

FEAB MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2017
3:00 p.m.
Delchamps Room, Fairhope, AL

Minutes taken by Kim Burmeister, City of Fairhope Planning and Zoning Department

Member Attendees: Gary Gover, Terry Hargroder, Jeanine Normand, Rick Frederick, Nicole Robinson, Ron Allen

City Liaison: Kim Burmeister, Planning and Zoning Department

City Council: Jimmy Conyers

Honored Guests: None

FEAB MINUTES:

April 2017 minutes were passed as presented.

March 2017 minutes were amended with a few grammatical changes. These will be presented at the June meeting for review.

Nicole said she has not been receiving minutes or minute drafts. Kim will make sure she is added to the email send out list for FEAB members.

Gary asked that future minutes include contacts for FEAB members.

MOTIONS:

None

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS / MONTROSE PRESERVE:

Gary said nothing new has been presented regarding the proposed PUD development on Rock Creek or conservation easements.

MARINA LEASE:

Gary said the City Council spoke about marina lease options at the work session and recent City Council meeting. City is considering the pros and cons of operating a marina versus leasing it out. Currently marina is under lease from Eastern Shore Marine and this lease expires October 2017. Eastern Shore Marine is working with EcoSolutions on environmental compliance issues with the marina. Tut Wynne, City Attorney, is writing lease language. Everyone seems to be in favor of adding Clean Marina language to the lease.

EARTH DAY

Gary said the Earth Day event on April 22 at South Beach Park was a success and had a big turnout. Kim said it was one of the best ones yet with lots of cost free activities like environmental movie flicks, bands, etc.

CITY PARKS

Kim said City has installed water bottle refilling stations at South Beach Park, which also include pet watering stations. Jeanine said these are very popular and Council should promote these so people will know they are there. We need them in all City parks. Jeanine said FEAB had conducted an assessment of parks at one time. Kim said park amenities is listed on the Parks Brochure which is available on line only. City needs to reprint to have these available at key locations like City offices, Welcome Center, etc. In the past, the Single Tax has assisted with printing costs for the Parks Brochure. Gary said the Historic Preservation group might also have funding opportunities for reprints. Parks Brochure was a FEAB project.

www.cofairhope.com/home/showdocument?id=4012

Rick gave kudos to the City for the beach cleanup stations recently installed in City parks, as part of the All One Ocean project. These should be highlighted by Council as well. www.alloneocean.org/

CITY INVOLVEMENT IN FEAB

Ron commended the Mayor and Council for their improved relations. Jeanine said the Mayor was recently involved in the League of Women's Voters meeting and she discussed FEAB with the Mayor. Jeanine said Mayor wants to be more involved in FEAB. It is crucial Mayor and Council are involved. Terry suggested the FEAB put together a punch list of discussion topics / advisories over the last year or two, for presentation to Mayor and Council. Terry remembers discussions on topics such as solar gardens and electric charging stations, which were never developed or presented to Council for consideration. Jimmy said this should be prioritized before presentation to Mayor / Council. Terry and Nicole are to review on line FEAB minutes and put together a draft list. Kim said all FEAB approved minutes are on line for the past three years, for those meetings that had quorums.

www.cofairhope.com/city-government/city-council-committee-minutes-3595

Kim has older FEAB minutes in hard copy in a binder (since about 2011). Agendas are usually only posted for non-advisory committees, such as the Planning Commission meetings, per Jimmy.

CITY BUDGET FOR STORM WATER

Jeanine said the City hired a consultant 10+ years ago to do a storm water assessment and she is wondering where this is. This would be before the 2012 Storm Sewer Inventory (which City has posted on line, Planning Department page). She will scan through older minutes to try to find references, as this would be a good tool for the City to have. She said the City paid a lot of money for this assessment which was in two or more parts, and was initiated at the request of the FEAB. She will also check with Charlene Lee who she thinks was involved as well.

