



City of Naples

City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

Community Services Advisory Board Meeting – April 21, 2026 – 2:35 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) 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:

Alec Boccaccio, Recreation Supervisor
David Michel, Park Manager
Ali Duran, Executive Assistant

Chad Merritt, Community Services Director
Aaron Hopkins, Community Services Deputy Director
Stephanie McMillion, Administrative Coordinator
Felix Gomez, Procurement & Contracts Manager

Other Present:

Ryan Russell
Luke Russell
Danny Flesher
Will Farrell

Connie Brown
Nicolas Dasilva
Jim Lassiter
Nikki Williams

3) Announcements- Community Services Director Chad Merritt announced that it was the last meeting for Member N. Smith and recognized his years of service to the City. Director Merritt expressed appreciation for Member Smith's dedication, service, commitment and contributions to the Community Services Advisory Board and the City of Naples. .

4) **Public Comment**

None.

5) **Changes To The Agenda**

None.

6) **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

6.A) **Approval of the March 17, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

MOTION by N. Smith to APPROVE the March 17, 2026 meeting minutes; seconded by Barone and unanimously carried, all Members present and voting (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes)

[March 17, 2026 CSAB Meeting Minutes](#) 

7) **Regular Agenda**

7.A) **Vendor Presentations for the Design and Construction Services of the Cambier Park Playground and a Recommendation on the Best Design and Construction Option Presented.**

Community Services Director Chad Merritt provided an overview of the Design and Construction Services for the Cambier Park Playground. Director Merritt stated that the project was issued through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, which resulted in five bids being received. After review, three vendors were selected to move forward in the process: Miracle Recreation,

PlayCore Wisconsin, and PlayMore West. Director Merritt suggested that the Board recommend two vendors for the project.

Connie Brown from Miracle Recreation explained that the proposed design focuses on creating a fully inclusive play environment for children of all ages and abilities, with an emphasis on innovative and engaging play experiences. She noted that Miracle Recreation offers durable structures with strong structural integrity, accessibility, and competitive pricing.

Ms. Brown stated that the proposed design includes a variety of GFRP (Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer) sculpted components and GFRC (Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete) molded features to complement the playground. She emphasized that all components are IPEMA-certified (International Playground Equipment Manufacturers Association), ADA-compliant and accessible to meet building code requirements. She further explained that the design includes refurbishing the existing playground frames, including weld repairs, powder coating, and other necessary structural improvements. The refurbished frames would then be wrapped with GFRP polymer design wraps featuring themed animal faces selected by the City. Ms. Brown also highlighted the inclusion of an accessible ramp area to allow wheelchair access and accommodate children with autism and other special needs. The entire playground area would be enclosed with a concrete curb integrated into the fencing for added safety and accessibility. She also added that there would be coastal coating on all metal components with an extended 20-year warranty. In response to Board members, Ms. Brown stated that the playground design would not include water features but would include tube slides. She also noted that the shade structures would be reinforced as required; and for advertisements and public outreach, Miracle Recreation uses geofencing.

Community Services Director Merritt stated that the RFP required three base swings or three bays designed to be accessible for children of all ages and abilities. He noted that the project also includes artificial surfacing and shade structures. Director Merritt added that the existing tiki huts will remain, and the project budget is \$2 million.

Jim Lassiter representing PlayCore Wisconsin dba GameTime, provided an overview of the company's proposal, stating that the design focuses on creating a multigenerational playground that is accessible and usable for all ages and abilities. He noted that GameTime offers industry-leading GFRC components, unique artistic features, and two signs with scannable QR codes for surveys and community feedback to track the park's impact. Mr. Lassiter explained that the company has partnered with Impact Parks as its general contracting and project management team to ensure professionalism throughout the project and offers an extended five-year installation warranty. Mr. Lassiter stated that the project cost is \$2.5 million and includes four-bay swings, with the playground area for children ages two to five providing 60 percent shade. He added that the total playground capacity is well over 400 users.

In response to Member N. Smith, Mr. Lassiter shared that GameTime works with a core research group of 50 educators who study different play elements and help create nationally recognized demonstration sites. He also stated that GameTime provides a \$51 million liability policy for all playgrounds for added protection and noted that the project directions were clear and well outlined.

Ryan Russell, representing Playmore, stated that the company is in Fort Myers and completes approximately 100 projects each year, with over 2,000 playground projects completed throughout Florida. He noted that Playmore is properly licensed, holds its own contractor's license, and maintains all required insurance, certifications, and bonding capabilities.

