

# CHAIN OF LAKES RECREATION COMPLEX REFERENDUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Chain of Lakes Referendum Committee, appointed by the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation, held Thursday, September 27, 2001, in the Brevard Room at the Brevard County Government Complex North in Titusville, Florida.

## Members Present

Dean Pettit, Chairman  
Aimee Benson  
Ed Bertot  
Bill Canfield  
Faith Chandler  
Charles A. Daniel  
Crizzer Kennedy  
Gayle Krisingha, Vice Chairman  
Frank Livingston  
Richard A. Moon  
Mary Ann Pace  
Mary Radcliff  
Dr. Laurence Spraggs  
Laurilee Thompson  
Rob Vieira  
Tina Zediker

## Members Absent

Cecil F. Cornish II  
Pamela Shaffner  
Jim Yount  
Chuck Denman (Ex-Officio–City)  
Chris White (Ex-Officio–NBCPR)

## A&E Present

M.R. Simperts, BRPH

## County Staff Present

Charles S. Nelson, Parks & Recreation Director  
Jack Masson, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director  
Chuck Mays, Construction Coordinator  
Cheryl K. Page, North Area Parks Operations Manager  
Judy Inman, Administrative Secretary

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dean Pettit called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

At the point in the meeting prior to vote on motion for comparison of costs for various size fields, Mrs. Page noted Mary Radcliff is a new member on the committee, filling a vacancy from a resignation, and needs to be voted in by the committee and then the advisory board.

**Motion by Laurilee Thompson, seconded by Gayle Krisingha, to accept Mary Radcliff as a new member of the committee.**

**AYE: Benson, Bertot, Canfield, Chandler, Daniel, Kennedy, Krisingha, Livingston, Moon, Pace, Pettit, Radcliff, Spraggs, Thompson, Vieira, Zediker**

**NAY: None** **Carried 16-0**

Mrs. Radcliff stated she has been a resident of Titusville for 20 years. Her children played soccer. She has a real interest in and was a supporter for passage of the Referendum.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Rob Vieira, seconded by Frank Livingston, to approve the minutes as modified changing Marie Chamber to Lorene Shafer at the end of page one, and restraints to constraints on page 3, column 2, paragraph 2.**

**AYE: Benson, Bertot, Canfield, Chandler, Daniel, Kennedy, Krisingha, Livingston, Moon, Pace, Pettit, Radcliff, Spraggs, Thompson, Vieira, Zediker**

**NAY: None** **Carried 16-0**

## III. STAFF REPORTS–None

## IV. OLD BUSINESS

Frank Livingston asked the definition of significant increase in lighting costs. Mr. Nelson stated lighting the 300' fields requires taller poles, from 60' to 70' mounting height. He estimated the number of fixtures count goes up from 24 fixtures for the 200' fields to 35-38 for the 300' fields which increases the cost by 30-

Chairman Pettit asked for information for specifications of the various sports. Attached to the minutes are those for softball and cross country. Soccer information was provided to the A&E.

M.R. Simperts reported the adult softball has 300' fields and girls have 200' to 250' fields. Aimee Benson reported high school sizes range from 185' to 235'. Mr. Simperts noted the possibility of various combination of sizes.

Charlie Daniel suggested building all the fields at 300' and use temporary fence to reduce size for girls' and women's teams. This would accommodate large tournaments and be a source of revenue to the County.

Charles Nelson raised the financial question, not just for construction, but also for operation. Of particular concern would be the cost to light a much larger area. If the fields were all large, the cost to operate for local teams would be 90% of the time and it would be built for only 10% of the use. Mr. Nelson reported two soccer fields at Palm Bay Regional Park were lighted to international levels and no one can afford to use the lights. Mr. Nelson also related that Stradley has had a history of a lot of tournaments, but several were canceled this year due to lack of teams.

Tina Zediker reported that in the last two tournaments she and her husband were involved with, one NBYSA and one for church youth group, teams had to be turned down, and the three Marina fields and the Cuyler field were used. Mr. Nelson noted eight fields will be available and the men's fields could be shortened. Mr. Nelson also questioned if there is enough room to have two four-field fans for adults. Certainly there isn't enough money currently.

