

**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 June 26, 2002

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Terry Coapstick – Chair  
Marshall Hieronimus  
Tammy Brown  
Dennis Dougherty  
Steve Ramsey  
Rick Putnam  
Mark Geiger  
Kristina Keer  
Rose Plummer  
Kim Smith  
Jeff Heiser

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ken Ball  
Dan Bears  
Jeff Noble  
Bill Huminski  
David King  
Hugh Corr  
Mike McDonald/  
MI Advisory Board

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director  
Jack Masson, Asst. Parks and Recreation Director  
Cathie Schanz, Central Area Parks Operations Manager  
Dan Click, Parks and Recreation Construction Manager  
Dot Estes, Administrative Secretary

**OTHERS**

Barry Cabaniss-Bussen-Mayer  
Lynne Olsen-Bussen-Mayer  
Matt English  
Shirley/Milton Isles

Jay Moon  
Pete Reutt  
Al McKinley

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Terry Coapstick called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

**II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 3, 2002 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Marshall Hieronimus; second by Kristina Keer to approve the minutes with corrections on 3<sup>rd</sup> page to read, “meet” instead of “met”. Motion carried.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Football Elements - Last meeting the committee could not vote on moving the Football Program to Mitchell Ellington Park.

*A motion was made by Marshall Heironimus to accept the recommendation for the Kelly Park committee to move the youth football programs (excluding flag football) from Kelly Park to the Mitchell Ellington Sports Park, second by Steve Ramsey. Motion carried.*

b. Committee Members – Cathie Schanz was previously instructed by committee to send a letter to the seven committee members who are not attending. The letter was sent and Ms. Schanz heard back from 3 members, as well as the fourth member tonight. Three members have been dropped from membership: Dan Bears, Denise Guthrie and Tonya Williams, which leaves a total of 16 members and we need 9 members to have a quorum.

#### IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Conceptual Plan Review – Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director: The conceptual plans completed by the Architects was reviewed and discussed with the committee:

Highlights:

- Working on keeping the entrance to the park as far away from the residential area as possible.
- There will be a relocation of Gopher Tortoises according to the plan. The space is 6.4 acres for the future relocation area.
- There will be 2 senior fields, 2 girl softball fields, 2 adult softball fields, 2 football fields and 6 full size soccer fields.
- There will be 442 parking spaces provided and the parking lot will have lighting.
- Trail system – we may not have enough money in the first phase to complete the boardwalk to cross over wetlands but we would like to plan for it. However there will be a sidewalk around the rest of the property.
- Retention area will be used for fishing to make use of everything.
- Maintenance compound will be buffered and screened and have access off Tropical.
- Light poles at fields are 70 feet and the lighting levels of a foot candle is around .2, where as a street lights are between 3 and 6 and we can't be any greater than .2, so light does not escape from the lights.
- The Little League curfew states that an inning will not start after 10:00 pm and seniors after 10:30 pm. Most games are over by 10:00 pm.
- We will have substantial buffers all around the park. The previous owners left numerous date palms, which may be transplanted and used for buffers.
- The County traffic department will determine what is needed for the turning lane on Hall Rd.
- We are working with our County Surface Water Department to do a retention pond on the property for storm water retention.
- All fields will be built to drain properly.
- All pavilions and concession buildings will be built as a standard design in the entire County. Referendum planned for 2 small and 1 large and other option shown are 2 large ones.
- The concession buildings will be 2 stories and will be two different designs. There may be a possibility of moving concession from the edge of property

to the middle of property. Possibility of moving soccer lights and concession over, swap the whole thing. *Staff will investigate this option.*

- There will be a security gate that will be locked by County staff. There may be a caretaker on site, as well as security features on the buildings.
- Estimated completion date will be late 2004 or early 2005, the park will open when everything is completed.
- We are planning on a maintenance staff of four.
- Wetlands should be able to be mitigated on the property. There are three options to mitigate: Creation, Enchantment and Preservation of existing wetlands.

*Approval of Conceptual Plan: A motion was made by Dennis Dougherty to accept preliminary conceptual plans with change of soccer lights and concession building, second by Jeff Heiser. Motion carried.*

V. **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

A motion was made by Marshall Hieronimus to adjourn meeting, second by Dennis Dougherty. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm. There is no meeting scheduled unless needed. Committee members will be notified.

Minutes submitted by:  
Terry Coapstick, Chair