



Parks and Visitor Services Committee

June 5, 2023

Committee Members Present: Chair Gary Sprague, Councilor Mike McClain, Kristin Schwartz, Jessica Prins, Michael Sneary

1) CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME 5:00 PM

2) OLD BUSINESS:

- Gary spoke to:
- Code readers installed at Forest Park and Woodland Trails to provide maps downloaded on phones.
- Woodlands fire suppression – told of the work of Lomakatsi on Liz’s Trail and the Grove, as well as the city working on grants for other fire-prone areas.

3) OTHER BUSINESS:

- Councilor Mike McClain gave the City Council liaison report
- Mike speaks to the history of fuel reduction efforts, including grant submissions and Lomakatsi background.
- Mike speaks to the resignation of Tony Thompson as Public Works Department Director
- Mike speaks to hiring of mowers for weed abatement in Jacksonville
- Mike speaks to repairs of pergolas in Nunan Square
- Mike speaks to Tony Hess about being awarded the 2022 Doug Newman Memorial Award
- Mike speaks to the City Council, working through the budget and grappling with the budget deficit for full police protection

4) ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Vern and Jana of Cycle Analysis provided information on throttled electric bikes and their impact on trails.
- Kristin moved to recommend that the City Council prohibit throttled electric bikes on trails in Forest Park and Woodland trails. Michael seconded the motion, and the vote was positive.

5) PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minute limit per person)

- Michael Schwartz spoke to his support of tennis at Pheasant Meadows Park
- Linda Graham spoke to posting signs for the use of the tennis court at Pheasant Meadows Park
- Jessica Caballo spoke to the most recent negative experience with pickleball players on the tennis court at Pheasant Meadows Park
- Shannon Hiratzka spoke to the recent negative experience of being bullied off the tennis court by pickleball players at Pheasant Meadows Park.
 - Councilor McClain introduced the guest, Councilor Andrea Lerner, and asked her to give details on the grant she helped secure for fuel reduction at Forest Park.
 - Tony Hess spoke to new signs to discourage bikes on sensitive trails at Forest Park.
 - Tony Hess spoke to QR codes that will link to maps for Forest Park and the Woodlands.

6) NEXT MEETING: September 11, 2023, 5:00 PM

7) ADJOURN: 6:00 PM