

ADOPTED

MARION OAKS MSTU ADVISORY BOARD FOR RECREATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

ROLL CALL:

Board Members

Alice Mitchell-Chairperson

Carole LaMotte

Kathleen Martin

Bobby Whipple

Joanne Coast

Marion County Marion Oaks MSTU Representatives

MSTU/Assessments Director, Alan Jones - Absent

Marion Oaks Community Center Manager: David Pierce

Marion Oaks Recreation Specialist: Kari Coates

Staff Assistant III: Marlene Maldonado

General Public: See Sign In-Sheet

Chairperson Alice Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

Chairperson Alice Mitchell requested everyone rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

VOTE ON ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Chairperson Alice Mitchell presented the January 12, 2021 draft of minutes for adoption. A motion was made by Kathleen Martin and seconded by Bobby Whipple to accept the minutes with corrections.

Approved by all.

Alice Mitchell introduced Joanne Coast as our newest Board Member.

RECREATION SPECIALIST REPORT – Kari Coates

- **Recreation & Fitness Center Membership**

In the last three months membership has steadily increased with members returning and new members registering.

- **Van Trips**

Our van trips started in February and have been very successful. Some of the trips we have offered include The World Equestrian Center, Recharge Park, the Land Bridge, and Master Gardeners Demonstration Center. Some of our upcoming trips are: blueberry and peach picking, The Villages Brownwood, Market of Marion and Santa Fe' Teaching Zoo/Planetarium. Trips for youth will be taking place during the Summer months and include: the skateboard park, bowling, Santa Fe' Teaching Zoo/Planetarium, and fishing. Future trips planned are: Ocala OBS, local factory tours, Lego Land, Florida Aquarium, Homosassa Springs State Park, and St. Augustine. Surveys are given to each participant after trips and the feedback has been nothing but positive and we have had overwhelming support.

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RECREATION SPECIALIST REPORT – Cont'd

- **Show Off Your Ride**
Show Off Your Ride continues to do well. We are averaging 50 plus cars each month. In March, we honored Sid Mastrangelo, who passed away in December from Covid 19. Sid helped us get the car show off the ground last August and was a big part of our car shows held here in the past. To honor him we offered a people's choice award. The car show was featured in the Ocala Star Banner on the front page. A copy of the article has been placed in each board member's folder.
- **Big Lee's Barbecue**
Big Lee's was a contestant on Food Network and won his own TV show. Rashad has several food trucks and reached out to us asking if he could join our monthly 1st Friday event. They did very well at our March event and will continue to bring their food truck every month.
- **Spring Break**
Our newest staff member Jena Vann did a great job coming up with daily themed programs for our youth at no cost, and Micah our other recreation leader was able to assist. At the end of the week they each received a "I Survived Spring Break 2021 Certificate". Along with Spring Break, Jena came up with various other programs, eg. Youth tumbling classes, chair yoga, and a beginner Yoga class. Jena is also offering water day on Fridays and will do so all Summer long until the splash pad closes at the end of the season.
- **Annual Eggtraordinary Spring Celebration**
In April we offered our annual Spring Celebration on the back grounds of the Community Center Complex. The weather was beautiful and we had over 40 vendors participate. Our newest staff member Jena was the Easter bunny and posed for photos with the families. The Recreation Department passed out Easter egg coloring kits donated by Signature Brands, and toys from an anonymous donor. Also, several of our past vendors donated candy. Staff member Chip Aman and Board member Joanne Coast worked hard all day passing out goodies, and the Recreation Department provided free train rides for over two hours. As always DJ Victor provided the music during the event and Dave Menzie and David Pierce operated the food booths. Horizon Academy's FSA group under the direction of Melinda Kimball brought in some animals and we were able to offer a petting zoo; also for the first time we debuted our Easter egg artwork featuring 20 decorated wooden eggs sponsored by our residents and local businesses.
- **Free Shredding Service**
Care Plus representative Shawn Griffin offered free document shredding to residents in the month of March. Also for April, free cleaning supplies will be distributed. Shawn has been helping the Marion Oaks Recreation Department provide great events for our community for several years now.
- **Pickleball**
Pickleball is growing more and more each month. Jena put together a tournament with residents vs. Palm Cay residents, and David Pierce put a tournament together with our residents and Silver Spring Shores.

