



Meeting Minutes - Draft
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Thursday, February 19, 2026

9:00 AM

MacKenzie Hall - 800 Dunlop Road

1. Call To Order

The meeting convened at 9:01 AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Denick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Chairperson Christopher Denick, Vice Chair Wendy Walker, Committee Member Angi Semler Welch, Committee Member Kyle Sweet, Committee Member Bernard Arroyo and Committee Member Dorothy Plumb

Absent: 1 - Committee Member Ralph Quillen

a. Motion to Excuse Absent Members

Committee Member Welch moved, seconded by Vice Chair Walker to excuse absent Committee Member Quillen. The motion carried.

Excused: 1 - Committeemember Ralph Quillen

4. Consent Agenda

a. Adoption of January 15, 2026 Minutes (Information to be provided in a supplemental agenda)

Deputy City Clerk Hicks noted that the January minutes would be brought back at the March meeting.

5. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

None at this time.

6. Old Business

a. Updates from February 3, 2026 City Council Meeting

- i. Denise Dillon, Recreation Marketing & Events Coordinator, Recognized as Employee of the Quarter
- ii. E-Bike Discussion
- iii. Dog Park Survey

Recreation Director Andrea Miller gave a brief update on City Council action from the February 3rd meeting. Denise Dillion received Employee of the Quarter. Bringing back for first reading a draft ordinance related to e-bikes, to allow for Class II and Class III.

Discussion regarding fluidity of issue, motorbike classification, more people riding bikes, and educating riders about courteous practices. Committee members spoke to the data showing less than 25% of SUP-related incidents are e-bike-related, that the number of users is growing, and that the number of e-bike types is growing.

Director Miller noted e-bike technology is continuing to evolve and might require periodic evaluation. She further pointed out Florida bills that propose guidelines related to e-bikes, some of which the City is already complying with.

Committee Members inquired about citations and warnings. Ms. Miller noted no changes related to ticketing, how the City is focusing on behavioral control.

Members further inquired about potential legislation from the State related to pedestrians and e-bikers. Committee members spoke to challenges around policing and citing users of the path.

Director Miller spoke to the dog park survey approved by Council at their February meeting. She spoke to framing the public's expectations around the survey, outlining the first steps, and avoiding the perception that this project is budgeted or moving forward. The opening paragraph was edited and release was scheduled for the end of the month and will be available for 60 days.

Committee Members inquired about distribution. Ms. Miller noted discussion regarding distribution, all ways we can, social media, and news blasts.

7. Reports

Director Miller spoke to the reports attached to the agenda packet. She noted a 10-year high for the year-to-date in revenue. She further noted a 25K donation that was made to support the 50th anniversary celebration. Even with that large donation, this still marks a 10-year high for the Department.

Moving to the membership report, Ms. Miller noted current trends, with memberships in the 300's. For the Non-Resident report, she noted that the committee's changes have nearly doubled profits in that category. Committee members noted the hard work paying off.

a. Recreation Revenue

- b. Recreation Memberships

- c. Recreation Non-Resident Membership Sales FY25 vs. FY26

- d. Recreation Dept Updates
 - i. Upcoming Programs

Director Miller provided Departmental Updates on the following: Program updates: spoke to the attached report and shared the need for volunteers, looking to fill positions for the annual bike count on the shared-use path. She further thanked Mr. Arryo for his help in signing up Bike Club members to volunteer for the bike count. Members inquired about the bike count criteria. Ms. Miller noted there were no changes, as there is a desire to gather consistent data.

Ms. Miller spoke to the department, receiving the Visitor Convention Bureau (VCB) Certified Guest Services Professional designation for all of the front desk staff. Council will also recognize the department at their next meeting.

Ms. Miller continued her reporting regarding parking at the Recreation Center during the season. She spoke to alternatives and options for busy times, getting back to pre-storm attendance at the Center. Ms. Miller further noted directing comments related to parking to either herself or Deputy Director Durrand. Committee members inquired about adding signage for overflow parking to the school lot and encouraged educating all and carpooling.

Discussion ensued regarding hours, opening earlier to accommodate the early hour rush, Ms. Miller responded that this would be addressed in the budget cycle, and would need approval by Council.

The subject of the Sanibel Sports contract was addressed, noting the two-year contract expires in July of this year. Ms. Miller noted being in communication with the group in order to see if they would like to renew their agreement. She further noted that this topic could come before the committee in the future to address challenges if Sanibel Sports decides not to renew or go forward for next year.

Discussion moved to the Ball Field update. Ms. Miller spoke to 2 fans being installed during spring break under the pavilion, she further reminded the group of the 3 way agreement with the County, School and City for funding and improvements. Ms. Miller also spoke to the removal of the batting cages, noting how prior to Ian this area was not utilized. The cost to repair far outweighed that to remove it.

Ms. Miller concluded her reports on a donation from the Community Foundation of

the Islands (CFI), in conjunction with the Shady Rest Foundation, benefiting 65+ citizens through cognitive and social events and activities. Another donation was made through the donation policy to the Youth Sports in the amount of 25K by a private citizen. Committee Members expressed gratitude for the community donors.

- ii. Receiving Certified Guest Services Property Designation at upcoming City Council &VCB Meetings
- iii. Seasonal Parking Congestion at the Recreation Center
- iv. 2-Year Sanibel Sports Contract (expires June 30, 2026)
- v. FY 26 Ballfield Projects
 - 1. Pavilion Fans
 - 2. Batting Cage Removal
- vi. Recent Funding
 - 1. CFI -\$3,000 for 65+ Education & Outreach Programs
 - 2. Private Citizen - \$25,000 for Youth Program Needs

8. Chairperson's Report

Chair Denick thanked staff for putting on the health fair. He noted the event was well attended and would like to see it carried forward for years to come.

9. Committee Member Reports

Mr. Arroyo spoke to the repairs done to the gazebos on the Shared Use Path. Ding Darling funded the roof repairs and replacements while the Sanibel Bike Club performed the labor needed for painting and general repairs.

Members spoke to the Sanibel Plan Update and inquired regarding sending feedback. Ms. Miller noted comments can be directed to the Planning Director, Paula McMichael.

10. Next Meeting Date

- a. Thursday, March 26, 2026

11. Public Comment

Jerry Spect - Visitor - Dog park vs. protected lands

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 AM.