Gary asked Jimmy if there was any money in the budget for specific environmental improvements. Jimmy said storm water is always a hot topic. Water and Sewer plant has been installing liners/sealant in sewer lines which are greatly reducing rain water infiltration to the waste water treatment plant.

Rick said Roberta Swann is meeting with the Mayor this month to discuss environmental and storm water issues. There may be some funding available for drainage improvements.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

FEAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chairman: Mike Shelton	yaupon3@gmail.com	(251) 990-2995
Members:		
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Nicole Love	nicolemrobinson@hotmail.com	(407) 312-1362
Gary Gover	govers@bellsouth.net	(251) 990-8662

CITY CONTACTS:

Jimmy Conyers, City Council	jimmy.conyers@mandmbank.com
Kim Burmeister, Planning and Zoning Department	kim.burmeister@cofairhope.com
Nancy Milford, Planning and Zoning Department	Nancy.milford@cofairhope.com

(251) 928-8003 City of Fairhope

Attachment: Parks of Fairhope brochure

1 *Fairhope's Municipal Pier, Rose Garden & Fountain, at the West end of Fairhope Avenue, is a favorite destination. Originally built in 1895, the pier has been rebuilt several times, most recently after Hurricane Katrina. Alongshore, enjoy Fairhope's Purple Martin Rivera. On the pier, watch fisherman cast nets for bat or catch a variety of fish. You must have a saltwater fishing license unless you are 65 or older. Restrooms, a small marina complete with pump out station, and a restaurant are located along the pier. View Fairhope's July 4th fireworks from here. Rose garden is American Rose Society accredited. Dogs are not allowed on the pier.



Visit the Web Cam on-line: <http://www.cofairhope.com/visiting>



2 *North Beach Park North of the Rose Garden, is Fairhope's premier beach park for walkers, runners, beachgoers, and ponies. The paved Beach Tree Trail encircles the park. An official Alabama's Coastal Birding Trail destination, the park has ducks, geese, and a wetland treatment pond. Watch for green flag at the entrance, showing it is safe to swim.



3 *South Beach Park, South of the Fairhope Municipal Pier, has a short multiple-use cement loop trail (approximately 1,300 linear feet long) alongshore and benches and picnic tables among the trees. It is often used for weddings, special events and Earth Day activities. A small beach exists at the South end. Equipped with handicap areas for picnics.



4 *Knoll Park located by Fairhope Avenue at Magnolia Avenue, is wooded and is being restored to a fire-resistant longleaf pine forest and native habitat. Some of its pines are over 100 years old. This park is named for George Knowles, a Charter Member of the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation.



5 *Henry George Park, on a grassy bluff above the Municipal Pier and Fountain, is the site of Fairhope's Fourth of July celebration and Baldwin Pops Concert. There is also a Veteran's Memorial Statue (Tears of Sorrow, Tears of Joy), by Fairhope artist Stephen C. Speers, dedicated in 2013. Bring a picnic to enjoy all of the events.



6 *North Bluff Park is located off North Bayview Street (north end) and is an excellent area for viewing a bay sunset from a park bench or a tree swing. Overlooks the beach front park and has a stairway leading to North Beach Park.



7 Magnolia Beach Park, between Laurel Ave & Pier St along South Mobile St. has live oaks draped in Spanish moss and a multi-use path favored by strollers, bench sitters, and dog walkers. Dog bags and receptacles are available, as is a water source for dogs. The short piers along the bay are open to the public. Water quality results are posted near one of the center piers. A small butterfly sanctuary with butterfly bush, lantana, and milkweed, attracts the Gulf fritillary, swallowtail, and monarch butterflies in season. Public parking and a free boat launch.



8 Fairhope's Community Park, built by Fairhope volunteers in downtown Fairhope along Church Street and Morphy Avenue, is a kid's paradise with creative playground equipment, climbing towers, and a giant dinosaur. A gazebo offers shade. Dogs are not permitted. Open sunrise to sunset.



