

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Central Area – Merritt Island/Beaches Service Sector
Referendum Projects Committee Meeting
Annex Building – Kiwanis Island Park
951 Kiwanis Park Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953**

Mitchell Ellington Sports Park Committee
Meeting Minutes for April 3, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT

Terry Coapstick – Chair
Marshall Hieronimus
Bill Huminski
Dennis Dougherty
David King
Steve Ramsey
Rick Putnam
Jeff Noble
Mike McDonald-MI/Bches Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Ball
Jeff Heiser
Dan Bears
Mark Geiger
Tammy Brown
Kim Smith
Hugh Corr
Kristina Keer
Rose Plummer

STAFF PRESENT

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director
Cathie Schanz, Central Area Parks Operations Manager
Kent Hanson, MI/Vbeaches Maintenance Superintendent
Dan Click, Parks and Recreation Construction Manager
Dot Estes, Administrative Secretary

OTHERS

Todd Pankuch
Matt Longmire
Tinho Donellas
Barry Cabaniss-Bussen-Mayer
Lynne Olsen-Bussen-Mayer

Sandy Kish
Greg Spake
Norman Feil
Laurie Longmire
Mark Page

I. CALL MEEING TO ORDER

Terry Coapstick called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6, 2002 MINUTES

A motion was made by Steve Ramsey, second by Bill Huminski to approve the minutes with corrections for the February 6, 2002 meeting. Motion carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Master Plan Elements

- a. Dan Click Reports– We successfully completed our work with Bussen-Mayer and that we will present the first portion of the plan. Set elements aside until Bussen-Mayer environmental studies are reviewed. The committee will see 2

baseball fields, 4 softball field, 6 soccer fields (2 lit) and 2 football fields that will be relocated, Pedestrian Way, 2 tennis courts, 3 pavilions, site improvements and a maintenance facility. The master plan will have funded elements and unfunded elements such as a large community center, a pool and a pedestrian walkway along Hall road to provide access. These are things that have been passed on to Bussen-Mayer to add to the master plan for the future if funding becomes available – Lynn Olsen is present and available for questions. The last meeting the committee discussed what the best access would be for the park, the east run of Hall Road where residents would not be impacted as much as traffic goes in and out of site. There was a concern about changing elements and bringing football to Mitchell Ellington (ME) Park and the amount of traffic it would bring. Mr. Click commented that the Merritt Island Youth Sports Association (MIYSA) met and discussed numerous referendum projects, the options were explored as how they could rebuild and modify Kelly Park to address the traffic problem when football tournaments are in process, and discussed moving the fields to Mitchell Ellington Park. A committee member made a statement that a decision to move the football fields to ME should be approved by this committee. Ms. Schanz commented that the special MIYSA meeting was August 7, 2001 and they discussed numerous projects such as Tropical, Rotary discussion about flipping those elements. The committees don't vote on the actual elements, the elements were approved, we are voting how we are going to set them up and we are providing all the elements that we said we would provide. We do not have a quorum to vote on these proposals. This committee is large and it is difficult to have a quorum at each meeting. I will be sending a letter to make sure those who signed up to be on this committee, who are not attending regular meetings are going to be committed to future meetings or resign their membership so we are able to reduce our committee size and met a quorum for meetings in the future. Kelly Park committee did approve the plans to move football fields. When this committee has their first quorum we will have a list of things for you to vote on.

- b. Mr. Nelson addresses traffic concerns and Bussen-Mayer will address this during design process. There was discussion about where the entrance to the park might be located and how much traffic there is on Hall Road. This is a large site and we will have the ability to have bigger buffers.
- c. We are negotiating with Storm water Management to purchase part of the property for storm water retention.
- d. Lighting was addressed as a problem for the residents. There will be a large buffer that will eliminate this problem. Six fields will be lighted and a pavilion will be provided for the public with a community size playground. A pedestrian walkway all the way around the park for public access could be a possibility.
- e. Environment Study has begun by Bussen-Mayer, Lynn Olsen. Lynn reported that she has walked the entire property and has identified the wetland areas. There are several wetlands located through the property, so there could be a nature walkway or boardwalk located in that area, so it could be utilized and enjoyed by the public. If we impact the wetlands we have to give something back and we don't know what that might be presently. There will be some impact to the site to make the elements work, however we will know more after the environmental study is complete. Ms. Schanz commented that when we were looking for land, we planned for 80 acres to be able to put all the elements

and have land left over to do future projects and knowing some of the land would be impacted by wetlands, to have more than 80 acres is a bonus. There was extension discussion on the wetlands and what could illegally be done with them.

- f. Mr. Nelson reassured the residents that will not be huge exodus to the new complex, because we are building new fields at Jefferson, Stevenson, and many other sites around Merritt Island.
- g. Mr. Click suggested we meet a least 60-90 from now. Ms. Schanz said the next meeting we would discuss the reduction of the committee.
- h. Mr. Nelson discussed Rotary Park and Tropical Elementary and switching soccer at Rotary up to Tropical and moving baseball down to Rotary, which makes sense. The issue should be discussed by this committee because it will of the ultimately have an impact on this project.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

NONE

V. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

A motion was made to adjourn meeting by Marshall Hieronimus, second by Dennis Dougherty. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm. The next scheduled Committee meeting is tentatively schedule for June 26, 2002 at 7:30 pm. Committee members will be notified.

Minutes submitted by:

Terry Coapstick, Chair