

ADOPTED

MARION OAKS MSTU ADVISORY BOARD FOR RECREATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

9:30 AM

ROLL CALL:

Board Members

Kathleen Martin - Chairperson
Alice Mitchell – excused absence
Carole LaMotte
Bobby Whipple
Joanne Coast

Marion County Marion Oaks MSTU Representatives

Community Manager - MSTU / Assessments, Katy Burton
Marion Oaks Community Center Manager, David Pierce
Marion Oaks Facilities Trades Supervisor, Charles Aman
Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Tech III, Thomas Wilcox
Marion Oaks Recreation Specialist, Kari Coates
Staff Assistant III, Marlene Perez Maldonado

General Public: See Sign In-Sheet

Chairperson Kathleen Martin called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

Chairperson Kathleen Martin requested everyone rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

VOTE ON ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Bobby Whipple asked why we couldn't come up with a system to process memberships on Saturdays. David Pierce responded by letting Mr. Whipple know that processing a membership can be lengthy and on Saturdays we only have one staff member. In addition, Kari Coates informed Mr. Whipple that credit cards can not be processed on Saturdays, as it is not a regular day of business for the County Finance Department.

Chairperson Kathleen Martin presented the February 13, 2024 draft of minutes for adoption. A motion was made by Joanne Coast and seconded by Bobby Whipple to accept the minutes, with one minor correction. Approved by all.

RECREATION SPECIALIST – Kari Coates

Memberships: Continue to grow

Recreation Center Offerings: We continue to offer exercise and specialty classes throughout the month. Billiard tournaments are still taking place with members twice a month, and we also have the traveling tournaments that take place at various 55 plus communities. We continue to offer pickleball lessons 3 times a week.

Public Offerings: On a monthly and weekly basis, Dept. of Health Mobile Health Unit, Langley Dental, Liver/Memory screenings, and Master Gardeners Plant Clinic

Outside Instructors: Tang Soo Do, Zumba, Martial Arts, Salsa, Line Dancing, and meditation are still being offered and new outside instructor classes will be offered such as Stretching and Breathwork. Also upcoming will be a second Tang Soo Do class and a woman's self-defense class, and our Zumba instructor is also going to be offering a new class. We will also be offering two new art classes. Kari reports that we could have more instructional classes offered, but are at capacity and just don't have the space in the building.

ADOPTED

Marion Oaks MSTU Advisory Board
for Recreation Services and Facilities
Minutes – April 9, 2024
Page 2 of 4

RECREATION SPECIALIST – Kari Coates – Cont'd:

Offered Additionally: New Recreational Leader, Haleigh Morgan has recently added The Oaks Tiny Tots program and age 16 and up Volleyball program on Friday nights, all open to the public.

Events: Our annual open house took place, we had a Spring Yard Sale that was a great success, we had a lot of residents that took advantage of that and we had a steady flow of buyers. Our Annual Health Fair was also very successful to the point that one of the news stations saw the post and showed up to the event. Spring Break Camp was a sellout. Our final feedback from the parents was great again, the kids had a good time and every day we went somewhere different. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our bridal show due to unforeseen reasons. This event will be rescheduled. Our Easter event was another great turnout, we not only had a youth egg hunt but we also had our first adult egg hunt that was quite a hit. Overall our numbers for vendors did go down compared to what we've had in the past. With that, we had a lot of issues the month before the event with the telephones not working and the internet/email. Our Community Dinner was successful, our Valentine's Day Luncheon and Easter Luncheon was a full house, and also successful.

Kari had the honor of being invited to the Marion County Public Schools ground breaking of two of the new elementary schools. One is located here in Marion Oaks and the other is closest to Hammet Bowen. The design of the schools was fantastic. Also, they will be putting on additions to some of the other Marion Oaks Schools, and they are putting a high school in Marion Oaks.

Upcoming Months: We will continue with our monthly standard offerings of exercise classes, seminars, educational classes, our van trips, etc. We will be having a community picnic at a fee on April 23rd, Community Game on April 24th, Mother's Day Brunch will be on May 9th, the Father's Day Breakfast is on June 11th, and we have the Marion Oaks Civic Association Clean Up that we will be participating in on June 24th. We will also be having a Marion Oaks Olympics that will take place in June in partnership with Central Florida Bounce, the date will be announced soon. Due to the ever-growing Spanish-speaking population, we will now be offering all printed media in English and Spanish.

FACILITIES TRADES SUPERVISOR – Charles Aman

Grounds Maintenance: The crew has started to mow and weed the grounds and everything is looking good.

Splash Pad: The Splash Pad has been painted and the tank has been emptied out and it should be up and running by Thursday of this week and the walkway between the building has also been painted.

Volleyball Court: Is done and ready to go.

Tree Trimming: Trees in the front parking lot are trimmed up as well as the employee parking lot behind this building.