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RECREATION SPECIALIST REPORT – Cont'd

- **Soccer**
Skills and Drills continue one night a week with our Recreation Leader Micah.
- **Daily Exercise Classes**
Daily classes continue to grow. 14 classes a week are currently being offered with membership. We are also offering three additional classes with outside instructors at nominal fees.

COMMUNITY CENTER MANAGER REPORT – David Pierce

STAFFING UPDATES:

Our new Recreation Leader Jena Vann was hired back in February. Jena brings a lot of energy, smiles and has been very well received by the community. Jena replaced Eric White, who had left to pursue a career with the school system. Jena has already implemented programs of her own including yoga and tumbling. We still have one open part-time Recreation Leader position, which became vacated when Mike Davis retired on January 29, 2021. We did not rush to fill this position, as numbers were not good throughout the pandemic, but we are now ready to start interviewing for this position.

MAINTENANCE:

March 8th and 9th, an emergency plumbing repair was made in Building A. There was a leak in the hot water closet causing no water in the kitchen. Mechanical & Plumbing Company completed the repairs at a cost of \$3,150. For those who don't know, we cannot keep the kitchen open if we don't have hot water for a commercial kitchen.

On March 15th, Cox Fire conducted our annual fire sprinkler and sewer backflow device inspections. The cost was \$470.

On March 10th and 18th, Grady Cross Roofing replaced 3 sections of roofing in Bldg. A that were leaking. The cost was \$4,800.

Board member Bobby Whipple asked if we had a warranty on the roof work to which David Pierce replied that there was a 2 year commercial warranty.

On April 7th, we changed out our lights in the Annex Bldg. to LED lights to increase brightness. Midstate Electric did the work, and the cost was \$2,190. Lights were also installed in the front porch of the Annex Bldg. at a cost of \$825.00

On March 25th, we had to replace a strainer four foot pipe for the splash pad. The cost was \$570 and it was purchased through CES Water Control Company.

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COMMUNITY CENTER MANAGER REPORT – cont'd

SPLASH PAD:

The Splash Pad continues to be our most popular feature, with numbers exceeding more than 100 people per day.

PRIVATE RENTALS:

Private rentals at the community center still remain very strong. Usage from organizations is still lagging, but coming back slowly.

ORGANIZATIONS: Out of 31 organizations, 18 have not yet returned and we received news that the Womens' Club will not be returning. This is very disappointing news considering how much they have contributed to the Marion Oaks Community. A status report on the standing of our organizations has been placed in each board member's folder. David Pierce asked the Board to please let us know if there is anyone interested in starting an organization so we can reach out to them. We would be more than willing to give them whatever help they need. It is very important for the Community to continue to have organizations. It is sad when you see organizations go.

ISSUES: We are still having some problems on the grounds. The Sheriff's Department has been called several times for fighting, ATV usage, foul language, break-in at ball park concession, vandalism, etc. Approximately 30 youth have been trespassed.

PURCHASE: We purchased a 2021 John Deer Gator at a cost of \$6,748.00 through the company Ag Pro. Our 15 year old Gator will be sold at Weeks Auction. Whatever money we acquire from this sale will be returned back to our budget. This was our only substantial purchase that we made this year.

UPDATE: No millage increase will be necessary for 2021 – 2022 and with the new forecast it is looking like next year and the following year there will be no increase in millage as long as we are conservative with our budget.

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OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Welcomed Joanne Cost as our newest Board Member

NEXT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room in Building B.

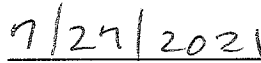
Chairperson Alice Mitchell asked the Board for a motion to adjourn, motion was made by Joanne Coast and seconded by Bobby Whipple. Approved by all.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by Marlene Maldonado



Chairperson, Alice Mitchell



Date