

**AT A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 13, 2018, THE
FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Jack Boone
Markey Rivers, Sr.
Jeff Diekman
Roosevelt Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gay Steffen
Harold Bailey
Herb Chancey

STAFF PRESENT:

Suzanne Lex, Growth Management Director
Laurel Bradley, Executive Assistant to County Manager
Beryl Wood, Deputy Clerk

1. **Call to Order**

Ms. Boone welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

A silent roll call was made and recorded as above by the deputy clerk.

2. **Meeting Schedule**

There was discussion about how often the board should meet as a body. Ms. Bradley suggested that the board meet every three months. However, because of the upcoming fishing tournament at Lake Talquin, there was a consensus to meet again on December 11, 2018 in order to receive more information on the tournament, then begin meeting quarterly at the conclusion of the tournament. (TDC Director Olivia Smith was scheduled to attend this meeting to offer pertinent information, but, she had a family emergency and was absent from the meeting.)

3. **Introduction of the Growth Management Director**

Ms. Bradley introduced Ms. Suzanne Lex, the new Growth Management Director who will oversee the Parks and Recreation Program. She gave Ms. Lex a bit of background on the advisory board since it began functioning in the spring of 2018. She also explained that the board desired to take an active role in the Crappie Tournament in February 2019.

Ms. Lex apologized for being late to the meeting, but, assured the board she would put it on her calendar for each second Tuesday of the month in the future.

4. Crappie Masters Fishing Tournament

The following points were discussed:

- Olivia Smith would be invited to meet with the board in December as well as a representative of the Crappie Masters Association.
- The board would like to have some involvement for children at the tournament.
- David Boyd had been contacted and had assured the board that the organization would be happy to help with children activities between the Kids Tournament and the Weigh In as an attempt to keep the entire family on site for the day.
- A suggestion was made to begin the Kids Tournament at 10:00 a.m. due to the cold weather.
- It was suggested that an advertisement flyer could be distributed through the school system, barbershops, etc. to raise awareness and interest with children. Digital announcements via social media would be more likely to capture the children's attention.
- The board would brainstorm ideas about how to get more local participation by finding sponsors for local teams. The registration fees prohibit some participants.
- The possibility of printing T-shirts with wording on it for the board members. Ms. Boone would consider printing them if the shirts were provided.
- It was clarified that the County contracts with Crappie Masters to come to Lake Talquin and put on the tournament and they handle everything.
- Volunteer activities were suggested such as face painting, food vendors, warm activities, fire pit, concession stand, etc.
- Contact the Jr. Bass Masters Club regarding doing some volunteer work for this tournament. Daniel Boyd was suggested as contact person.

(Ms. Lex left the meeting at this juncture saying she had another appointment to attend.)

- Schools should be contacted regarding Media Day (Friday). It would be a good opportunity for a field trip. It is held at Pat Thomas Park at 11:00 a.m.
- The parks sustained considerable damage from Hurricane Michael, but efforts are being made to make them all available for use, particularly those around Lake Talquin.
- Having fishing equipment on hand for children to use for the tournament would likely enhance participation among children as many would not have equipment of their own. It was suggested to contact Florida Wildlife Commission as a possibility. Ms. Bradley had a contact she could provide to Mr. Rivers.

The next meeting was announced for December 11, 2018 at 10 a.m.

Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Board
November 13, 2018 Regular Meeting

Adjournment

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:37 A.M.

Gay Steffen, Chair
Gadsden County Parks and Recreation Board

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK