

CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP
June 6, 2022 9:00 AM
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBER

(meeting taped)

1. Call to Order

Ed Wolf	Mayor	Voter	Present
Pamala Harrison-Bivins	Mayor Pro-Tem	Voter	Present
Joe Elliott	Commissioner	Voter	Present
Marcos Flores	Commissioner	Voter	Present
Julian Green	Commissioner	Voter	Present
Jason McHugh	City Manager		Present
Cassandra Smith	Assistant City Manager/CFO		Present
Randall Parmer	Police Chief		Present
Melanie Peavy	Development Services Director		Present
Amanda Salazar	Parks and Recreation Manager		Present
Lynzey McClellan	Assistant Chief Financial Officer		Present
Paul Ketz	IT Manager		Present
Jessica Barnes	Executive Assistant		Present

Mayor Wolf brought the meeting to order and then turned the meeting over to the City Manager, Jason McHugh, who stated that Parks and Recreation Manager Amanda Salazar would make a presentation about the Parks and Recreation Department, including updates as to what events and projects the department would be working on. McHugh congratulated Salazar on the great turnout for the Saturday event.

2. Items for Consideration

A. Parks & Recreation Department Update

Parks and Recreation Manager Amanda Salazar began her presentation by stating that she had asked her staff why they do the job they do? Salazar stated that her staff's main answer was the

hometown and family-oriented feelings. And how to keep that hometown feeling while the city continues to grow. Salazar named all the facilities that are available throughout the city.

Salazar went over the S.W.O.T. Analysis: Strengths - Available Land/Space, Program Quantity, Passionate Staff, and Large Community Base.

Weaknesses - Program Quality, Equal Representation Geographically, Indoor Recreation Space, Amenities for all ages, Advertisement -Social Media.

Opportunities - Upgrading current buildings, Additional Staff, Working with schools, Preserving Parks, Increasing sponsorship.

Threats - Unwillingness to change, community buy-community, the Villages growth, better amenities surrounding Wildwood.

Salazar stated that her improvement plan includes training staff and getting experience.

Salazar stated that a good foundation equals communication and transparency throughout the department and city. Salazar showed graphs of what direction she would like the department to go in and the big picture goals she would like to see for the department.

Starting with professionalism, providing high-quality events, staff appearance, and demeanor. Teamwork/Shared Vision, everyone working toward the same vision, helping each other regardless of the job title. Supporting each other and the team. Integrity - follow through with promises made and take responsibility when they fail. Do your best regardless of location, person, or situation. Creativity - Growing and learning with the community's needs. Try and have the willingness to do something new and out of the box. Employee Development - Never stop learning, take every opportunity to grow.

Salazar stated that she had gotten out in the community and talked with people. Salazar wants to help bring more awareness of the changes and new ideas and programs being brought to the city as a whole, not just on the west or on the east sides of the city, but for all city residents, and to bring in activities that will bring all residents to the events no matter what park or where the activity is being held. Salazar presented some of the improvements to Millennium Park, such as a paved walking trail, adult ball fields, soccer/football fields, tennis courts, more lighting, formal parking, concession stands, and bathrooms. Salazar also discussed improvements to come in future years. Salazar discussed the improvements to MLK Park which include a splash pad, concession stands, and bathrooms, cameras for surveillance, basketball rehabilitation, replacing the lighting system, bike/walking paths to connect and cross over Highway 301, an indoor recreation center, an updated playground, and adequate parking. Commissioners had a discussion on having the community rise to the occasion so the parks and facilities are kept up and safe for all of the community and residents to take pride in their parks and facilities. Salazar stated that new improvements at Lake Deaton will have new bathrooms, a boat ramp and dock upgrade, and a widening of the boardwalk as well as a nature trail. Salazar stated that Oxford Park would have an adaptive playground, parking improvements, bathrooms, and lighting for pickleball. Commissioner Elliott stated concerns about park locations near major roadways. Salazar stated that bay window restorations are being done at the Baker House along with a new bathroom facility, also creating a special event space on the property.

Salazar stated that the community would like to see indoor recreation centers, and an aquatic facility, along with connectivity either by walking or biking from one side of the city to the other side of the city and the various parks. Salazar presented options for an indoor recreation center at MLK Park for an inside basketball court and classroom space. The second suggestion was for Fleet Services Complex to be used as a youth center for reading

or a game room. Salazar stated that with the large outdoor space there is room for pavilions and tables or a large playground area. Also, it has adequate parking spaces. Commissioner Elliott asked if the city did not own the fleet service location, would the city buy it? Mayor Wolf stated that he thought the location had a lot of potential. McHugh stated that he is still moving forward with MLK Park, but feels the complex offers other opportunities for the city.

McHugh stated that with cost, the Commission will need to give guidance on location and timing for future parks. Commissioner Bivins stated that having been a single parent, having local facilities and multi-purpose facilities would be nice for parents so they don't have to travel to different cities for activities.

Salazar addressed the planning process for landscape and maintenance and the prioritizing of the projects that need to be done and time and staff allocated for each and that some projects may need to be contracted out, such as Greenwood Cemetery, which takes 6-8 hours to do. Commissioner Flores asked about lighting for Tee Ball fields. Salazar stated that they are not in the budget for this year. Commissioner Green stated that he would like to see a garden park or a butterfly garden. Salazar agreed there would be an opportunity for this in the future.

3. Adjournment

CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA

SEAL

ATTEST: _____
Susan Patterson, City Clerk

BY: _____
Ed Wolf, Mayor