WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Delray Beach; and

WHEREAS, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARY GLICKSTEIN, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission do hereby proclaim July, 2016 as:

PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

in Delray Beach and urge that attention be directed to the many ways in which parks, recreation and civic groups, public schools, private organizations, and other agencies may expand recreation facilities and programs so that every citizen will have the opportunity to develop meaningful and satisfying leisure activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this day 5th of July, 2016.

CARY GLICKSTEIN MAYOR