40% more per hour to operate the fields for the lesser use. All lights must be used for uniform coverage.

Ed Bertot suggested a compromise by having two large and two small fields on the youth cluster. Mr. Nelson again stated the problem of sufficient space.

Gayle Krisingha inquired if the committee is not constrained to what was voted, which was four girls and four adult fields. Mr. Nelson stated he believes the committee has the ability to discuss different numbers and sizes of fields. All the features stated in the Referendum would be available. The question is, how much land does it use and how much more does it cost both for construction and operation?

Aimee Benson noted the issue of storage for the temporary fence and access to the storage area. As to large tournaments, they are usually spread around the county. She spoke for honoring what was in the Referendum which was four youth fields.

Crizzer Kennedy stated he doesn't know much about the land area available and suggested looking on site. Mr. Nelson responded that the committee will be able to take templates and place them, which is actually better than going on site.

Crizzer Kennedy discussed electrical costs. Mr. Nelson explained demand meters are used on athletic fields. Just to turn on the lights the first time in a month at the Palm Bay soccer fields costs \$300, plus the energy cost. The discounted sports rate no longer exists.

Mr. Canfield asked about the type and cost of moveable fence, as well as associated labor costs.

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**Motion by Faith Chandler, seconded by Gayle Krisingha, for staff to address the costs between the small and the large softball fields as to labor, lighting, fencing, maintenance, as well as the pros and cons and bring that back if space is found tonight.**

**AYE: Benson, Bertot, Canfield, Chandler, Daniel, Kennedy, Krisingha, Livingston, Moon, Pace, Pettit, Radcliff, Spraggs, Thompson, Vieira, Zediker**

**NAY: None Carried 16-0**

Mr. Nelson stated he will bring the cost differential for adult vs girls fields to include the maintenance costs, the storage of moveable fencing—set up/take down, construction costs, operational costs including lighting and the pros and cons. Mr. Nelson stated it may come back in percentage of difference because the number of tournaments is unknown. He can give the costs associated with each set up and take down.

Bill Canfield reviewed the cross country course information which is attached to the minutes.

Ed Bertot inquired if the School Board is contributing money to the Referendum. Mr. Nelson stated that is on a case by case basis. M.R. Simperts presented two boards showing the property, parcels owned by the Water Management District, Parks and Recreation, as well as BCC. It also show the wetlands as dark green and a one-lake system which Mr. Simperts feels works better than a chain. Specifications and engineering questions still need to be resolved. Mr. Simperts stated he feels this is a workable lake system, but there are some unknowns.

The School Board is contributing \$350,000 for a pool in South Brevard. Mr. Canfield reported the parents' group mows and trims the course at BCC the week before races and they built a bridge.

Crizzer Kennedy inquired how much of the Referendum money needs to be spent on cross country. Mr. Nelson indicated the County Attorney's opinion was that things can be added based on ability to fund and modifications can be made. He noted it is premature to deal with costs. At this point the design needs to be determined and the Referendum items would have priority. Faith Chandler noted it sounds like only allocation of space is needed.

M.R. Simperts inquired if the path was to be asphalt. Mr. Canfield indicated asphalt is not preferred, but small crushed gravel is okay and some running is on grass.

Rob Vieira inquired if there are any other constraints for bridges, ramps or stairs. Mr. Canfield stated there are not to be any obstacles in the path such as hay bales to step or jump over. The State asks how much asphalt is run on. At BCC it is less than 2% at BCC.

Laurilee Thompson noted it is flat terrain and asked if adding some hills for the runners would be desired. Mr. Canfield indicated it would make his day. In response to Ms. Thompson's inquiry about dryness of the course, Mr. Canfield indicated it doesn't have to be dry, in fact, mud is no problem. Richard Moon indicated the college has had little problem with cross country and no particular expense has been involved. He suggested exercise stations along the trail and noted the area used by cross country could be an integral part of the park.

Mr. Nelson reported Parks and Recreation also uses the track on an annual basis.

In response to an inquiry from Chairman Pettit, M.R. Simperts indicated cross country is doable.

Mr. Nelson stated that from the County's perspective, staff wants the committee to list all the things that could be present. What is affordable will come out as part of the process. The master plan will be done including drainage, and then elements can be plugged in over time. