

Village of North Palm Beach Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting AGENDA
January 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Village Hall Conference Room

1) Call to Order: Chair Budnyk

2) Roll Call:

Rita Budnyk, Chair

Misselhorn, Secretary

Jonathan Sorensen

Emily Bales

Stephen Heiman

Jennifer Gold Dumas, Vice Brigid

Cristy Johnson

Village Council Representative - Mayor

Debbie Searcy

Francesca Wernisch, Recreation Manager

Ashley Shipman, Director of Parks & Rec

3) New member welcome: Christy Johnson

4) Approval of Minutes:

- December 9, 2025
- Board member Heiman motioned to approve, Board member Dumas seconded

5) Public Comments:

6) Director's Report:

- Special projects
 - i. Community Center Park will focus on South parking lot and north parking lot will be at a later date
 - ii. Will be meeting with the grant writer and will inquire about the likelihood of getting grants in the coming year
 - iii. Fitness Equipment bidding going out, plan is for one concrete slab with all of the pieces, so consideration to add a shade sail in the future is possible
- Additional projects
 - i. Adding additional non-slip tread to be added to Lakeside Park walkover
 - ii. Bat Houses
 - iii. Board member Dumas inquired about Rosco the Rock snake
 1. Director Shipman mentioned
 - iv. Survey says residents overwhelmingly want all the park fenced
 1. Chair Budnyk complemented the design of the survey
 - v. Plan for the landscape of the dry storage area follows the one that was pre-approved when the original plans were made
 1. Waiting on the grant update in April
 2. Director Shipman will send the plan out to Board members
- Special Events

- i. A lot is coming up, and Director Shipman would love to see board members there
 - ii. Board member Sorenson inquired about the number of cars registered, and Director Shipman assured that the number is on track for this event
 - iii. Movie in the Garden 2025 was well attended with 50 residents, and so hoping for good numbers at this year's event on Feb 7
 - iv. Park Manager Poh's wife has been asked to create a doggy "kissing booth" for Feb 13 Sniffs & Kisses dog and Beats & Eats event
 - v. Flashlight/glow in the dark Egg Hunt event will be using the indoor gym
 - 1. Board member Heiman inquired about coordinating with PD about driving Golf carts to the Community Center
 - 2. Mayor Searcy suggested a dance portion
 - vi. Chair Budnyk inquired about sponsorship regarding Heritage Fest Rec staff working with K. P. sponsorship package with multiple events and fine-tuning what it will look like.
 - 1. Board member Sorenson recommends one main contact having all our info on the village's sponsorship; Director Shipman said that is the plan, and they are working on it and want to streamline it.
 - vii. Library and Community garden/Environmental committee will most likely both have booths at MacArthur Nature fest
 - viii. Director Shipman suggested installing real birdhouses in bird village to replace the current ones that don't last and look into bird baths as a possibility
 - 1. Board member Heiman inquired about the painting of the wind turbine mural benches and to make sure no grant is attached to the bird village
 - 2. Mayor Searcy inquired about the master plan for the community center which is for building and reminded about Ninja Warrior path suggested in the past
 - 3. The possibility of butterfly gardens also suggested
 - ix. Any feedback or suggestions are always welcome to look into changes if needed can even email Director Shipman directly
- Athletic Programs
 - i. Director Shipman updated that St Marks and Benjamin will not promote Soccer league and asks for board members to help spread the word
 - ii. Numbers are low all around for recreational youth sports
 - iii. The 12-14 group only has 4 signed up at this point
 - iv. Board member Sorenson suggests making that age group more competitive or consider cutting 12 and up rec sports
 - 1. Feels that the one day a week practice with one game a week makes the program not seem serious
 - v. Board member Bales said most probably aren't signing up since they already play 2-3 times a week or not at all
 - vi. Mayor Searcy reminded that the Predators program in the area is very popular, so most children that age want to play with their friends there
 - vii. Board member Johnson recommended lacrosse, field hockey, or kickball, or something not as oversaturated
 - 1. Survey on what parents of 12 & 14 year olds would be interested in signing their kids up for
 - 2. Drop-in dodgeball or kickball
 - 3. Clinic option to preview what is available
 - viii. Board member Sorensen inquired about mini soccer and if it was for younger ages or mini season; it's indeed for the younger ages and is run in-house to build a feeder program with our youth leagues
 - ix. Adult kickball will be on Tuesday evenings now, run in-house by Recreation Supervisor, Bailey

- x. Adult Basketball will run on Monday evenings now
- xi. School's Out Camp and Spring Break Camp have registration beginning soon; Summer Camp registration will begin in March

7) New Business:

- Nothing

8) Old Business:

- NPB Community Center Renovation - conceptual ideas and community engagement discussion
 - i. Director Shipman spoke with the Public Works Director, about what would serve the community best going forward in the future
 - ii. Chair Budnyk inquired into the time frame - Director Shipman is hoping to sit down before the end of next month to discuss these items
 - iii. Appropriation application was submitted, and this project did move forward to the next step
- Anchorage Park Playground Fencing Survey Update
 - i. Addressed earlier
- Anchorage Park Fitness Equipment - Final Input Request
 - i. Addressed earlier
- Day Pass Boat Ramp Use - NPB Short-term Rentals Guests of family
 - i. Chair Budnyk discussed that the \$ 10 one-time pass is currently offered for family members staying in Airbnb or short-term rentals, etc., without a one-year lease, according to the current FAQ
 - 1. Family member staying at your house with proper storage
 - Consensus is that offering this is a good idea to look into
 - \$15 increase suggested
 - 2. Rangers are not currently permitted to issue Commercial and Day pass permits, but they can be trained to do so since coverage is better, and because permits currently cannot be obtained after hours or on the weekends
 - 3. Will be looked into as a possibility to update and create more opportunities for usage and sales
 - 4. Boats can be parked in storage behind fences

9) Member Comments:

- Board member Heiman believes there may be a void at the end of the ramp that should be filled in.
 - i. Larger boats are more likely to drop off and be damaged
 - ii. Residents who asked Secretary Misselhorn were having the same issues with a smaller boat
 - iii. Chair Budnyk suggests contacting the company about the curbstop having a void
 - iv. Director Shipman spoke with engineers that the ramp is 130 feet with 6-inch curbing that acts as a stop point and she is working on signage with warnings which will be installed at the end of the week
 - 1. Permitting would be required by U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Coast Guard, FDEP, and South Florida Water Management District if the direction of this project were to lengthen or alter the footprint of the existing ramp.
 - v. Board member Heiman pulled plans that the new ramp was 2.5 feet shorter, but engineers were contacted today, and it was built to match the existing length
 - vi. Director Shipman pointed out that it was built to the previous ramp footprint, which was

built for boats that were traditionally smaller decades ago

1. An underwater camera will be utilized to check

- Chair Budnyk brought up a complaint from a resident wanting Lakeside to be privatized to only NPB residents, which is not supported
 - i. Board member Sorenson and Secretary Misselhorn agree on that
- Chair Budnyk had a resident ask about sea grapes being cut by a resident adjacent to the park that are actually the park's landscaping. Director Shipman said this would be a code enforcement
- Board member Dumas warned of wasps nest underneath the picnic table by the Seacoast fence in the bowl, and Director Shipman will have it taken care of

10) Staff Comments:

- Advisory Board Dinner will be Feb 21st and invites will be sent

11) Board Comments/Recommendations to be presented to Council

- Director Shipman explained that direction comes from the Council

12) Adjournment

- Motion made by Chair Budnyk
- Seconded by Board member Heiman

