



City of Naples

City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

Community Services Advisory Board Meeting – November 18, 2025 – 2:32 p.m.

It is noted for the record that all documentation electronically appended hereto is also contained in the file for this meeting with the City Clerk's Office.

1) Call To Order

Chair Muracco called the meeting to order and presided.

2) Swearing in of New Member

Deputy City Clerk Jessica Hernandez administered an Oath of Office to newly appointed Alternate Member Suzanne Klym.

3) Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Christina Muracco, Chair
Cassie Barone, Vice Chair

Laura Oscher

Brian Smith

Nathaniel Smith

Suzanne Klym, Alternate Member

Staff Members Present:

Aaron Hopkins, Community Services Dep Director

Chad Merritt, Community Services Director

Ali Duran, Executive Assistant

4) Pledge of Allegiance

Alternate Member Klym led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5) Announcements

Community Services Director Chad Merritt welcomed Alternate Member Klym and announced that all seats on the Board were now filled.

6) Public Comment

None.

7) Changes To The Agenda

None.

8) Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION by N. Smith to APPROVE the October 21, 2025 meeting minutes; seconded by Osher and unanimously carried, all Members present and voting (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes)

[Meeting Minutes - October 21, 2025](#)

9) Regular Agenda

9.A) Discussion and Feedback on the Community Services Department Master Plan Update Needs Assessment Survey (Draft), Developed by Weston and Sampson.

Community Services Director Chad Merritt presented the proposed Community Services Department Master Plan Update Needs Assessment Survey and invited Members' questions and comments. Discussion ensued, and the following motion was proffered:

MOTION by B. Smith to RECOMMEND APPROVAL of the Community Services Department Master Plan Update Needs Assessment Survey, subject to the following changes: 1) add line for Fleischmann Park, separate from Fleischmann Park Community Center; and 2) correct the wording in Question 11.a; seconded by N. Smith and unanimously carried, all Members present

and voting (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes).

[Agenda Memorandum](#)  [2025 Master Plan Needs Assessment Survey \(Draft\)](#) 

[Task Order - Weston and Sampson](#) 

9.B) A Discussion and Support of the Proposed Plan to Replace Playgrounds at Charlie C. Anthony Park, River Park, and Lowdermilk Park as Presented.

Community Services Director Chad Merritt informed the Board that \$750,000 was budgeted for the Charlie C. Anthony Park Playground renovations. He explained that the park will have separate playgrounds for children between the ages of two to five years old and five to twelve years old, and both will have mulch surfacing. He then commented that \$760,000 was budgeted for the River Park Playground and gazebo, which will be an inclusive site and have rubber surfacing.

Lastly, Community Services Director Merritt stated that \$250,000 was budgeted for the Lowdermilk Park Playground, which will also be inclusive, feature sand or mulch surfacing, and be designed in a coastal theme to match the adjacent beach. He noted that a potential donor contacted staff and that he was working with them to secure the donation.

Community Services Director Merritt informed the Board that there would be no town hall meetings regarding the playground designs, but a survey would be made public for the community to select the top designs.

MOTION by Baron to SUPPORT the proposed Playground Replacement Program; seconded by Oscher and unanimously carried, all Members present and voting (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes).

[Agenda Memorandum](#) 

9.C) Director and Staff Report - November 2025

Community Services Director Chad Merritt announced that the City Council approved the Dog Park to be funded through donations and the City's General Fund. He then informed the Board that City Council also approved the installation of a resident-funded seawall at the 32nd Avenue South Beach end, noting that the beach will still be accessible to the public. He noted that the Naples Preserve had landscape updates, and the Naples Pier Reconstruction Project was waiting for approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to proceed.

Community Services Deputy Director Aaron Hopkins reported that the Charlie C. Anthony Shade Structure permit was approved, the viewership and followers on the social media pages had significantly increased, the Tennis Center was beginning preparations for the Clay in May event, and the City Dock was in the process of replacing the gas tanks. He further noted that the City was no longer accepting float applications for the 2025 Christmas Parade and that the filming and judging would be moved from City Hall to the Sugden Plaza.

Lastly, Community Services Director Merritt informed the Board that the Cambier Park Playground was closed due to safety concerns. He commented that staff was working through the process for demolition and reconstruction and encouraged Members and residents to review the video and minutes from the November 5, 2025 City Council meeting for its discussion regarding the Cambier Park Playground.

[Agenda Memorandum](#)  [Director and Staff Report - November 2025](#) 

10) Member Communications

Community Services Director Chad Merritt wished Member Oscher a happy birthday.

11) Adjourn

3:11 p.m.

Approved: 01/27/2026.