



**Town of Surfside**

**SPECIAL PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**MINUTES  
APRIL 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Logan at 7:00 p.m.

The following were present: Chair Retta Logan  
Vice Chair Nicole Travis  
Committee Member Frank MacBride, Jr.  
Committee Member Janice Tatum  
Commissioner Nelly Velasquez (arrived at 7:20 pm)

Absent: Committee Member Marta Olchyk

Also, present: Town Manager Andy Hyatt  
Tim Milian, Parks and Recreation Director  
Evelyn Herbello, Deputy Town Clerk

**2. Agenda and Order of Business**

Parks and Recreation Director Milian introduced himself and Adrian Hernandez from the Parks and Recreation Department.

Barry Miller and Adriana Savino Miller from Savino and Miller company introduced themselves.

William Lane, from William Lane Company introduced himself.

Kelly Hitzing, from Savino Miller introduced herself.

The Committee members introduced themselves.

**3. 96<sup>th</sup> Street Park Design Review with Savino Miller Design Group- Tim Milian, Parks and Recreation Director**

Parks and Recreation Director Milian introduced the item and the representative from Savino Miller Design Group.

Barry Miller, Savino and Miller provided a presentation of the project.

Kelly Hitzing, Savino and Miller gave a presentation of the project and provided three schemes in order to receive feedback.

Mr. Miller presented the different site plan concepts.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian spoke regarding the two points that were presented. He stated that they discussed at length with the Committee the priorities that were listed which were functional and the possibility of a building with two different playgrounds with green programmable space. He also stated that they are dealing with less than an acre. He spoke regarding the kayak launch and he would like to stay focused on the park and get the design for the park moving forward.

Mr. Miller spoke regarding raising the building due to previous flooding issues, issues with the grass, saving the existing trees, creating a new maintenance and pedestrian access, adjusting the fence and height location.

Commissioner Velasquez asked regarding the different schemes with the basketball court and possibly making the basketball court on the roof of the building and does not see that on the design.

Mr. Miller addressed the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez regarding the basketball court, the size of the court and that they were trying to stay fairly close to the RFQ. He addressed the comment made regarding the basketball court on the roof and they moved the court all over the site to determine which was better. He continued going through scheme 1.

Mr. Miller presented the scheme 2 design plans.

Chair Logan advised everyone if they have questions that they will have a question-and-answer section after the presentations.

Mr. Lane, provided the different schemes of the architectural design of the project.

Mr. Miller stated that their goal tonight is to have at least two schemes to be able to work with and make the necessary changes.

Commissioner Velasquez asked as to the louvers and if they are open louvers or glass behind them due to the fact that it gets very hot in the summer and the idea is to have the rooms airconditioned. She also asked why they are not utilizing all the space including the bottom section which could be used as an indoor space and asked if it could be enclosed in order to be able to use that space.

Mr. Lane addressed the question from Commissioner Velasquez.

Mr. Miller stated that there is glass behind the louvers and it is airconditioned. He spoke regarding the open lower section.

Mrs. Savino Miller stated that the idea was to create a continuation of the trees and an area where the parents could watch their children play.

Mr. Miller stated that the more you enclose you start raising the cost of the building especially the airconditioned area.

Chair Logan stated that many of their events have a DJ and it is nice to have the bottom area open and they want to be close enough to the field and not be separated from the activities.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if they could have it like a multipurpose area that could be a closed room with doors of some sorts, possibly making it something that can be interchanged.

Committee Member MacBride thanked the design team for how they designed the park and gave the reasoning why they placed the basketball court on the other side. He asked what the size of the greenspace field is where the children play soccer. He asked if scheme 1 and 2 is equal or bigger in size. He asked if the seawall met code and asked where would trucks come into the South of the walk-in gate in scheme 1. He stated that the area was used as a FEMA dumpsite until it could be moved out. He asked if they allow parties.

Ms. Hitzing answered Committee Member MacBride's question.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian addressed the comments made and stated that it is about equal in size. He stated that the idea is to maximize the greenspace.

Town Manager Hyatt answered Committee Member MacBride's question as it pertained to parties and stated that due to COVID they do not allow parties.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian stated that they do not have the space to rent for parties.

Discussion took place regarding the cost involved to include the budget for the hiring of employees as well as the difference in schemes and what is more visible as to who is coming in and out of the park.

