

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 21, 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
At-Large, Allan Mostoff
At-Large, Jack Mathison
At-Large, Fred Bowen Smith
At-Large, Gary Clough, Chair

ABSENT

District 2, Vacant
District 4, Larry Sofield, Vice Chair
District 5, Chris Pinkston

STAFF PRESENT

Parks & Recreation Department Deputy Director, Jessica Ballash
Assistant Parks & Recreation Director, Mario Arguelles
Parks Administrator, Michael Saunders
Senior Assistant County Attorney, Melissa Pietrzyk
Recreation Administrator, Katie Comack
Recreation Planning and Grants Coordinator, Ainsley Bright
Marketing Manager, Nancy Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT

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 4:30 pm.

II. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes: March 19, 2026 Minutes

* Jack Mathison motioned to approve Minutes.

** Allan Mostoff seconded, and the motion carried 6-0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Dragseth asked about financial information for the golf course and mooring fields operations. Jim also asked about what was included in project for the Sea Turtle Beach Café and when it will be shared with PRAB. Jim also shared about Junior Golf program at the Golf Course.

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Sheriff's Department Update

Deputy Chris Mauricio shared update. Sheriff's department is currently dealing with the crash at South Fork High School. Chris stated nothing has been brought to his attention that's an immediate concern for Parks and Recreation.

Allan Mostoff asked about the homeless situation. Deputy Mauricio shared that it is constantly a priority and are addressing on-going occurrences.

Jean-Paul Albertelli asked what to expect with traffic when school ends and how it affects what the Sheriff addresses. Deputy Mauricio shared an increase in juvenile activity like e-Bikes and vandalism is expected but department is prepared to address.

2. Tentative Operating Budget for FY27

Jessica Ballash presented overview of the tentative FY27 operating Budget. Discussion.

Gary Clough asked why there has been an increase in landscaping and mowing. Jessica stated that the new contractor with increased fees for passive parks but decrease in special facility spaces. Jessica also shared additional parks spaces were added to inventory.

Deputy Chris Mauricio left meeting at 4:45pm.

Jean-Paul Albertelli asked about usage of contracted employees across the department. Jessica shared that we utilize reSource Government Services for hiring our contracted staff. Jean-Paul asked how we keep the standards with contracted staff. Jessica shared we interview them and vet them. Mario Arguelles stated the full-time employees at the facilities manage and train contracted employees. Jean-Paul also asked if our special facility revenue is re-invested into the parks system. Jessica shared revenue collected is re-invested into special facilities.

Fred Bowen Smith asked what the department is looking for from the board. Jessica shared to keep you informed with what we are doing and how we are doing it.

3. Department Revenue Overview

Jessica Ballash presented overview of special facilities revenues. Discussion. Jessica also shared we have a revenue and fee manual that dictates our fees. The fees are reviewed at least once a year.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Heads Up

None

2. Hitting Bay Names

Nancy Johnson shared options for a name for Sailfish Sands Hitting Bays. Three names were presented: The Fin, The Strike, and Fins and Fairways. Discussion. Other names that were brainstormed by the board: Caddies, Tee Box, Tee to Green.

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

Kevin Abbate is sharing the revenue presentation to the board at the June 9th meeting.

IX. RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR MEMO TO BOCC

None.

X. COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

1. Date of Next Meeting

Gary Clough informed the members that the next meeting will take place on July 16, 2026 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

Fred Bowen Smith shared that he hasn't seen any park improvement projects in Hobe Sound. Gary Clough requests to add to agenda for the next meeting.

Jean-Paul Albertelli shared putting informational signs out in parks to help citizens identify and learn about the plants and other aspects of nature. Jean-Paul really enjoyed the House of Hope Garden Sprouting's.

3. Staff

Katie Comack shared the last music at the mansion will be Friday June 5th. She also informed the board that she has transitioned to the Recreation Administrator role and will be transitioning duties of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to Ainsley Bright the new Recreation Planning and Grants Coordinator.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

* Jack Mathison motioned to adjourn the meeting.

** Allan Mostoff seconded, and the motion carried 6-0.

Gary Clough, Chair

Date

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

Date