9 *Utopia Park overlooks South Beach Park. It features a bronze statue by Frances J. Neumann, Barbara Casey and Richard Arnold honoring Marietta Johnson, 1907 founder of the School of Organic Education in Fairhope and an early advocate of progressive education. To the south is a seashore sculpture by Bruce Larson and John Reizer. Parking available along South Mobile St.

10 Fels Toddler Park, at Fels Avenue and Liberty Street, is a small, quiet neighborhood park with playground equipment and picnic tables.

11 Stimpson Field has six public tennis courts, a 2,086' linear foot asphalt running track, and seven open areas for team, family, or individual sport activities. On Morphy Avenue between Highway 98 (Green) and downtown Fairhope, parking is available on both Young and Marston Streets.

12 Fairhope Municipal Sporting Park/Valanta Sports Complex Hwy 98 and Valanta Avenue north of downtown Fairhope, is the City's 50-acre sporting complex with indoor/outdoor swimming pools, a kid's play pool, a fitness center, a disc golf course, 7 baseball fields, a football stadium, a gym, a basketball and racquetball court, picnic area, and playground. An unpermitted skate plaza is located along Valanta Avenue. Skating is at your own risk. Safety equipment is required. A dog park is located on Valanta Avenue near the skate park. Dogs are allowed only in the dog park. Open green space. For more information, call (251) 930-0174.

13 Marietta Johnson Botanical Garden & Tree Trail on the Faulkner campus in downtown Fairhope, has a variety of trees, azaleas, camellias, hydrangeas, and other native and non-native plants. A dawn redwood on the south campus is among the rarest trees. Informational signage appears at the corner of Fairhope Avenue and South School Street.

14 Valanta Beach Park is strictly for the able-bodied. At the south end of North Mobile Street at Pardeck Ave., walk down a staircase and hike through a cypress swamp to the beach. Beware of cypress knees and swampy conditions after heavy rains.

15 Colony Nature Park on Twin Beach Road (Hwy 44) east of Hwy 98, is a 40-acre park owned and developed by the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation. It has a mowed grass trail leading through a variety of habitats including wetlands.

16 *Founders Park is a 25-acre Sports Complex located on County Road 44, east of Highway 98. This complex includes 5 softball fields and approximately 15 acres of soccer fields.

17 Jasmine Park is located in a residential area at Jasmine Street and Yupon Avenue (off Gayler Avenue). This three-acre park has playground equipment suitable for small children. No designated parking.

18 *Nichols Landing is a walk-in only park off South Mobile Street (at Nichols Ave.), exceptional bay views.

19 *White Avenue Park is a paved drive area off South Mobile Street where you can stroll and fish off a short pier.

20 Museum Plaza is downtown off Bancroft Ave., behind the Fairhope Museum of History. Home to the Mule's Run, a fountain designed by America Jones and funded by COPA.

21 Manley Road Soccer Complex will include 10 soccer fields, a walking track and a playground area. Due for completion by 2015. This park is located on Manley Road, off Hwy 98, South of Hwy 44.

22 Barnwell Field is a City-operated park on Hwy 98 in Barnwell. The home of Fairhope Youth Football, it has two youth football fields, two baseball/softball fields and shaded pavilions.

*These parks were donated to Fairhope by the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation for the benefit of all its citizens.



The Parks of Fairhope



Park Features & Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Restrooms	X	X						X	X			X	X	X		X					X	X	X
Public Toilet	X	X						X	X			X	X	X		X					X	X	X
Grills	X	X																					
Playground Equipment	X	X						X	X		X					X						X	
Beach	X	X	X				X					X	X	X							X		
Trail	X	X	X				X				X	X	X	X									
Pier	X	X					X														X		
Bay View	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X						X	X	X
Dogs Allowed on Beach	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X						X	X	X
Educational Signage	X	X			X		X	X	X													X	
Picnic Shelters	X	X					X					X										X	
Fishing	X	X					X															X	
Earthbag	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X						X	X	X
Tennis/Cr/Banquet Track											X												
Swimming Pool/Fitness												X											
#Bench/Chair Areas	X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X					X	X	X
Public Parking	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X