

# City of Gainesville

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



## Minutes

Thursday, December 10, 2015

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

*Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm.*

## ROLL CALL

**Present** 2 - Commissioner Warren, and Wells

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee adopted the agenda as circulated.*

**Adopted**

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[150590](#)

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting  
Minutes of November 12, 2015 (B)

**Attachments:** [150590\\_Draft Nov. Minutes\\_20151210.pdf](#)

*Unanimously approved without discussion.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works  
Committee approve the minutes of November 12, 2015 as  
submitted.*

**Approved as Recommended**

## DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[100607.](#)

**Northeast Neighborhood Veterans Memorial Park (B)**

**This item is a request for the Committee to consider surplus of the United States Army Reserve property (minus the Reserve Park) and provide input on the parameters and evaluation criteria for a Request for Proposals for acquisition/use of the property.**

**Attachments:** [100607 Draft Letter 20110224.pdf](#)  
[100607A Letter to Stearns-Brown NE Veterans Park 20110707.pdf](#)  
[100607B Letter to Secretary of Defense 20110707.pdf](#)  
[100607C Photo W Parking looking SE 9 20110707.pdf](#)  
[100607D Photo SW Portion looking SE 9 20110707.pdf](#)  
[100607A Site Map 20120924.pdf](#)  
[100607B ECP Report 20120924.pdf](#)  
[100607C Estimated Operation Costs Report 20120924.pdf](#)  
[100607A Army Reserve Property Action Plan 20141113.pdf](#)  
[100607B Oct 2012 Army Reserve PPT 20141113.pdf](#)  
[100607C Nov 2012 CHW Draft Report 20141113.pdf](#)  
[100607A Army Reserve Property Action Plan 20141218.pdf](#)  
[100607B Draft Nov 13 2014 RCAPW Minutes 20141218.pdf](#)  
[100607C USAR Action Plan PPT 20141218.pdf](#)  
[100607 Army Reserve Property Action Plan 20150514.pdf](#)  
[100607 Reserve Park Presentation 20150813.pdf](#)  
[100607 Reserve Park Presentation 20150820.pdf](#)  
[100607A Real Property Policies 20151210.pdf](#)  
[100607B Visioning Session Report 20151210.pdf](#)  
[100607C Draft RFP Parameters 20151210.pdf](#)  
[100607A Real Property Policies 20151217.pdf](#)  
[100607B Visioning Session Report 20151217.pdf](#)  
[100607C Draft RFP Parameters 20151217.pdf](#)

*Assistant City Manager, Paul Folkers, reviewed the recent history of this property and provided some suggestions of possible points for the RFP to encourage discussion. The City Commission has approved the concept of the "reserve park" to be dedicated as a memorial to the citizen soldier and also approved the proposed boundaries of the park. The property has reverted to City-ownership. Friends of Reserve Park (FORP) held a Veterans Day event on the property, which is currently being maintained by the Parks staff. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA) staff is working with FORP to develop the park. The City Commission has requested that staff now create an RFP for the building and the rest of the property.*

*Commissioner Wells reiterated that today's discussion would be to consider the best uses for the building and property, keeping in mind the ways it will influence the use of the park, and that no decisions would be made at this meeting. Citizens and stakeholders were asked to describe their ideas and provide input as to what they think would work well in the neighborhood. Suggestions included using the building as an International Center to showcase Gainesville's international connections; build a senior living or affordable housing complex; create a space for affordable daycare, especially for after school hours; to create a Senior Center for East Gainesville; a community cultural center providing learning opportunities and performance experiences of all kinds; and selling or leasing the building and property to private industry. FORP's representatives indicated that their preferred uses would include public use of the building and integration of the building with the park and the*

neighborhood, but they did not provide specific preferences for use.

Commissioner Warren proposed that, since the topic is on the City Commission's December 17th agenda, staff should make an informational presentation and get the Commissioners to discuss what they would like to see happen to the land and building. The Committee agreed that they are open to any proposed uses for the building, as long as it integrates well with the park, they are open to any proposer, and they are open to options for the disposition of the property, but they would like to hold a section of the land in abeyance as the conceptual boundary of the park, until use of the building is determined. The Committee asked that staff try to return to Committee with a draft RFP by the January 14th meeting, if possible. If not, a special, one-topic meeting can be called.

**RECOMMENDATION**      The Committee: 1) recommend that the City Commission direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution to surplus the property (minus the Reserve Park) and 2) provide recommendations to the City Commission on RFP parameters and evaluation criteria.

