



**THE CITY OF MIRAMAR
PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 23, 2026

6:30 P.M.

The City of Miramar's Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) met for its regular meeting on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:~~22~~ **30** p.m. at the Community Service Building, 2nd floor conference room, 2200 Civic Center Place, Miramar, FL 33025.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. ATTENDANCE - BOARD MEMBERS**

The following members of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board were present:

Dr. Yelena Revere, Chairperson
Lair Hall, Vice Chairperson
Roland Cherasard
Abdool Gani
Carlister Gordon
Synthia Parchment-Green
Carlos Ramsay
Joshua Rhodes
Kimberlee Williams

The following members of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board were absent:

Nichola Officer (Excused)
Sherria Williams (Excused)

A quorum was achieved.

Staff present:

Holly Hicks, Assistant Director, Parks & Rec. Dept. (P&R)
Jacqueline Lovell-Santos, Dept. Coordinator, (P&R)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **January 26, 2026**

Ms. Parchment-Green made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2026, as presented, seconded by Mr. Gani. The motioned passed unanimously.

- **February 23, 2026**

Mr. Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23, 2026, as presented, seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motioned passed unanimously.

5. CITY UPDATES: PARKS & RECREATION: Director Billy Neal

P&R Director Billy Neal provide updates on past and upcoming City events, as detailed in the backup:

- The Kite Festival took place the previous Saturday at the Miramar Regional Park; some 7,000 persons attended; it was a great event
- The upcoming Easter egg at the Miramar Regional Park; there would be fenced off areas for children in different age groups to hunt for the Easter egg; children would look for the eggs inside the fence, and parents would stay outside the fence
- The Autism Resource Fair hosted by Commissioner Chambers on April 18, 2026, and an Autism Walk on April 25 at the Miramar Regional Park.

Ms. Lovell-Santos noted there would be provided with a table for Ms. Williams to distribute information on autism resources.

Mr. Neal continued his update:

- The State recently passed a bill that was now on the Governor's desk for signing that would affect cultural, and gender-related events; this would affect any such events hosted by the elected officials or administration of any government entity; violations could result in an elected official being removed from office; specifically, government entities would no longer be permitted to use taxpayers' dollars to fund such events of any kind;

Miramar's city attorneys would outline the specific parameters of the bill for city elected officials, administration, and staff to facilitate compliance; such events could still take place, but without any government funding, so any city resources needed for such events had to be paid for by outside entity dollars.

Ms. Lovell-Santos remarked Saturday, April 25, 2026, was the PRAB's food drive, for which Vice Mayor Colbourne was the host, and she sought to combine it with the resource fair; the food drive would be a walkup rather than a drive thru event.

Vice Chairperson Hall thought there would be issues with some residents doing a walkup to pick up the food, as some of them were unable to carry their regular groceries. He questioned why there was a change to the format.

Ms. Lovell-Santos replied that by doing a walk up, the attendees would go by the tables at the resource fair.

Vice Chairperson Hall thought the resource fair would attract a different demographic from that of a food drive.

Ms. Lovell-Santos commented that the coming Wednesday, Parks staff would get further clarity as to how the format would work.

Vice Chairperson Hall said the format had to be ADA compliant, so people in wheelchairs could access whatever was being offered.

Mr. Neal stated there should be no problem with residents picking up the food.

Ms. Lovell-Santos reviewed the new format for the food distribution that involved scanning the barcode on the tablet at the beginning of handing out the food, and at the end a scan of "end distribution" would transmit the information to Farm Share.

6. GUESTS: Dr. Ann-Marie McSwain, City of Miramar; Adara Adams, , MHS, Community Outreach; Ms. Camerota, MHS, Community Outreach

Ms. Lovell-Santos stated Ms. Adams was unable to attend due to an emergency. She indicated the subject discussion would focus on the June 2026 Health Fair.