A.C. for Sheriff's Office: An air conditioner was ordered for the Sheriff's Office at a cost of \$17,060 and should be installed in two to three weeks. It was on back order. We do have two more units that need to be replaced in the next couple of years.

LED Lighting: Midstate has replaced some of the lights along the walking trail at a cost of \$2,100. We have a few more lights to replace before everything is switched over to LED lighting. Board member

ADOPTED

Marion Oaks MSTU Advisory Board
for Recreation Services and Facilities
Minutes – April 9, 2024
Page 3 of 4

FACILITIES TRADES SUPERVISOR – Charles Aman – cont'd:

Bobby Whipple asked if the \$2,100 included the other lights that were going to be replaced and Charles advised that no, it was not. Community Center Mgr. David Pierce also responded by adding that it has been a process to change out all our lighting to LED so that we can be more efficient. We are approximately 3/4 of the way done. We have already seen the impact it's made, and the parking lot is much brighter since replacing those lights.

COMMUNITY CENTER MANAGER – David Pierce

Beatles Concert: This Friday, there will be a tribute concert to the Beatles in our Auditorium. The company that is renting the venue is a large company and does concerts all throughout Florida. It's \$35 per ticket if the Board is interested in attending. This band is top notch and it would be a good show to see. They are also doing a Johnny Cash tribute concert. We're very excited about having them. It's a nice rental and a good event for the community.

Autism Walk: This past Saturday we were the venue for an Autism Benefit Walk. OASN is the non-profit organization that ran it and there were about 150-200 people that participated. They had a DJ and several food vendors. It was well-attended and is something we are looking to do on an annual basis. They were on the grounds selling raffle tickets and said it was very successful for them. Its for a great cause.

Staff: Two of our staff – Kari Coates and Thomas Wilcox were nominated by their peers for employee of the quarter. Both Kari and Thomas helped out another department (along with Chip), and it was recognized by their peers. Thomas steps up when Chip is not here, and he has really made huge strides and is on the path to being in a management role, along with Chip and Kari. They work very hard at all the little details needed to run the Community Center. The Splash Pad itself is a big responsibility to keep up all year long, which Chip does a great job at. As Chip mentioned, the Sheriff's Office air conditioning unit was on back order, and while waiting for the unit to arrive Chip and Thomas came up with a way to set up air conditioning in the Sheriff's Office so that they wouldn't be left without air while waiting for the Unit to arrive. Things like that are the things that can go wrong. We've tried having some events without Victor DJ'ing and it's not the same when you don't have a stand up DJ like Victor. We have a custodian, Marilyn Proberbs out there teaching pickle ball to the kids on Wed night. People wouldn't even think she was out there doing that. We don't have a big staff, but we have a very diverse, talented and dedicated staff. David wanted to be sure to recognize the efforts of our staff.

We are fully staffed, and we have a new employee Haleigh Morgan. She has already proven to be a great addition to our staff. In addition to what Kari talked about with the Tiny Tots Program and family volleyball, she is looking to start a youth advisory board so we can get some ideas from our youth, and is also planning a Summer Camp for \$150 for the week. Touching on Spring Break Camp, which Kari ran – a good time was had by all, David wishes there were camps like that when he was a kid. They went somewhere different every day and he and the kids had a blast. Kari had fun activities throughout the Spring Break Camp, and again this just demonstrates the dedication of our staff here.

ADOPTED

Marion Oaks MSTU Advisory Board
for Recreation Services and Facilities
Minutes – April 9, 2024
Page 4 of 4

COMMUNITY CENTER MANAGER – David Pierce – cont'd:

Sugrim Ramsawh, part time Recreation Specialist is out sick until at least late May.

Projects: Pickleball Expansion

The job went out to bid, but we were advised by the County that we have to create a site plan before the expansion can go any further.

Dog Park

We have received several quotes to get the project started and it is ready to be forwarded to procurement.

Annex: Exercise Equipment

We received the Pro Maximo Tricep exercise equipment and it's a good addition to our gym. You can actually work out every part of your body now with the equipment we currently have and people are using the machine.

Incidents: No major issues. Currently David feels that the residents here are very respectful and of course staff always stays on top of things.

NEXT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Our next advisory board meeting will be July 16, 2024 at 9:30 am, following our budget presentation at the Board of County Commission Budget Hearing, the 2nd week of July. David hasn't heard about anything major or any setbacks since our budget workshop in February. He advised the chairperson Kathy Martin that she does have to attend the hearing and will let her know the date and time. Joanne Coast asked if the budget hearing was live-streamed and David offered to send her the link. She also feels that as a Board we need to look at expanding as this place is growing in leaps and bounds.

A motion was made by Joanne Coast to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Carole LaMotte.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by Marlene Perez Maldonado

Kathleen Martin
Chairperson, Kathleen Martin

8-13-24
Date