

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
TREE ADVISORY BOARD
TOWN OF LADY LAKE, FLORIDA
JANUARY 8, 2025**

The Parks, Recreation and Tree Board Advisory Board meeting was held in the town Hall Commission Chambers at 409 Fennell Blvd., Lady Lake, Florida. The meeting convened at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Member Fred Weber, Member Doris Turlo, Chairperson Richard (Doc) Jones, Member Betty Cantelmo was excused and Member Cheryl Lowery arrived at 5:33 pm.

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Burske, Parks & Recreation Director; William Lawrence, Town Manager; Elisha Pappacoda, Communications Director; Amy Alicea, Events Coordinator; Thad Carroll, Growth Management Director, and Jackie Schilling, Administrative Assistant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Jones asked if there were any comments. There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

Member Fred Weber moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2024, Parks, Recreation, and Tree Advisory Board as written, and Member Cheryl Lowery seconded. The motion passed by an all-in-favor vote of 4-0.

B. Discussion of activities for the Lady Lake Centennial Celebration in November 2025.

Parks & Recreation Director Burske stated that a group of community members have been invited here today to discuss ideas for the Lady Lake Centennial Celebration. The event will take place on November 8, 2025, and events have been budgeted for the formal celebration.

Events Coordinator, Amy Alicea shared her ideas for the event(s) and invited the group to add their input. Amy is planning to have a week-long event:

Monday – Proclamation at the Monday Commission Meeting.

Tuesday – Farmers & Craft Market at the Sports Complex, set up a display at the market

Wednesday – 100-year tree planting at Heritage Park

Thursday – A time capsule, there is already a time capsule at Heritage Park (50 years). Amy would like to open this one and make a new time capsule.

Friday – A speakeasy gala

Saturday – Run and/or a dog walk at Snooky Park along with a pancake breakfast. Saturday evening will be the finale celebration at the Guava Street ball fields. Fireworks have been budgeted, and a short drone show is also being considered but will be further investigated. Food vendors and other events will be included for children and families to participate in.

Member Lowery mentioned having a meet-and-greet on Monday. Many folks coming back from out of town for the event may appreciate this.

Member Turlo suggested that she would like to see some folks dressed in 1920s-era clothing, pictures on display for people to look at in and outside the museum, a train ride, animals and games for the children, a coloring station, and an art contest.

Amy knows of a train ride company that can be hired to take people through Snooky Park.

Member Weber suggested that the art contest be “I Love Lady Lake because.....”

No committee has been formed, we are working with staff and this group for ideas.

Discussion of where the name “Lady Lake” comes from. The name needs to be researched.

Member Cheryl knows a gentleman and will talk to him and see what he remembers. Mike will get with the Museum to see if there is a book written about the history of Lady Lake.

We intend to enhance all the events scheduled for this year by incorporating elements that celebrate the centennial anniversary. For instance, during the Easter event, we could introduce an art contest with prizes. Additionally, Amy is interested in organizing a drawing or writing contest for adults. A book authored by a local writer about Lady Lake could serve as a prize.

Member Lowery mentioned doing the art contest at the Library. Member Turlo would also like to see involvement with the elementary school. A call to the school will be made to find out what they could help us with.

Promotions will be going out throughout the year. Member Weber would like to see an insert in the Daily Sun to get the story out. Member Lowery suggested we just pay for the full front page and get the word out. Canvass the community and start with the churches.

Chairperson Jones commended Amy for the work she has done so far.

Mr. Richard Masso – 373 Carriage Lane - agreed with the group that the Daily Sun needs to be involved along with The Villages. He talked about the perception of most people, is that we are

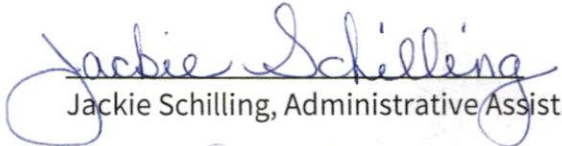
all The Villages and not Lady Lake. He asked Amy for the complete list of what she had so far to be emailed to him.


Member Weber asked if there was anyone famous from Lady Lake. Mr. Burske mentioned that the dog on Frazier's first TV show was from here, Dustin Hoffman ate at Mom & Dad's Restaurant, Atticus "Snooky" Blanton who perished in Pearl Harbor, and Harold Schwartz.

STAFF REPORT

Director Burske mentioned to Chairperson Jones and Member Turlo that their terms are ending in February and to get with him regarding their interest in continuing with this advisory committee.

Member Fred Weber made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Member Lowery seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.


Jackie Schilling, Administrative Assistant


Dr. Richard Jones, Chairperson