



**CITY OF OKEECHOBEE  
FLAGLER PARK DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 21, 2021  
MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Robbie Chartier called the Flagler Park Design Review Advisory Committee (FPDRAC) meeting to order on Monday, June 21, 2021, at 3:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

City Clerk Gamiotea called the roll. Chair Chartier, Regular Members Kathy Scott, Jennifer Tewksbury, Denise Whitehead, and Alternate Bob Burdge were present. Members absent with consent were Vice-Chair Bert Culbreth, Regular Members Susanne Clemons, Regina Hamrick, and Alternate Greg Maynard.

Alternate Member Burdge was assigned to serve in a voting position.

**III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A. Motion by Member Scott, seconded by Member Whitehead to approve the agenda as amended, defer adopting the minutes for May 24, 2021. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

B. There were no comment cards submitted for public participation.

**IV. MINUTES**

A. Approving the May 24, 2021, minutes was deferred.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Mr. Gianni Feoli, Director of Landscape Urbanism and Design for Calvin, Giordano & Associates (CGA), presented a slideshow detailing their progress to date. The goal for today is to finalize the schematic design phase of the Cattleman's Square (Block L of FLAGLER PARK/Park #5) and prepare to move forward into construction plans and coordination with City Departments. To stay within the timeline of installing the sculptures as explained at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, he stressed the importance for members to convey any design changes today. He began by reviewing the suggestions made previously concerning the areas beneath the sculptures and indicated that he was not in favor of the concrete footprints. Mrs. Bridgette Waldau, Director for the Okeechobee Main Street Arts & Culture Alliance (OKMS-ACA), was in attendance and explained that in her discussions with the donors, it was indicated that they did not want concrete pads under the hooves and would prefer the grass to go right up to the hooves. Mr. Feoli agreed, and noted the current designs reflect this. Discussion turned to where to place the donor markers and their sizes based on the donation. Member Scott exited the Chambers at 3:51 P.M., returned at 3:52 P.M., and furnished Mr. Feoli with a copy of the donor marker sizes and examples as provided on the OKMS-ACA fundraising marketing materials. **Mr. Feoli advised he would coordinate with Mrs. Waldau on these items and resubmit them at the next meeting for a final consensus.**

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Continued. Mr. Feoli then moved the discussion to wayfinding strategies and presented photographs of examples that would be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and would be visible from the outside and along the northern boundary to direct people to different parts of the park. In addition to individual parks signage, an overall cohesive signage plan would be covered in the Master Plan. Discussion followed concerning possible colors and finishes for various furnishing components. **The suggestions will be researched by CGA and considered at the next meeting for a final consensus.**

Discussing the lighting fixtures and illumination level was the next topic. Focus was put on ADA requirements and cognizance of the lighting levels of different areas. The new lighting will be LED, which is more efficient and requires less maintenance. The goal is for each block to be on an individual electrical system for the lighting. This will allow the City to adjust the lighting individual block for festivals, movie nights, or other events. It would also allow the lighting to be set up so that they automatically dim at night and only brighten when they detect movement in the park. This will conserve energy, minimize light pollution, and improve safety by being an indicator to people outside the park that someone is inside. Repurposing the current light poles was brought up by Member Tewksbury. Public Works Director Allen responded the poles could be used in the other areas when replacements are needed.

The discussion turned to landscaping, several FPDRAC members expressed concern that there was not a local landscaping company that could offer the level of professional service that might be required. Mr. Feoli explained, most of the maintenance in the Cattlemen's Square would include mowing and limited trimming. The other plants chosen will either grow to maximum size, needing little, to no maintenance, or were chosen based on their drought resistance. **CGA can provide in the Master Plan, performance metrics and sanctions be included in future landscaping bid documents to avoid issues with low quality bidders. FPDRAC members and Director Allen were encouraged by this information and gladly accepted the offer.**

Mr. Feoli moved on to providing examples of furniture recommendations, suggesting a theme that is clean and contemporary, but also warm. Concerns were brought up about vandalism and graffiti. He acknowledged this possibility but advised the wooden benches being considering were thick enough that they could be sanded as many times as necessary. Metal furniture was not suggested, as it would be exposed to the heat all day and extremely hot. The concrete pads would be sized large to allow room for families with strollers and/or wheelchairs. Some of the members expressed concern at the possible costs of the items. **The items will be researched by CGA and considered at the next meeting.**

**FPDRAC Members requested for future meetings, CGA provide a copy of the presentation materials to City Staff for it to accompany the agenda being published and distributed, allowing sufficient time for them to review the information; and that it includes estimated costs to assist with making these decisions.**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- B.** After discussion concerning the meeting schedule, the consensus was to set the next meeting date for **July 19, 2021, at 3:30 p.m.**

**VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Member Burdge provided copies of photographs of mechanical utility boxes that were wrapped to make them more aesthetically pleasing by MarineWraps, their costs are from \$600 to \$1500 each. Fort Pierce has approximately 150 of them throughout the City. These could be a possible solution to camouflage similar boxes in Flagler Park. Chair Chartier thanked him for this helpful information.

- VII.** There being no further items for discussion, Chair Chartier adjourned the meeting at 5:01 P.M.

Submitted by: *Rene Chartier* City Clerk

Approved on: August 16, 2021

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the FPDRAC with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.