

Bayshore Gardens Park & Recreation District
Long Term Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday; January 07, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by House & Grounds Committee Chair Skip Wilhoit

In Attending: Skip Wilhoit, Sharon Denson, Mary Lou Smith, Maureen Herrick, Penny Walding, and Jane King

Quorum established.

1. Committee members introduced themselves and welcomed Jane King to the group.
2. Skip provided a recap of the situation with the hurricane damage and how that will impact the role of the committee. Any proposed projects related to the community survey will likely be delayed until the 2025-2026 budget year. Although no overall cost estimate from the storms were available at this time, it was understood by all that funding priority had to be shifted to repair and security of the property.
3. The committee decided that the results of the survey should be used for a maximum recommended 5-year period. It is the intention of the committee to propose projects that could be completed or nearly completed within that 5-year period and to conduct a new survey every five years.
4. We briefly discussed the committee's charge to analyze the survey feedback, propose projects our residents support, obtain cost estimates for each of these proposals, and prepare a presentation to the Board.
5. It was decided that the committee would recommend a total of three projects to the Board, based on the 2024 survey. The committee unanimously agreed in November that the heating and cooling of the pool, as well as the restoration of the beach area would be two of those projects, due to the overwhelming support they enjoyed from residents. Because of the scope of the beach restoration project and the number of smaller projects it already contained, the committee found it appropriate to consider additional smaller projects supported by residents that relate to the beach area.
6. Skip started the conversation by providing a document he created and had previously sent to all committee members that detailed his recommendations, based on the community survey results. The document was used to guide the committee through details of each project recommendation. All committee members were invited to provide input on each item as well as other thoughts they may have from their own analysis of the survey results.
7. The first conversation centered on the heating and cooling of the pool, as it was the most popular survey item. We noted how the Board has already obtained quotes from multiple vendors for a heat pump system. While the Board was already looking into this, it was decided in the spring to first see if the idea would be supported by the community, and it was. However, due to the damage by the storms, the committee agreed we should investigate the use of solar heating and sailcloth shading as a possible alternative, due to potential cost savings. A discussion also ensued regarding the availability and readiness of the pool lift chair for handicapped residents. Apparently, it is either often locked away or not operational. Skip promised to look into this.
8. The beach restoration was discussed next and contained 15 separate smaller projects. Many of these were detailed on the subject sheet that was linked to the survey, while others were the result of survey feedback from residents. A major addition to the beach restoration project was the addition of the fitness/nature trail that is proposed to extend from the current fishing dock all the way to the beach area. The trail can start small but later incorporate outdoor fitness stations, as well as an addition fishing/observation deck along the trail. The committee discussed the possible surfaces for the trail and decided it would be best to get estimates for multiple surfaces. Another popular project from the survey was the relocation of the small craft storage area to the very southwestern edge of the property and include a kayak rental for residents only. The committee discussed some of the low-cost and no-cost proposals, such as power-washing, painting, and routine landscaping that could start sooner than other phases of the project.

9. The conversation then shifted to a third project to propose to the Board. The committee unanimously agreed that the children's splash park should be included in our recommendations. Multiple discussions ensued regarding the location of the park, whether it should be for residents only, and various amenities it should include.
10. The committee then went through the open-ended feedback to see if any of the other ideas by residents warranted consideration or could be added to the projects. It was also pointed out how several ideas from the open-ended feedback were already embedded within the project proposals decided on by the committee. The exclusive use of the property by residents. Skip explained why there is allowable public use and went on to state that he will be doing everything he can to limit that access to reasonable times only. Other thoughts from residents that gained traction were a slide at the pool as well as activities such as a community flea market, movie night on the lawn, food trucks, and holiday festivals such as Trunk or Treat and Easter egg hunts. It was decided that the activities should be a charge for the recreation committee and not Long-Term Planning.
11. The final discussion was an agreement to research costs associated with our project proposals. We will do this independently and communicate any estimates received via email. In February, our committee will look at what we have so far and what needs to be done to have a cohesive final report by the March Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:13 PM.