

GUIDELINES FOR THE NAMING OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

City of Fort Pierce, Florida

Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to establish a systematic and consistent approach for the official naming of public facilities in the City of Fort Pierce, including parks, facilities, recreational areas, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas.

Objectives

- Ensure that parks, facilities, recreational areas, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas are easily identified and located.
- Ensure that given names to parks, facilities, recreational areas, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas are consistent with the values and character of the area or neighborhood served.
- Encourage public participation in the naming, renaming, and dedication of parks, facilities, recreational areas, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas.
- Encourage the dedication of lands, facilities, or donations by individuals and/or groups.
- Advance the reputation of the City as well as increase the understanding and public support for its programs.

Criteria

The practice of the City of Fort Pierce is to name parks, recreation areas, facilities, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas through an adopted process utilizing the above objectives, emphasizing community values and character, local and national history, geography, the environment, civics, and service to the City of Fort Pierce. Therefore, the following criteria shall be used in determining the appropriateness of the naming designation:

- Neighborhood, geographic, or common usage identification;
- A historical figure, place, event, or other instance of historical or cultural significance;
- National, state, and local leaders or heroes, both past and present;
- Natural or geographical features, such as plant materials, streams, rivers, lakes, and creeks;
- An individual, living or deceased [a] who has made a significant land and/or monetary contribution to the park, recreation area, facility, or municipal building, or [b] who has had the contribution made "In Memoriam" and when the name has been stipulated as a condition of the donation;
- An individual, living or deceased, who has contributed outstanding civic service to the City;

Facilities, specialized areas, or amenities may have a name different from that of the larger park, recreation area, facility, or municipal building.

When feasible, the process to name parks, recreation areas, facilities, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas should begin within twelve (12) months after the City has acquired title to the land and/or formally accepted the dedication.

Names that are similar to existing parks, recreation areas, facilities, streets, municipal buildings, and specialized areas should not be considered in order to minimize confusion.

Renaming

The City reserves the right to change the name of a park, recreation area, facility, street, municipal building, or specialized area to maintain consistency with these guidelines. However, renaming carries with it a much greater burden of process compared to initial naming. Tradition and continuity of name and community identification are important community values. Each request to rename must meet the criteria of this policy, but meeting all criteria does not ensure renaming.

Procedures

The steps to name a public facility include but are not limited to:

1. An open call for submissions by the City of Fort Pierce including a deadline for submission;
2. A completed "City of Fort Pierce Nomination Form" submitted to the City Clerk for each nomination by any citizen, group, or organization;
3. Submissions vetted by the Parks Committee, including all facts and backgrounds listed on the nomination form plus any other research deemed appropriate;
4. All vetted submissions presented to the Commissioners for review with notes from the research;
5. Commissioners discuss these submissions during a Conference Agenda meeting. The Commission may accept or reject the Committee submissions. In the latter event, the Commission shall refer the call for submissions back to the Committee.
6. Commissioners select the name by vote at a Commission Meeting.