**

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Chair Kehoe gave an overview of what the ceremony entailed in the past. With Santa out front of Town Hall with the Tree, they served hot chocolate and cider, and had cookies. Chair Kehoe noted that volunteers would be needed. Sutkus noted that she could contact people at the Davenport School of the Arts regarding caroling.

Motion made by Sutkus and a second by Pence to recommend to Council to have the tree lightning ceremony on the 1st of December in the evening.

No further comments were received. **Motion passed 5-0.**

There was discussion regarding wearing ugly Christmas tops, having beverages and cookies, making the ugly tops a contest and win something small.

DISCUSSION REGARDING BOARD MEMBERS IDEAS

Senior Planner Kirby noted that the 39-mile yard sale is coming the first Saturday of November and will need 2 volunteers to help out. The event will start at 7:00 am and he estimated the volunteers would need to be there at 5:00 am. Pence offered to volunteer and bring someone else to help. Kirby noted that the spaces will be set up the day before. Administrator Hunnicutt noted that there are t-shirts available for purchase at town hall for the event.

There was discussion regarding ideas for future events for the Town. Landon recommended having a sidewalk chalk contest. Sutkus recommended having a night once a month to play cards, board games, hang out. Administrator Hunnicutt noted that someone could reach out to Paula with the Woman's Club to see about doing bingo or something similar. He updated the board with information about a retreat that the Town Council will be having next month. There is a survey on Facebook for residents and he encouraged everyone to fill it out. He also noted that the Town has a small lending library that needs some T.L.C. and recommends someone reaching out to the school to take it so the kids can decorate it and make it more appealing. Kuykendall noted that there is a second library in front of her residence.

Administrator Hunnicutt questioned if anyone had any questions for him regarding the budget. No questions.

Chair Kehoe asked the board to narrow down the ideas for the centennial to 5 and bring those back to the next board meeting and begin working on the details.

Administrator Hunnicutt gave ideas on what was done in the City of Winter Haven. They had a mock Council meeting and dressed up like they did 100 years ago, the Mayor made proclamations, they did a parade and had food trucks centralized in one area, and they did a time capsule and buried it.

Chair Kehoe noted she would contact the school and winter haven to get the information discussed during the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Sutkus and a second by Pence to adjourn the meeting at 2:43PM. No discussion. **Motion Passed 5-0.**

ATTEST:

Ellen Kehoe, Board Chair

Brittney Sandoval Soto, Town Clerk

Patrick Henry, Public Works Director