

041019

I. General Policy Statement

A. The City of Gainesville Public Recreation Board (PRB) and the Nature Centers Commission (NCC) shall be responsible for recommending approval for all names of parks, recreation areas, facilities and centers managed by the City of Gainesville Recreation & Parks Department.

1. Where nature or passive parks, areas, facilities or centers are being considered, recommendation for approval shall be governed by the NCC.
2. Where active parks, areas, facilities or centers are being considered, recommendation for approval shall be governed by the PRB.
3. Where both an active and passive park, area or facility is being considered, recommendation for approval shall be governed by both NCC and PRB.

B. Once a recommendation has been made by the PRB and/or NCC, this action—in recommendation form—will be forwarded to the Gainesville City Commission for final approval and official designation.

II. Presentation to the Public Recreation Board or Nature Centers Commission

A. The PRB or NCC will consider written application only. Applications may come from any citizen or organization, including the staff of the Recreation and Parks Department. The application should include as much background information as possible as to why a particular name should be designated to a particular park, area, facility or center.

B. If additional information is required for full consideration of an application, the PRB or NCC may require presentation of additional material—including public presentation—before action is taken.

III. Criteria for Consideration

A. The PRB or NCC will accept applications recommending the naming of a park, area, facility or center in honor of a person, historical event, natural phenomenon or geographic location.

B. The PRB or NCC may approve the name of an individual for a particular park, area, facility or center when that individual has made exceptional contributions. Such contributions may have been financial or rendered in a donation of land, time or in overall service and/or promotion of parks, recreation and leisure. Exceptional service in areas other than Park and Recreation services is equally acceptable.

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- C. Generally, the PRB and NCC strongly recommends that structures or amenities within a park, area, facility or center should not have separate names, but should bear the name of the park, area, facility or center itself. If however a structure or amenity within a named park, area, facility or center is to be named, the inner-structure or amenity will in some manner denote its affiliation with the encompassing park, area, facility or center.
- D. The name must not duplicate, or be closely related, or pronounced similarly, to any other name within the City park and recreation system(s), or any other local County park and recreation system(s) so as to eliminate confusion to the general public.
- E. Naming of parks, areas, facilities or centers after companies or corporations shall not be excluded from consideration; however, consideration for recommendation shall not include reference to alcohol, tobacco, sexually explicit products, or related activities.
- F. When the PRB or NCC feels that the contribution of a particular individual or group of individuals warrants the name to be associated with a park, area, facility or center, the PRB or NCC may name or add a name to the existing name. Such an addition to a park, area, facility or center may not be made until at least five (5) years has elapsed from the time of the original naming of the park, area, facility or center. Only one (1) additional name may be added and no more than two (2) names may be given to any park, area, facility or center (i.e. the Joyce Oransky Tennis Center at Westside Park).
- G. Recognizing that under extreme or extenuating circumstances it may be appropriate to change the name of a park, area, facility or center, the PRB or NCC reserves the right to allow a change to the name of a park, area, facility or center. However, the name of a park, area, facility or center that has been named for an individual cannot be changed for one hundred (100) years after the original name was established. In the event other agreement(s) prohibit a proposed name change, such agreement(s) shall be honored.
- H. When naming or re-naming a park, area, facility or center, the PRB or NCC will accept applications in writing at a first regular meeting; have discussion and hear public discussion at a second regular meeting; and take action at a third regular meeting. All such meetings are to occur during a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the first regular meeting.
- I. Applications to the PRB or NCC for the naming of a neighborhood or smaller park, area, facility or center initially must be supported by a petition of at least twenty-five (25) signatures of adult

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residents within the City of Gainesville in support of the request. See Addendum A for a current listing of City of Gainesville neighborhood parks/facilities.