**Discussed**

[150313.](#)

**Gainesville Housing Authority Assistance Referral (B)**

**This is an update on Discussions with the Gainesville Housing Authority regarding the Redevelopment of Woodland Park Housing Complex**

**Attachments:**      [150313 Woodland Park Redevelopment Map 20151210.pdf](#)

Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Michelle Park, explained the request for CIP funding for Woodlawn Park and the exterior of the Boys and Girls Club building, which is on the park grounds. This is a project that would go through regardless of vote on the sales tax to fund the Master Plan. Commissioner Wells stated that he feels this request is compatible with the Master Plan. Commissioner Warren recommended that the City Commission add this project to the Master Plan and direct the City Manager to have staff prepare this as a FY2017 CIP project.

**RECOMMENDATION**      The Recreation, Cultural Affairs, and Public Works Committee hear an update from staff, provide feedback, and recommend that the City Commission direct the City Manager to prepare an FY17 CIP project for Woodland Park and the exterior of the Boys and Girls Club for City Commission consideration.

**Discussed**

[150406.](#)

Smoking at Bo Diddley Plaza

**Attachments:**    [150406A\\_Coral\\_Springs\\_ordinance\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406B\\_CoG\\_Park\\_Regulations\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406C\\_Casselberry\\_smoking\\_in\\_parks\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406D\\_CoG\\_ordinance\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406E\\_Fla\\_Clean\\_Indoor\\_Air\\_Act\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406F\\_statewide\\_policies\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406G\\_Smoke\\_Free\\_Zone\\_sign\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406H\\_Dept\\_of\\_Health\\_assessment\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406I\\_Dept\\_of\\_Health\\_assessment\\_2.pdf](#)  
[150406J\\_Sign\\_photos\\_20151210.pdf](#)  
[150406K\\_City\\_of\\_Parkland\\_20151210.pdf](#)

*Mr. Folkers introduced this issue and its history, and also introduced Barry and Beth Murphy, the citizens who brought the issue forward, and Andrew Romero, from the Alachua County Health Department. Mr. Murphy is interested in making the renovated Bo Diddley Park cleaner and healthier for all citizens. He encouraged the Committee to support posting signage in the park declaring it a "Smoke Free Zone" in the hopes of decreasing the amount of tobacco use and litter there; signs would include logos of Tobacco Free Alachua, etc. Mr. Romero reported the results of previous studies and said there is no scientific evidence that signage reduces tobacco use in an area. Two things, he said, that do work in reducing tobacco use are raising the price of tobacco products and creating smoke-free environments. Commissioner Wells said there is not much the City can do about increasing tobacco taxes, but he asked if there are exemptions to the state's preemption policy for certain locations. Mr. Romero said that, in his experience, parks have not been exempted.*

*The Committee supported having an educational campaign making Bo Diddley Plaza a tobacco-free zone, having heightened litter enforcement at the park, and staff researching the City's ability to enforce smoke-free zones under the Clean Indoor Air Act and explore the possibility of a full-fledged prohibition of smoking in parks if our legal staff thinks it is enforceable. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs staff will continue working with the Community Redevelopment Agency staff and Mr. Murphy on creative signage. Any use of Bo Diddley's name or likeness in*

*Michelle Park, PRCA Assistant Director, stated that the City Commission will be updated on the plans for re-opening Bo Diddley Plaza at their January 21st meeting, and invited Mr. and Mrs. Murphy to attend and bring this issue to the Commissioners' attention.*

**RECOMMENDATION**            *Refer to Committee*

**Discussed**

[140180.](#)

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

**Attachments:**    [140180 Pending Referrals 20140731.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20140820.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20140911.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20141009.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20141113.pdf](#)  
[140581 Staff Presentation 20150108.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150212.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150312.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150409.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150514.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150910.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20150910.pdf](#)  
[140180 Pending Referrals 20151112.pdf](#)  
[140180 RCAPW Pending Referrals 20151210.pdf](#)

*Transportation Disadvantaged Referral (#140288): The Committee requested that Assistant City Manager Fred Murry bring the ElderCare Transportation for Seniors pilot program results to the Committee for review so the program can be renewed if funding is still available at the end of January. The contract for the pilot program ends on January 31, 2016. The Committee would like to see a review of ridership, etc. and to discuss the plan for this program.*

*Michelle Park updated the Committee on the Girls Place proposal. There is opposition to it, so staff is recommending that the topic come back to the Committee in January, before going to the City Commission.*

*When the Compressed Natural Gas item comes before the Committee in February/March, RTS will present the results of a study, but we should also incorporate other agencies, like GRU, who have smaller vehicles that might be utilizing this technology.*

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

**Discussed**

**MEMBER COMMENT**

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

**NEXT MEETING DATE -- Thursday, January 14, 2016**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.*

