

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

January 15, 2026 MINUTES

4:30PM – GROWTH MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
MARTIN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
2401 SE MONTEREY RD STUART, FL 34996

PRESENT

District 1, Jean-Paul Albertelli
District 3, Doug Smith
District 4, Larry Sofield
At-Large, Allan Mostoff
At-Large, Jack Mathison
At-Large, Michael Bocchino
At-Large, Vice Chair, Gary Clough

ABSENT

District 2, Chair, Casey Cass
District 5, Chris Pinkston

STAFF PRESENT

Parks & Recreation Department Deputy Director, Kevin Kirwin
Senior Assistant County Attorney, Melissa Pietrzyk
Recreation Planning & Grant Coordinator, Katie Comack

OTHERS PRESENT

Martin County Sheriff Office, Deputy Andy Adams
Martin County Sheriff Office, Deputy Chris Mauricio

*Indicates a motion **Indicates a vote ***For the record comment

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm.

II. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes: October 16, 2025 Minutes

* Michael Bocchino motioned to approve Minutes.

** Larry Sofield seconded, and the motion carried 6-0

2. Approval of Minutes: November 20, 2025 Minutes

* Michael Bocchino motioned to approve Minutes.

** Larry Sofield seconded, and the motion carried 6-0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Jack Mathison arrived at 4:34pm.

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Sheriff's Department Update

Deputy Adams introduced Deputy Mauricio who recently joined the department. Deputy Adams shared the department is currently battling traffic issues and addressing increased accidents for the start of the year.. He also shared Deputies will be attending upcoming Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting to provide feedback about e-bikes. Discussion.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Larry Sofield asked about the Park Ranger house at Halpatokee Regional Park. Kevin Kirwin shared the house was demolished and currently looking into options for space to be re-incorporated into park. Larry suggested a community center should be built in the area for an additional meeting space in the county. Discussion.

Doug Smith asked about details of design of the bullpens at Doc Myers Park. Discussion.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Heads Up

Jean-Paul Albertelli shared his experience at Savannah's Preserve for reservations at pavilions. Jean-Paul asked if there could be QR codes placed on pavilions to check availability or to reserve. Discussion. Kevin Kirwin shared staff will investigate potential options.

Kevin Kirwin thanked Michael Bocchino for his long-time service to the PRAB. Discussion.

VIII. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT RELATED ITEMS TO BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

1. The BOCC is asking the PRAB members to discuss and recommend to the BOCC, via a vote, the number of meetings that the PRAB desires to hold a year

Melissa Pietrzyk shared information about the proposed resolution to change the number of meetings held in a year at January 6th meeting. Melissa shared the Commissioners have requested feedback from PRAB members about the meeting schedule. Discussion.

Allan Mostoff asked what was behind the Commissioners decision about changing to 4 meetings a year. Melissa shared it was discussed at BOCC meeting with presentation of Master Plan. Discussion.

Larry Sofield shared he attended the BOCC meeting and heard Commissioner comments about meeting schedule. Larry shared he spoke with Commissioners and asked for the resolution decision be delayed until PRAB provide feedback. Larry suggested meeting 9 times a year avoiding summer months (July/August) and December. Larry suggested attendance requirement stay at 3 meetings but not consecutive.

Michael Bocchino shared he agreed with fewer meetings maybe 7-8 meetings, avoiding summer months, change November date earlier, December and spring break.

Jack Mathison shared 4 meetings would not be enough for public to have the opportunity to present to the PRAB. Jack shared there should be 6 meetings at a minimum. Discussion.

Melissa Pietrzyk shared recommendation to keep meeting schedule consistent for resolution and future PRAB members. Discussion.

Gary Clough shared 6 meetings would accommodate summer and holiday breaks. Gary also shared set pattern of every other month would avoid holidays and provide efficiency for staff to present items. Discussion.

Melissa Pietrzyk asks for motion to include recommendation for member meeting attendance requirement. Discussion.

*Jack Mathison motioned to recommend the PRAB to meet 6 times a year every other month on third Thursday of month, with option to adjust schedule at the discretion of PRAB, and members are to not miss more than 3 meetings in a calendar year.

**Larry Sofield seconded, and the motion carried 7-0.

IX. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Michael Bocchino had no report and shared the next meeting will be February 2nd and will focus on e-bikes. Michael also shared there will be joint MPO meeting on February 9th. Discussion.

X. 10. RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR MEMO TO BOCC

None.

XI. 11. COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

1. Date of Next Meeting

Gary Clough informed the members that the next meeting will take place on February 19th, at 4:30PM. The location of the next meeting will be at the Growth Management Conference Room, Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 SE Monterey Road Stuart, FL 34996.

2. Members

Doug Smith left meeting at 5:30pm.

Michael Bocchino asked the status of renovation at Langford Pavilion. Kevin Kirwin shared projects is in design for entire building and staff will share update at next meeting.

Allan Mostoff asked about the updated pathway between Seabranh Preserve Park and Johnathan Dickinson State Park. Kevin Kirwin shared the project is led by MPO. Discussion.

3. Staff

None.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33pm.

* Jack Mathison motioned to adjourn the meeting.

** Michael Bocchino seconded, and the motion carried 6-0.

Gary Clough, Vice Chair

Date

Kevin V. Abbate, Parks and Recreation Director, MPA, CPRP

Date