

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Meeting Agenda

January 14, 2016

1:00 PM

City Hall, Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works

Committee

*Commissioner Randy Wells, Chair
Commissioner Helen Warren, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[150666.](#)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting
Minutes of December 10, 2015 (B)

RECOMMENDATION

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works
Committee approve the minutes of December 10,
2015 as submitted.*

[150666_Draft Minutes 12-10-15_20160114.pdf](#)

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[140739.](#)

Welcoming City (B)

**This item is a continuation of a discussion about the possibility of
Gainesville becoming a designated “Welcoming City.”**

Explanation: At the February 5, 2015 City Commission meeting, the City Commission approved a referral to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs & Public Works Committee on Gainesville potentially becoming a “Welcoming City”. Welcoming cities support locally-driven efforts to create more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality and position communities as globally competitive, 21st century leaders. Led by Welcoming America and launched in June 2013, the Initiative convenes U.S. city and county governments to share good ideas, develop new tools, and receive recognition for efforts to create more welcoming communities that improve the quality of life and economic potential for all residents.

The Committee initially discussed this topic on March 12, 2015 and continued discussion with representatives from Welcome America on November 12, 2015. Citizen stakeholders will provide a presentation on the work they have done to organize the non-profit Welcoming Gainesville, Inc. and how they hope to proceed. They have provided a draft resolution that they would like to send to the City Commission.

Fiscal Note: There is no fiscal impact from hearing this presentation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works

*Committee hear a presentation from Welcoming
Gainesville and discuss next steps.*

Legislative History

2/5/15	City Commission	Referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee
3/12/15	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee	Approved as shown above (See Motion)
11/12/15	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee	Discussed

[140739A Program Overview 20150312.pdf](#)

[140739B Commitment Form 20150312.pdf](#)

[140739C Welcoming Cities Report 20150312.pdf](#)

[140739A Getting Started - Local Gov 20151112.pdf](#)

[140739B WCC Framework 20151112.pdf](#)

[140739 Welcoming City Draft Resolution 20160114.docx](#)

[150068.](#)

Girls Place Referral to Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (B)

This item involves an update on the proposal from Girls Place, Inc. for consideration of a partnership with the City of Gainesville to transform the infield of the existing track in Kiwanis Challenge Park into a multi-purpose recreational field, and consideration of placing land adjacent to Greentree Park on the land acquisition list.

Explanation: Girls Place, Inc. has been a part of the youth development community since 1985 and currently serves over 600 girls ages 5-18 each year through after school, summer camp, and athletics. In 2014, there were over 180 girls who participated in their volleyball leagues. Participation was limited due to available space. Girls Place, Inc. Board of Directors wrote a letter, dated February 26, 2015, to the Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs requesting consideration of a partnership with the City of Gainesville to transform the infield of the existing track in Kiwanis Challenge Park into a multi-purpose recreational field in an effort to promote youth development and community health. If approved, Girls Place, Inc. plans to expand their gymnasium, move the multi-purpose field to the track area at Kiwanis Challenge Park and share Greentree Park's softball facility for their programs. These two parks are contiguous. They are prepared to launch a capital campaign of approximately \$5 million, if approved. This partnership would benefit all parties involved; Girls Place, Inc., Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and the community at large by promoting youth development and community health.

On Wednesday, April 15, 2015 representatives from The Girls Place presented their letter and the scope of their project to the Public Recreation and Parks Advisory Board. The Board unanimously supports their proposal. On July 2nd, the City Commission referred this matter to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee for further discussion.

On September 10, 2015 the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee heard a brief report regarding the proposal from Girls Place, Inc. to transform the infield into a multi-purpose recreational field in an effort to promote youth development and community health. The Committee approved the concept of the proposal and asked for a public meeting to be conducted. If there was no opposition then this proposal was asked to go to the City Commission for approval. A public meeting was held, one on October 21st with 100% support. On October 24th, staff received a call from a concerned citizen which led to a second public meeting on December 8th. There was both positive support as well as concerns shared at the December meeting.

Simultaneously in an unrelated matter, the Ridgeview Baptist Church parcel, which is adjacent to Greentree Park, became available for sale. By acquiring this parcel the City would add an additional 1.88 acres of open greenspace on the southeast corner of Greentree Park. The Public Works Lands Right Coordinator worked with the owners and had the property appraised. Based on this the church is willing to accept the appraised value.

Fiscal Note: There is no fiscal impact resulting from Committee discussion of the proposal from Girls Place, Inc. The property is appraised at \$154,000 and if approved for acquisition, funds are currently available from the Greenspace and Community Improvement fund.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee: 1) hear a brief update from staff regarding a proposal from Girls Place, Inc. as well as the results from the two public meetings, 2) provide feedback on Girls Place, Inc. proposal, and 3) approve the Ridgeview Baptist Church being placed on the land acquisition list for potential land acquisition.

Legislative History

7/2/15	City Commission	Referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee
9/10/15	Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee	Discussed

[150068_ProposalLtr_20150702.pdf](#)

[150068_Girls Place Proposal_20150910.pdf](#)

[150068A_Map Ridgeview Girls Place_20160114.pdf](#)

[150068B_Girls Place and Ridgeview Property Presentation_20160114.pdf](#)

[150068C_Girls Place Presentation_20160114.pdf](#)

[150674.](#)

**Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Referrals
(B)**

RECOMMENDATION

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works
Committee review and prioritize the list of pending
referrals.*

[150674 Pending Referrals_20160114.pdf](#)

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE -- Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 1:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT