

MINUTES OF THE COLLIER COUNTY PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Naples, Florida, November 19th, 2025

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 2:00 P.M. in **REGULAR SESSION** at 15000 Old Livingston Rd, Naples, FL 34109, USA, with the following members present:

Chairman: Edward "Ski" Olesky
Vice Chairman: Josh Fruth
Jessica Bergel
Rebecca Gibson-Laemel

COUNTY STAFF ALSO PRESENT:

Said Gomez, Regional Manager
Eric Short, Superintendent, Maintenance
Miguel Rojas, JR., Administrative Support
Marissa Baker, Regional Manager
Randi Swinderman, Regional Manager
John Dunnuck, CRA Executive Director Facilities
Jeanine McPherson, Operations Manager

Any persons needing the verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the audio recording from the Collier County Parks and Recreation Department.

I. Call to Order

III. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve by Jessica Bergel; Seconded by Josh Fruth - *passed unanimously*

IV. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Meeting minutes, September 17th, 2025

Motion to approve by Rebecca Gibson-Laemel; Seconded by No second recorded - passed unanimously

Meeting minutes, October 15th, 2025

Motion to approve by Josh Fruth; Seconded by Jessica Bergel - passed unanimously

V. New Business

Golden Gate Community Center - John Dunnuck - Executive Director
Facilities, CRA

Would like the support of the board to rename the Golden Gate Community Center Gym after Janice Elliot. Worked for the community center for over 15 years. Worked with her family and Golden Gate Advisory board to rename the gym after her. Passed away 5 years ago.

Motion to approve by Josh Fruth; Seconded by Rebecca Gibson-Laemel - passed unanimously

A. Meeting schedule discussion - James Hanrahan

Josh Fruth made a Motion to cancel the December 2025 meeting and push the agenda items to January 2026.

Motion to approve by Josh Fruth; Seconded by Jessica Bergel - passed unanimously

B. Racquet Sports at Paradise Coast Sports Complex - Curly Davis

Not addressed during the meeting. Pushed to January 2026 meeting.

C. Needs Assessment - Jeanine McPherson

2025 Needs Assessment - Imagine Collier Parks

Last survey was performed in 2022

In 2025 total surveys received - 2,643 representing 6,580 residents and visitors.

Main areas of focus for surveys -

- Quality of recreational programs and services
- Quality of Customer Service provided by park staff
- Quality of Park Maintenance
- Overall physical condition of park facilities
- Restroom Cleanliness

Survey ran for 1 full month from March 1st, 2025- April 1st, 2025

Marketing for survey included Outdoor lawn posters with QR Code, signs posted inside all community centers with survey QR code, Email blasts sent to all Parks & Recreation ActiveNet account holders, Advertised in My Collier government newsletter, Facebook, Outreach events, Word of mouth by Staff, Park rangers handed out over 5,000 business cards with QR Code.

The average score for facilities and services ranged from a high of 3.16 for Overall outdoor maintenance to a low of 2.74 for bathroom cleanliness.

Most common suggestions or needs noted in surveys

- Fitness centers - specific or new equipment
- Zumba and Yoga classes
- Shading on playgrounds
- Kids and teens - Cultural arts programs
- Maintenance areas - cleanliness/repairs needed at select parks.

Josh Fruth - Regarding the pie charts - Do the responses give the specific age groups

Jeanine McPherson - Analytics were very simple for the survey. Did not collect that data.

Jeanine McPherson - We took the zip codes from the report and superimposed them. The majority of the reports are coming from high density areas that are primarily families.

Rebecca Gibson-Laemel - Going back maintenance who is in charge currently

Marissa Baker - Eric Short- Interim Superintendent.

Rebecca Gibson-Laemel - Congratulated Eric on the improvements in the overall maintenance at the parks and higher numbers in the survey.

VI Old Business

A. Vacant Chairs - Miguel Rojas
2 vacant chairs
Applications received

Robert Lee Miller - Citizen at Large

Kerry M. Geroy - No category selected- Appeared and spoke to the board

Sally Hawk - No Category selected- Appeared before the board 2 meetings prior and introduced herself to the board.

Felipe Pereira - No Category selected

Patrica Sherry - No Category selected- Appeared and spoke to the board.

Erik Kelly - Appointment expires in December.

Motion to approve re-appointment by Josh Fruth; Seconded by Jessica Bergel - passed unanimously

Motion to let the 8th reserve expire by Josh Fruth; Seconded by Jessica Bergel - passed unanimously

VII. Additional Materials

Reference materials provided to Board members in their packets. Did not discuss

VIII Board/Public Comments

Josh Fruth - A lot of the comments in the survey they had were about restrooms and cleanliness.

Eric ??? - Airport park- Very isolated. No security. Open public park used every weekend for get togethers. Gets serviced at night then locked up.

Josh Fruth - During the day the bathrooms are being trashed

Eric ??? - Yes. There is a large homeless population in the area so yes. Restrooms are cleaned only at night. Before they are locked and secured for the night.

Public Speaker- Susan Zehaender

Here to speak about Pelican Bay community pickle ballpark. The contract between the county and the Pelican Bay Foundation and the county states The public shall have access to 50% of the courts during the same days as the members of the foundation. No more than 50% shall be used by the foundation at any time. Currently the foundation is using more than 50% of the available courts which is a violation of the agreement. By giving the foundation more than 50% it takes away from the public ability to use the court. The facility is scheduled to open this month. The schedule has already been posted and it appears that all 20 courts have been dedicated to the foundation and the public court access has been removed.

Randi Swinderman - We are currently meeting with Susan and her group. We are working through schedule proposals. The contract is very clear, 10 public and 10 private courts. Pelican Bay is able to rent the courts as they see fit, but we also want the public to have the access that was stated in the contract.

Edward Olesky - If the public is not using the courts can Pelican Bay use them

Randi Swinderman - It goes both ways. If Pelican Bay is not using them the public can. They have a system in place through an app that you have to pre-register on

Josh Fruth - My suggestion would be to go into this with open eyes. The facility isn't even open yet and people are already fighting. I am asking for both sides to work this out and come back to us in February with a solution that works for both sides.

IX. Manager Updates

Region 3- Max Hasse - Said Gomez, Regional Manager

Upcoming Yard sale - 100% sold out

Upcoming Holiday event - Christmas around the world. Snow, inflatable, rides.

Region 4 - Randy Swinderman, Regional Manager

Big Corkscrew Island - Upcoming event- Grinchmas December 19th, 2025

School days off for Thanksgiving break and winter break. Spots still open.

Contract pending approval with the Fire Department- to supply the lifeguards for the facilities. Sun n Fun and Big Corkscrew.

We have vacancies for a Supervisor, Customer service, athletics and full time guard.

Adaptive family center- Smaller version of the Grinchmas event for kids with special needs. Upcoming New years party and School days off.

Vineyards - Winter break camp. December 12th - Gingerbread house decorating event. Summer camp 2026 theme will be Adventure Awaits. Plan for 9 weeks.

Holiday hours - Park close at 5:00pm. Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Christmas eve parks will close at 5:00pm with the exception of Sun n Fun.

Region 5 - Marissa Baker, Regional Manager

Paradise Coast Sports complex - Snow fest event December 6th. AYF American Youth Football, Football University mid-December.

East Naples Community park - Just hired Program Director.

East Naples - Hosting a town hall meeting

Eagle Lakes - New Program Coordinator started last week.

Sugden - Fall programming on hold due to active Alge bloom.

Sugden - January/February concert series have been cancelled. Working on securing artists.

North Collier Regional Park - Satellite location for Paradise Coast Cup.

Opening weekend for concessions.

X. Directors Report

Marinas are being managed by county staff. Applications have come in and are in the process of being reviewed.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:24pm

**COLLIER COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Edward “Ski” Olesky, Chairman

These minutes were approved by the Board/Chairman on ____, as presented
(choose one) ____, or as amended ____.

DRAFT