

MINUTES

Frederick Douglass Recreation Complex Advisory Board Special Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2025

5:30 P.M. - Douglass Activity Center

Board Members present: Mr. Karl Rivers, Ms. Adrian Cruz, Ms. Deb Nuss, and Ms. Susmita Rishi.

Staff Members: Mr. Dereck Thomas, Ms. Kyliah Kellermann.

A. OPENING OF SPECIAL MEETING

Mr. Rivers called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

B. MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Nuss, seconded by Ms. Rishi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 6, 2025. On 4-0 vote, motion carried.

Ms. Nuss wanted to add a special note that on May 1st, a vote to dissolve the Board passed with 4 in favor and 2 opposed. Due to a possible KOMA violation, the Board reconvened with a Special Meeting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. DISCUSSION OF THE DOUGLASS ADVISORY BOARD

Ms. Nuss shared that one year prior, the Board would reconvene to discuss the purpose of the Board and if it was still needed. Discussion to give time to see what happened. Further discussion was held amongst Board members and staff about having quorum problems, a need to identify a purpose, and the difficulty recruiting members for the Board. Mr. Rivers asked where we go from here.

The Board discussed Mr. Stewart's recommendation that two Douglass Board members be on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, with all members in agreement. Ms. Cruz also recommended adopting another idea of Mr. Stewart's to form a Steering Committee for future issues at the Douglass Complex, provided the Parks and Rec Board chooses not to expand. All board members agreed.

It was moved by Ms. Nuss, seconded by Ms. Rishi, to dissolve the Fredrick Douglass Recreation Complex Advisory Board. On 4-0 vote, motion carried. The Board discussed having representation when the City Commissioners take up the dissolution of the Board, all agreed.

E. ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Thomas provided an update on the upcoming Juneteenth and Everybody Counts events. Juneteenth will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th at City Park and the Douglass Complex respectfully. Everybody Counts will be held on August 2nd at the Douglass Complex.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Meeting adjourned.