

**CITY OF WINTER PARK
CITY COMMISSION SERVICE LEVEL REVIEW MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2007
2:00 p.m.**

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor David Strong at 2:06 p.m. in Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor David Strong
Commissioner Douglas Metcalf
Commissioner Barbara DeVane (via phone)
Commissioner John Eckbert (2:35 p.m.)
Attorney Trippe Cheek (3:05 p.m.)

Also present:

City Manager James Williams
Deputy City Clerk Nancy McLean

Members absent:

Commissioner Douglas Storer

Parks and Recreation Director John Holland provided a power point presentation regarding the Fiscal 2008 Service Level Review for the Parks & Recreation Department. He spoke about their mission statement to enhance the quality of life for the community by providing outstanding parks, recreational facilities activities and services.

Mr. Holland presented an organizational chart that listed his three Assistant Directors and their area of responsibility. Mr. Holland explained their budget was approximately \$7, 550,000 and their budget was divided into different divisions with parks services being the largest at 31%.

He discussed the Business Administration Program objectives, the Park Service Program objectives and the Recreation Services Program objectives all with their benchmark performance standards. Mr. Holland addressed the division revenues and cost for parks and recreation services. He concluded by stating that the department is preserving our City Fathers vision of parkland and are carefully looking and moving forward to address the future parks and recreational needs of residents. He spoke about new projects and renovations on the horizon; maintaining a healthy ratio of 10 acres per 1,000 residents and that the Winter Park Parks & Recreation Department is vibrant and growing. Mr. Holland answered Commission questions.

Mayor Strong commented that he would like to see the revenue facilities break even or be profitable. Mr. Holland explained that was their goal. Mayor Strong stated he wanted to see the department consider adjusting their fees for the rising expenses in the coming budget year. He stated that presently the fees are reasonable and relative to the product the City provides. Mr. Holland stated they look at this often and they compare fees with other cities.

Mayor Strong asked which fields the City charges for. Mr. Holland listed the fields and explained the charges. The Mayor asked if there was any type of maintenance fund for the cemetery once it becomes full to capacity. Director of Finance Wes Hamil explained that sales proceeds go into the perpetual maintenance fund whenever plots are bought but is not to the point where interest from that fund could be used to maintain annual operations. Mayor Strong suggested establishing a perpetual fund that could be used to maintain the cemetery. Mr. Holland responded that he will research this and find out if there is an adjustment that can be

made after sell out that would provide that service. Mayor Strong asked him to find out what needs to be done, and determine the cost then they can figure out what would be the next step.

Roger Leggatt stated they could extend the cemetery by closing some of the roads which would create 800 additional spaces. He addressed doing more with cremations and building a public mausoleum so they could offer people the option of being above ground.

Commissioner Eckbert asked if they had any funds available for signage in the park. Mr. Holland stated one of their challenges for their Citywide master plan was to ask Wade Trim to design their signage conducive to the park and city logo.

Commissioner Metcalf stated that he would like a full survey of all the City's rights-of-way so when they give away a right-of-way they are thinking about the possible areas used to connect the entire neighborhood together. He would like to see if they could interconnect all City parks and maximize the bicycle and pedestrian opportunities with the land that presently exists before they decide to continue to give it away. Mr. Holland responded they have a tremendous opportunity for a trail system along the CSX from Mead Gardens connecting with the trail to Orlando to Maitland's trail. He stated it will eventually connect with Howell Branch Park and go to any trail in Seminole or Orange County.

Mayor Strong stated that Director of Public Works Troy Attaway will be obtaining information on the right-of-ways not being used and give those findings to the Commission. Mr. Attaway concurred.

Mayor Strong adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.



Cynthia S. Bonham, City Clerk