



**SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 4, 2016**

**5:00 PM**

City of Margate  
Municipal Building

**PRESENT:**

Todd E. Angier, Chair  
Anthony Caggiano, Vice Chair  
Teresa DeCristofaro

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Benjamin J. Ziskal, AICP, CEcD, Director of Economic Development  
Michael Jones, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

**ABSENT:**

Phil Hylander  
Catherine Yardley

The Special meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board of the City of Margate, having been properly noticed, was called to order by Chair Todd Angier at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 4, 2016. A roll call of the Board members was taken.

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**1) NEW BUSINESS**

- 1A) DISCUSSION OF 2016 FLORIDA RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FRDAP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS TO UNIQUE AND DISABLED FACILITIES AT THE FIREFIGHTERS PARK.

Ben Ziskal briefly explained that the Special meeting had been called due to a time-sensitive deadline on two grants for which the Parks and Recreation Department was applying. He said the grant applications required that a position and recommendation be taken by an advisory board and staff determined that the Planning and Zoning Board was the most appropriate.

**City Commission**

Mayor Tommy Ruzzano  
Vice Mayor Joyce W. Bryan  
Lesa Peerman  
Joanne Simone  
Frank B. Talerico

**City Manager**

Douglas E. Smith

**City Attorney**

Douglas R. Gonzales

**City Clerk**

Joseph J. Kavanagh

**Economic Development Department**

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Mike Jones explained that the City of Margate's Capital Improvement Plan currently included improvements for this item and they had been proposed in the 2017 budget. He explained that the grant was being offered by the Florida Recreation Development Assistance program; it was for up to \$500,000 allocated by the State with a 50 percent match required by the City for any projects over \$150,000. He said the City would request the full \$500,000. He explained that the City would need to front 100 percent of the project cost from the City's General Fund and it would be reimbursed for 50 percent of the total cost.

Ms. DeCristofaro asked what the plans were to use the money. Mr. Jones said the City did not have construction or conceptual design plans at this time. He said it had recommendations of the amenities and those items being planned for renovation.

Mr. Jones explained that currently Firefighter's Park had a sand surface playground that was 20 years old. He said the plan included a 100 percent remodel/renovation of the playground and it would be designed for all users. He said all surfacing would be 100 percent accessible for handicap and unique abilities as well as designated play structures and equipment that would accommodate wheelchair bound individuals and those with disabilities. In addition to the playground, he said there would be parking lot improvements that included more handicapped spaces and other modifications and improvements throughout the park including landscaping.

Ms. DeCristofaro said she hoped the design would be such that it would not have any sharp edges. She asked if the funds would include a bridge into the Wingate area. Mr. Jones said the pedestrian bridge that was proposed for the Wingate connection was not included in the grant application but it was still a capital improvement project for the City.

Mr. Jones explained that the application would be worded in such a way that it included proposed items but the City would not be limited only to those items. He said they were looking to maximize the grant funding. He said the specifics did not have to be spelled out in the application and the City had three years in which to spend the funds.

Mr. Caggiano commented that it was a magnificent idea to ask for the most amount of funding and to try to maximize the funds.

Ms. DeCristofaro asked if there would be anything for disabled adults, such as exercise equipment. Mr. Jones said those considerations were being made in the overall park improvements. He said the primary focus was the playground, noting that playgrounds could also be used by adults. While not in the scope, he said there was a need for it and if the project could squeeze in remodeling the existing fitness trail, they would try to add a few handicap assessable pieces of fitness equipment.

Mr. Angier commented that the improvements were part of the budget and having this grant would free up some funding for additional projects.

Mr. Caggiano asked Mr. Jones how he learned of the grant. Mr. Jones responded that the FRDAP had been in existence for some time and the City of Margate had capitalized on its grants in the past. He said this grant for unique abilities was new for the State and was separate from the traditional FRDAP grant. He learned about it through his affiliation with the Florida Recreation Parks Association. He said having the improvements in the City's Park and

Recreation Master Plan and having the capital improvements in the budget created a perfect scenario should the City receive the grant.

Mrs. DeCristofaro made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Caggiano:

**MOTION:** SO MOVE TO APPROVE

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Hylander, Absent; Mrs. DeCristofaro, Yes; Mrs. Yardley, Absent; Mr. Caggiano, Yes; Mr. Angier, Yes. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

1B) DISCUSSION OF 2016 FLORIDA RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FRDAP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS TO UNIQUE AND DISABLED FACILITIES AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX.

Mike Jones explained that this was a similar project to the previous item and that it also was part of the City of Margate's Capital Improvement Plan. He said this location [Sports Complex] was planned to be done in phases with dugout improvements including home run fencing being done in phase one; a second phase in 2018 would include improvements to the spectator and playground areas. After reviewing the grant documents and the projects that were already planned, he said it all lined up nicely.

Mr. Jones advised that the modifications to the dugout would provide handicap access to the dugout so handicap patrons and coaches would have direct access from the sidewalk into the dugout. He said they also planned to make modifications to the spectator area by installing aluminum bleachers that had a ramp that could elevate wheelchair bound spectators so they would have the same view as others. He said other improvements included fencing throughout, batting cage improvements, as well as playground renovations to make it 100 percent handicap accessible in terms of surfacing and equipment. He said they would also like to renovate the vertical lift to the second floor at the concession area. He noted that the current lift was obsolete and if the City were to get the grant, they may be able to replace it.

Mr. Caggiano asked the number of grants for which the City could apply. Mr. Jones responded that the City was limited to three and the decision was to select two high quality projects that could be maximized this year.

Mr. Caggiano made the following motion, seconded by Mrs. DeCristofaro:

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Hylander, Absent; Mrs. DeCristofaro, Yes; Mrs. Yardley, Absent; Mr. Caggiano, Yes; Mr. Angier, Yes. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote.

3) **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Ben Ziskal commented that he had mentioned in the past that it had been his vision to expand the type of items that came before the Planning and Zoning Board. He noted that 95 percent of what they had been involved with had been zoning and very few planning related items. He said that as the City continued to grow, specifically with the City Center redevelopment, the

Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and other long range plans, he wanted them to be more involved in the planning process. He said he and Mr. Jones thought this Board was the most appropriate board for the above items. He said he expected more of those type of planning items to come before them for their input as improvements continue to be made City-wide.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by Rita Rodi

Todd E. Angier, Chair

DRAFT