Chair Logan asked regarding the fence height and stated that four feet is low on the water side.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian stated that it does meet code for a park fence but does understand the concern.

Mr. Miller stated that they could go easily to a five- or six-foot fence.

Chair Logan stated that her favorite scheme is number 2 and prefers the building not tucked in the corner but instead having the park portion tucked in the corner.

Vice Chair Travis asked which scheme would lend itself better from a design and logistics perspective for a launch.

Mr. Miller addressed Vice Chair Travis' question and believes that scheme 1 and 2 monitors that area and they could do other things as far as a design. He stated that if a kayak launch would be placed, the access would be on the northwest corner and there might be the need to have a storage area for the kayaks. He also addressed the possible issue of kayak traffic and have a possible kayak share use program.

Further discussion took place regarding a possible kayak launch while keeping it safe and recommendation of scheme 2 that would be the easiest to modify and have access to the water.

Mr. Miller spoke regarding the issue of the use of the launch and the FIND Grant funding.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that discussion took place with the Town Attorney and that in the long run if they decide to do a kayak launch it would be a matter of paying back that FIND grant dollars for that portion.

Vice Chair Travis asked if the park has to be fenced in.

Mrs. Savino Miller stated that the entire park is fenced and it does not have to be fenced in.

Discussion took place regarding the fence and what would be more aesthetically pleasing.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian discussed vandalism of the fence and they did not replace it in the last few years because they did not want to throw good money away on something that was going to be removed.

Committee Member Tatum asked if the camouflage and vegetation being proposed will block the view of the water.

Mr. Miller addressed Committee Member Tatum's question and stated that it will not be a big hedge blocking the view.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian stated that the kayak launch has been discussed as well as scheme 1 and 2 if a kayak launch would be going in that section. He stated that they are tasked to come up with a design for the park and does not want it to be held up due to the kayak launch.

Commissioner Velasquez asked what the survey results showed where the residents want the kayak launch to be located at.

Committee Member MacBride stated that the excel spreadsheet did not state a specific area.

Communications Director Dauginikas gave the specifics on the kayak launch survey.

Chair Logan spoke regarding the kayak launch and the funding involved without losing any funding for the park.

Mr. Miller spoke regarding storage of the kayaks and space.

Further discussion took place regarding funding, location for a kayak launch as well as the use of the park.

Committee Member MacBride stated that he is against a kayak launch.

Vice Chair Travis stated that every time that the residents were asked for their opinion for the park, it has always been having the park on a waterfront property. She stated that these designs are beautiful.

Chair Logan spoke regarding the different schemes of the design and location of a kayak storage area to be placed against the wall and hidden.

Mr. Miller answered Chair Logan's question and advised the different changes that they can make.

Ms. Hitzing stated that the reason why they did not put a second floor was because that room would be looking into the roadway and headlights coming over the bridge would be coming in through the windows.

Parks and Recreation Director Milian summarized the item and reiterated the design from Savino and Miller and maximize the design.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that she does believe the park is the focal point and other members from the Commission are very supportive of a kayak launch at this particular park itself and would like to still have that possibility.

Chair Logan thanked Mr. Miller for their presentation and that consensus of the Committee is to go with schemes 1 and 2.

Mr. Miller stated that they will work with those schemes and work with Parks and Recreation Director Milian.

Ms. Hitzing stated that they will provide any revisions to the schemes at the April 28, 2021 Community Dialogue – Planning the 96<sup>th</sup> Street Park Meeting and then provide the final scheme to the Town Commission.

**4. Public Comments - (3-minute time limit per speaker)**

There were no public speakers.

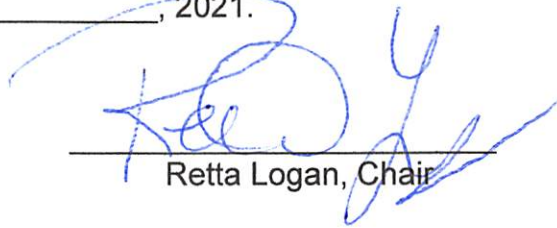
**5. Next Meeting: April 19, 2021**

**6. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Committee Member MacBride to adjourn the meeting without objection at 8:52 p.m. The motion received a second from Committee Member Tatum. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Committee Member Olchyk absent.

Respectfully submitted:

Accepted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.



Retta Logan, Chair

Attest:



Evelyn Herbello  
Deputy Town Clerk