Danny Flesher from Playmore added that the designs are intentional, unique, and focused on creating something beyond the standard post-and-platform playground structure. He explained that the playgrounds are built with strong infrastructure and that all design, molding, sculpting, fabrication, and construction are completed in-house under one roof, which helps improve lead

times and efficiency. He also noted that all staff are CPSI (Certified Playground Safety Inspector) certified.

Ryan Russell stated that Playmore provided two design options. One option included a shade structure and came in at approximately \$2.2 million, while the second option, without shade structures, was able to remain under the \$2 million budget. He explained that every playground piece would be handmade and created in their factory, with fabrication taking approximately 311 days. During the fabrication period, the company would also coordinate demolition and site planning. In response to Board members, Mr. Russell explained that the grass surfacing is like AstroTurf and uses a silicate sand infill that helps keep the surface cool to the touch. He noted that surfacing includes a 15-year warranty with tiered and prorated coverage, meaning it is fully covered during the first few years and gradually decreases over time, while still providing some coverage through the final year. He also stated that Playmore is an approved installer for Create Play, serves as a Tier 1 dealer, and recently received the 2025 Innovator Award. Additionally, their team is trained to complete repairs and patch them in the field as needed providing a one-year warranty

MOTION by Oscher to RECOMMEND APPROVAL of Playmore West Inc. design as the first choice; seconded by N. Smith and carried 3-2 (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-no, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-no).

MOTION by Barone to RECOMMEND APPROVAL of Playcore Wisconsin Inc. dba GameTime design as the second choice; seconded by B. Smith and carried 5-0 (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes).

Director Merritt noted that Miracle Recreation Equipment Company would be ranked third by default.

[Agenda Memorandum](#)  [Attachment 1 - Flash Vote Results](#) 

[Playmore West, Inc. - Cambier Park Playground Presentation](#) 

[Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. dba Gametime - Camber Park Playground Presentation](#) 

[Miracle Recreation Equipment Company - Cambier Park Playground Presentation](#) 

7.B) A Discussion and Support of Moving Forward with a Public Vote on the Playground Project Options for Charlie C. Anthony Park, Lowdermilk Park, and River Park Presented by Staff; and Advancing the Public's Selection at each Location to the City Council for Award of the Contracts.

Community Services Director Chad Merritt stated that the City is working on playground projects for Anthony Park, River Park, and Lowdermilk Park. He explained that Anthony Park and River Park were originally planned for separate years, but the CRA (Community Redevelopment Agency) requested both projects be completed in the same year since Anthony Park is CRA-funded. He said this created scheduling challenges with the delayed Cambier Park project also moving forward this year. Director Merritt then noted that Lowdermilk Park's playground replacement is also being addressed after the previous playground was destroyed by Hurricane Ian. He stated that multiple design options were requested from vendors to allow public input and voting on the preferred playground concepts. In response to Member N. Smith, Director Merritt stated that Anthony Park had eight total designs, with ARC (Advance Recreational Concepts) and GameTime selected to advance. For Cambier Park, Florida Rec, GameTime, and Playmore were selected, and for River Park, ARC and GameTime were chosen, he stated. He added that Lowdermilk Park was originally a \$250,000 project, and the design will incorporate the color yellow in honor of the family supporting the project.

MOTION by Barone to SUPPORT staff's recommendation to move Forward with a Public Vote on the Playground Project Options for Charlie C. Anthony Park, Lowdermilk Park, and River Park Presented by Staff; and Advance the Public's Selection at each Location to the City Council for Approval of the Contracts; seconded by N. Smith and carried 5-0 (Barone-yes, Oscher-yes, B. Smith-yes, N. Smith-yes, Muracco-yes).

[Agenda Memorandum](#)  [Presentation](#)  [Anthony Park - Option 1](#) 

[Anthony Park - Option 2](#)

[Lowdermilk Park - Option 1](#)

[Lowdermilk Park - Option 2](#)

[Lowdermilk Park - Option 3](#)

[River Park - Option 1](#)

[River Park - Option 2](#)

7.C) Director and Staff Report.

Community Services Director Chad Merritt asked Board members to review the Director and Staff Reports and contact him directly by email with any questions.

[Agenda Memorandum](#)

[Director and Staff Report - April 2026](#)

8) Member Communications

None.

9) Adjourn

5:28 p.m.

Approved: 5/19/2026.