



## city council minutes

**MINUTES**  
**November 30, 2018 \* 9:00 a.m.**  
**City Council Workshop Session**

The Belle Isle City Council met in a City Council Workshop Session on November 30, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the City Hall Chambers located at 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, FL 32809.

Present:

Mayor Pisano  
Commissioner Gold  
Commissioner Weinsier  
Commissioner Sims  
Commissioner Nielsen

Absent:

Commissioner Carugno  
Commissioner Readey  
Commissioner Partin

Also present: City Manager Bob Francis and City Clerk Yolanda Quiceno. Meeting audio is available on the City's website at [www.cityofbelleislefl.org](http://www.cityofbelleislefl.org) and at City Hall.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pisano called the meeting to order at 9:10 am and opened for the Wallace Field design discussion.

**WALLACE FIELD DESIGN CONCEPT**

City Manager Bob Francis provided a power point presentation. Mr. Francis gave a brief overview from the June Citywide survey. The following was presented and briefly discussed as part of the proposed concepts,

1. Open Green Space
2. Community Gardens
3. Outdoor Community Activity (Amphitheater)
4. Dog Park
5. Splash Pad
6. Fitness Park
7. Dock/Ramp and parking – Mr. Francis noted that the idea would be to allow First Responders and the Belle Isle PD use the Dock and designated parking spaces.
8. Mr. Francis said the City cannot have a park without providing some parking. He opened for discussion and recommended incorporating some parking on the right of the field with double entry gates to the field.

As part of the Use Agreement, Mr. Francis provided a preliminary design submitted by CCA. The design would include an open space with an outer trail made of crush granite suitable material. CCA would like to also include a gate on their wall to allow student access to the Wallace field.

Mr. Francis opened for Council discussion.

After the presentation, the following Commissioners provided their input on their top design concepts.

Comm Weinsier – District 2

- “Keep It Simple” and maintain the open sports field
- The dock is a positive addition for use by the Belle Isle Police Department
- Community Gardens are very popular and would like to see it integrated with the CCA design concept

Comm Nielsen – District 7

- Comm Nielsen commented that some of the concepts are not uses allowed in the Open Space category. Mr. Francis said it may be allowed under Special Exceptions.
- Community Garden should be incorporated as a small part of the CCA design
- She agrees that the school needs a practice field; however, she would like it to stay with the open space look and not have stationary sports equipment on the property. Mr. Francis said that is part of the Use Agreement that all equipment must not be stationary on the property.
- She would like to see benches on the property and bat houses to attract wildlife and control mosquitoes. She noted if the bat houses were to be approved she would like the City to control the fertilizing and poison used on this property.

Comm Sims – District 6

- “Keep It Simple” and maintain the open space to allow portable equipment as needed for events or sports practice by the school. He does not believe dual usage of the field would be possible and would not add value.
- Incorporate fitness stations into the CCA design

Comm Gold – District 1

- He said he would like to serve all the residents of the City. He likes the open space design incorporating the track, fitness stations and a community garden in one of the corners.
- Using recycled tires for the material used on the track

Mayor Pisano said she would like to see bike racks on the property.

Discussion ensued on the upkeep of a Community Garden.

Mr. Francis asked Council if they would like to incorporate a section for parking, similar to Warren Park, to accommodate those residents who attend special events at the park. Discussion ensued on parking options. Council consensus was to work together with the school and use the existing parking lot.

Mr. Francis asked if Council would like the park hours to be open dawn to dusk or allow night use with ornamental lighting. Mayor Pisano said she would be concerned with the light noise for the surrounding neighbors and possible transient use of the park.

Mr. Francis further asked if Council have any other design ideas to be researched. Discussion ensued. Council consensus was to research the dock used for emergency personnel only fenced all the way down to the lake.

**USE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Francis said the City is in control of the park and design concept. Before it can go to the Planning & Zoning Board as a site plan the City Council must approve the concept. He added that the school understands that they will not be able to install sports lights or stationary sports equipment. The only vehicles that would be allowed will be those for pick up and drop of portable equipment.

The Use Agreement with the school is a 10-year agreement and will depreciate over time. If the agreement is terminated before the 10 years, the City will pay out a pro-rated cost back to the school.

Mayor Pisano closed Council discussion and opened for public comment.

1. Hillary Maul residing at 1130 Waltham Avenue shared her concerns with the development of Wallace Field and said any design will impact the daily lives of the residents in the surrounding homes. She shared her concerns with the following, (a) hours of use, (b) bathrooms, (c) sports lighting and most importantly she would like to ensure that the stormwater component and groundwater runoff be addressed to create a minimal impact to the homes on Waltham.
2. Cindy Lance residing at 6615 Matchett Road said the Council is not considering the design concepts that were provided by the poll and would like to see an area for the dogs. She would like the staff to research the percentage of residents who participated in the poll and which of the concepts received the most input. Discussion ensued on allowing dogs on the Wallace Field and formally designating the Park as a dog park.
3. Holly Bobrowski residing at 2400 Hoffner Avenue said she has researched the possibility of a dog park and said the minimum size for a dog park should be 70-100feet. Incorporating the dog field with the CCA design would not work and be a good fit. She did suggest Trimble Park as a possibility if the residents feel strongly on the possible use. She would also suggest developing the CCA concept diagonally to allow for other uses in the corner areas or parking.
4. Karl Shuck residing at 1658 Wind Willow Road asked if adding light and irrigation will be a shared expense with the City and CCA. He said that the City code states that pets or other animals, other than service animals, are not allowed as a use in an open space designation. He said the staff may have to reexamine the code before moving forward.
5. Donatella Altice residing at 1309 East Wallace said she agrees with keeping it simple and would like to see the property as an open space and not developed for the school. She shared the following concerns,
  - a. She cautioned staff with development of the park along the side of the ditch on Wallace that floods and perks in a period of a couple of days.
  - b. She was not in agreement of the dog park and community gardens because the upkeep may cause an issue.
  - c. She asked that Council to ensure enforcement of the parking rules moving forward by residents and CCA parents.

Mr. Francis said he will [provide Council with a bullet list of the discussion and will not move forward until Council decides to approve the CCA Use Agreement.

Mayor Pisano asked that discussion for canceling or rescheduling the Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and Jan 15<sup>th</sup> City Council meetings be added to the upcoming agenda on Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Pisano called for a motion to adjourn, unanimously approved at 10:15 a.m.

Yolanda Quiceno  
CMC-City Clerk