Adara Adams said the City had partnered with Memorial Hospital for a number of years, and on the specific health fair initiative she believed former Vice Mayor Alexandra Davis spearheaded the partnership with Memorial. The continued

their outreach programs to maintain contact with the community in various Broward cities, and they were in the process of hosting an anniversary unit, collaborating with them on their existing health events for efficiency. She said what Memorial proposed for the City of Miramar was something similar to that done in the City of Hallandale in the summer of 2025, partnering with them on their annual back-to-school health fair and bookbag giveaway, as they already had a captive audience for that event. The health services would complement those services that the City already brought to its event, of which their mobile health units would be a large part, including their pediatric unit that would provide physicals, vaccines, and referrals for patients in need of additional screening. Ms. Adams said they usually invited some of their community partners that they worked with on a regular basis to offer more resources and services to attendees, so if this was something the City was interested in, she would facilitate that happening. She mentioned the possibility of providing a food distribution component from other partners they worked with, so she wished to hear from the board and staff as to the incorporation of additional services and resources that would enhance the offerings at the subject health fair.

Ms. Lovell-Santos added that the Colgate van would be present to provide dental screening, as well as a unit to offer adult health screenings, vaccines, etc. She believed there would be a community partner that would conduct sports physicals.

Ms. Adams affirmed that at they did not conduct EKGs on their mobile unit, they sought to work with another community partner to provide the EKGs, as the State of Florida now required EKGs as part of the sports physicals, and city staff was looking into accommodating the provision of that service.

Ms. Lovell-Santos affirmed city staff was able to reserve the boxing room, as the EKGs needed to be conducted in an indoor space.

Ms. Adams explained they would do other routine screenings children had at their back-to-school at the doctor: vision, hearing, scoliosis, etc.

Chairperson Revere wondered if there would be sufficient capacity to conduct the screenings for the little league football players.

Ms. Adams thought it would likely be appointment based; she spoke with the provider of the EKGs, they said they had to be appointment, as they would be staggered about every 30 minutes, so they would be a limit as to the number they could do in the allotted timeframe of the event. This would be communicated in the community advertising of the event, so parents could sign up their child/children for the test ahead of time.

Ms. Lovell-Santos added that the health fair would be posted on EventBrite for Miramar residents, so those wishing to have an EKG could make an appointment, as the timeframe was 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Adams remarked on speaking with the provider on possibly opening that portion of the fair earlier if the City as amenable to accommodate more EKG tests.

Chairperson Revere thought starting earlier to accommodate more EKGs was doable. 23:06

Mr. Neal suggested doing the EKG tests on a separate day, as it was something the youth athletes would want to do, and the time frame was too short, even if the testing began earlier.

Mr. Rhodes agreed, noting the health screenings for the City's young athletes could be done on a separate day.

Ms. Adams noted Memorial had its brick and mortar clinic on Pembroke Road in Hollywood, where they could do the health screenings to get the back-to-school physicals there as well. The provided services to any person with or without insurance on their mobile units that operated five days a week; they had a monthly calendar showing where the units were located at any given time, so anyone who missed being screened at the health fair could go to a unit's current location for the services. For persons with insurance who did not get screened, they could make appointments at the clinic, so they could be served. She would share with city staff the various insurances they accepted, and part of having a table at the event was for Memorial to share information on resources people could access elsewhere.. She would speak with the EKG provider to find out if they would be willing to do a separate day for the City's young athletes. Memorial had nutrition partners that could provide nutrition advice, do food demonstrations, etc., so she could connect city staff with those partners to include this component in the health fair.

Ms. Lovell-Santos mentioned the parking spaces the pediatric and adult units, and the Colgate unit would take up, and Mr. Neal suggested doing the pickups for the food distribution to the rear of the buildings. The resource tables would be inside.

Ms. Adams stated that they tried to set up the various services so there was an efficient crowd flow throughout the event; she anticipated about 30 vendors.