- J. A community or regional park, area, facility or center serving more than just the nearby community or neighborhood will require a petition of one hundred (100) adult signatures of City of Gainesville residents accompanying the application. See Addendum A for a current listing of City of Gainesville community parks/facilities. This list of the parks and properties, including the addresses, will be updated annually with any name changes done or new acquisitions occurring in the previous year.
- K. An application for changing the name of an existing park, area, facility or center by addition of another name or a complete name change shall require a petition of at least five hundred (500) signatures of adult residents of City of Gainesville in support of the request.
- L. The PRB or NCC may place a plaque at an appropriate location within a park, area, facility or center, whereby the names of individuals(s) may be placed for their contributions to the City. This action may occur when the PRB or NCC finds that it is inappropriate to name a park, area, facility or center in its entirety for the individual(s).
- M. When there has not been a suggested title or appropriate suggested title for a new park, area, facility or center, the PRB or NCC may, at the park, area, facility or center's completion, determine an appropriate title for recommendation to the Gainesville City Commission.
- N. Certain parks or features in parks, areas, facilities or centers should be named for such things as fauna, flora, habitats, and geological formations, exclusive of people. Consideration for naming these parks or items should be at the discretion of the Director of the Recreation and Parks Department; however, these should first be considered by the NCC for accuracy, and then be presented to the PRB for consideration to avoid any conflict with pending name issues for these parks, areas, facilities or centers.
- O. In the event that there is any opposition to the naming or renaming of a park, area, facility or center, those opposed must submit a written statement of opposition identifying the reasons for their opposition prior to the approval of the name by the City Commission. The PRB or NCC has the right to require opponents to appear before them to answer questions concerning their written statement of opposition. Organized opposition should also follow the general requirements in opposing a request just as the proponents followed when making the request. The PRB or NCC can also request those opposed to provide a petition.

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P. When opposition occurs to a request, the PRB or NCC will automatically delay action on the naming or renaming of the park, area, facility or center for at least ninety (90) days in order to evaluate the opposition's information and thus, provide an equitable decision-making process.

Q. The staff of the Recreation and Parks Department will be responsible for informing the public of the naming or renaming request.

1. Issuance of Public Service Announcements (PSA) via local media forms.
2. Site posting.

All information devices will encourage participation and involvement from all pro/con viewpoints of the different elements of the citizenry. Such information devices must be exposed publicly for a minimum period of forty-five (45) days.

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## ADDENDUM A

This is the current list of park properties from section 18-18 of the City of Gainesville, Code of Ordinances; this listing will be updated with any name changes or new acquisitions.

### A: Active/Recreational etc:

- 1) ANNE Park
- 2) Citizen's Park/Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Complex
- 3) ~~Young American Park~~ Fred Cone Park/Eastside Center Recreation Complex
- 4) Green Acres Park
- 5) Greentree Park
- 6) Kiwanis Park
- 7) N.E. 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue Park
- 8) N.E. ~~Liaison~~ Community Center Recreation Complex
- 9) Northeast Park
- 10) Northside Park
- 11) Oak Hill Park
- 12) Possum Creek Park
- 13) Roper Park
- 14) Rosa B. Williams/Union Academy Recreation ~~Center-Complex~~
- 15) Smokey Bear Park
- 16) Springtree Park
- 17) T.B. McPherson Recreation Complex
- 18) Tumblin Creek Park
- 19) Tot Lot No. 1
- 20) Tot Lot No. 2
- 21) Tot Lot No. 3
- 22) Tot Lot No. 4
- 23) Tot Lot No. 5 (Barbara Higgins Park)
- 24) Tot Lot No. 6
- 25) Tot Lot No. 7
- 26) ~~Tot Lot No. 8~~
- 27) Tot Lot No. 9
- 28) ~~Tot Lot No. 10~~
- 29) Wacahoota Archery Range and Park
- 30) Westside Recreation Complex

### B: Nature Parks, Centers and Conservation Areas:

- 1) Alfred A. Ring Park
- 2) Bivens Arm Nature Park
- 3) ~~S.E. Urban Park~~ Boulware Springs Nature Park
- 4) Broken Arrow Bluff Nature Park
- 5) Clear Lake Nature Park
- 6) Cofrin Nature Park
- 7) Colclough Pond Nature Park
- 8) Flatwoods Nature Park
- 9) Forest Nature Park
- 10) Gum Root Park
- 11) Loblolly Center-Environmental Facility & Loblolly Woods Nature Park (Hogtown Creek Greenway)
- 12) Morningside Nature Center

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- 13) Palm Point Nature Park
- 14) NW 29<sup>th</sup> Road Nature Park
- 15) Split Rock Conservation Area
- 16) Sugarfoot Prairie Conservation Area
- 17) Terwilliger Pond Conservation Area

### C: Other:

- 1) Boulware Springs Historic Water Works
- 2) Depot Park
- 3) Downtown Community Plaza
- 4) ~~Grandmother's Park~~
- 5) Lynch Park
- 6) City Hall Plaza
- 7) ~~Sharmie Ffar Park~~
- 8) Springhill Park
- 9) SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Basin
- 10) Sweetwater Park
- 11) Thelma A. Boltin Senior Activity Center
- 12) Thomas Center Grounds and Gardens
- 13) Wilhelmina Johnson Center & Sharmie Ffar Complex
- 14) Woodlawn Park