Mr. Neal mentioned putting a site plan together based on the units, vendors, etc.

Ms. Adams said, regarding the anniversary part, Memorial thought the partnering with the City would be on the marketing of the health fair as a joint event. Their marketing team was very involved, and they met with the city marketing staff, particularly with a clear communication in the marketing piece that the event catered to Miramar residents only. She said the food distribution portion specifically stated it was on a first come, first served basis; residents were encouraged to preregister online, and when they came to the event, they were asked to register to receive a food distribution ticket; at the check in, they were asked for their zip code to confirm that they were Miramar residents.

Vice Chairperson Hall questioned how many residents could be serviced in the four-hour timeframe.

Ms. Adams explained that some people who registered did not turn up, so they tried to provide the service to walk-ins as well, so as not to leave anyone out; no attendee left without some type of service, including making appointments. The mobile unit could stay longer than 2:00 p.m. if needed; typically, the timeframe was 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from the time of setup to departure, but it was fine to leave the official event time as 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.

Chairperson Revere recommended providing prostate cancer testing information, as men rarely considered health checkups until they grew ill.

Ms. Adams responded that they could provide such information, as they typically had their Memorial Cancer Institute team present at health fairs to provide information to attendees.

Ms. Lovell-Santos asked Ms. Adams to forward her the various resources that could be shared at the health fair, so the board could discuss what to include on the event flyer.

Ms. Adams restated the availability and willingness of Memorial to partner with the City on its health resources/services initiatives; they just needed 60 days' notice, and they were available for both weekdays and weekends.

Chairperson Revere wished Memorial to partner with the City to do mammograms in October 2026 for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Ms. Adams explained that Memorial was not the agency that provided mammograms at health fairs, but they worked with another community partner; she was happy to connect the PRAB with them. The Memorial mobile unit

conducted basic breast screenings, and they could issue referrals; the hospital had its imaging departments throughout the South Broward Regional Hospital District, and they had a great self-pay rate for persons without sufficient insurance to cover the cost of the testing. She said they had grant dollars for uninsured women in need of additional screening; for the PRAB's upcoming health fair, Memorial contacted another community partner with a mammogram van to find out if they could come onsite to do the mammograms. She mentioned that Memorial Hospital provided numerous opportunities for the public to become better educated on health issues, so board members should encourage anyone they thought could benefit from such information to attend them. Ms. Adams added that Memorial usually gave a brief speech to the audience at such events, acknowledging the executives and board of directors present, along with the partnership between the City and Memorial; they would leave it to city staff to coordinate at what point in the event the speech would take place.

Ms. Lovell-Santos commented that Vice Mayor Colbourne would likely wish to address the event attendees as well, as well as acknowledge the presence of any Miramar elected officials in attendance. The other elected officials present might wish to speak briefly as well. She went on to mention that she mentioned to Dr. McSwain that Ms. Williams wished to have a table at the fair to provide information and resources on autism.

Chairperson Revere mentioned resuming the agenda sequence, going back to Mr. Neal's updates.

7. Board

- 2026 Community Events
 - Autism Resource Fair, Hosted by Commissioner Maxwell Chambers – Saturday, April 18, 2026
 - Community Food Drive, Hosted by Vice Mayor Yvette Colbourne – Saturday, April 25, 2026
 - Healthcare Fair – Saturday, June 20, 2026
 - Back-to-School, Hosted by Commissioner Carson Edwards – Thursday, August 6, 2025
- Around the Table

Ms. Williams proposed the PRAB could host an autism event in the form of empowerability games; this was a life skills challenge for all ages and abilities; the main goal was socialization. She worked with mental health associations for 17 years with Friendship Games involving nonathletic games for adults. A similar

event was held in Miami-Dade, and it catered to children and young adults, along with their parents, who were in need of additional support. The PRAB's event could involve a wide variety of activities, the winners of which would receive prizes that were donated for the occasion. The activities could include: find-a-friend, a way for persons with disabilities to socialize; other activities would involve life skills such as: sorting laundry, grocery shopping, etc., for which people would donate clothes, grocery items, etc., and family members could help participants in the race to complete the tasks. She was looking into other possibilities for the event, including getting someone to create financial literacy tasks, as well as do-it-yourself (DIY) activities with someone from Home Depot, for example. The sports activity would be a walk race, as opposed to running, and a stepping together activity, such as a three-legged race, as well as a wheelchair race, with competitors, again, getting help from a family member or a friend if they needed it to participate. She mentioned the football toss activity, whereby participants tossed a ball towards a numbered hole, with the person tossing the ball into the highest numbered hole winning. Another possibility was a seated volleyball game to cater to persons who were wheel bound.

Ms. Lovell-Santos asked if this would be a whole day event.

Ms. Williams answered yes.

Chairperson Revere mentioned, with regard to financial literacy activities, the Educational Federal Credit Union (EdFed) recently moved to Miramar, and they did Mad City Money, an interactive financial activity to instruct teenagers about budgeting. She said in the activity the bank assigned each participant a life that they had to live within, giving them fake money they had to budget, etc. for everyday living using challenges people faced daily, including: childrearing, car maintenance, etc. It would be both fun and educational for youths with special needs to experience; it could be hosted on the basketball court of the Youth Enrichment Center (YEC) where different activity stations could be set up.

Ms. Lovell-Santos stated she would see what October dates were available at the YEC.

Ms. Parchment-Green questioned if an elected official could sponsor the event.

Ms. Williams felt Commissioner Cherasard would be ideal to sponsor the event, as she had a lot of experience with dealing with persons with disabilities. She said July was Disabilities Pride Month, and this included all disabilities, and October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM); December 3 was International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD).

Chairperson Revere remarked that Parks did not necessarily have to host an event, but it could state in its newsletter sent to residents that the P&R was observing IDPD.

Mr. Neal added that Commissioner Cherasard could issue a proclamation declaring December 3 as IDPD.

Vice Chairperson Hall thought the board should invite Commissioner Cherasard to attend a meeting, so she could discuss the PRAB's schedule of events related to events/initiatives for persons with autism, and disabilities in general to determine her availability.

Ms. Williams asked the PRAB could get outside sponsorships for its events.

Vice Chairperson Hall answered yes.

Chairperson Revere mentioned involving a representative from Voc Rehab to help with the October event activities.

Ms. Williams noted Publix Supermarket had a large employment program with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), through which they hired persons with disabilities for certain jobs in their supermarkets. She suggested contacting Publix to learn if they wish to tailgate at the October event, possibly providing hot dogs, hamburgers, etc. in the parking lot.; if they had an employee with disabilities working with them, then event participants could see it was possible.

Ms. Lovell-Santos said she would contact Commissioner Cherasard regarding which PRAB meeting she could attend.

Vice Chairperson Hall commented on the need to determine the cost of the all-day autism event in October, so a budget could be drafted.

Ms. Williams stated she would speak with Commissioner Cherasard, and draft something to send to Ms. Lovell-Santos.

Chairperson Revere said she would try to get Tutu Atwell and his foundation to be a sponsor for the October event; he recently began playing with the Miami Dolphins. She knew his mother and other family members personally. Mr. Atwell might bring some of his professional football colleagues to the event.

Ms. Williams said she would also contact Professor Amy Paul-Ward who was the professor for the master's level in the Occupational Therapy Department at Florida International University (FIU), as they would help with the comfort corner,

and volunteer in other ways. Additionally, she would contact the Kiwanis Club's Key Club, so some of their service club members could volunteer for the event, with some possibly acting as buddies for participants who were in need of assistance on tasks.

Chairperson Revere mentioned contacting Best Buddies for volunteers.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting would be Monday, April 27, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Dr. Yelena Revere, Chairperson
YR/cp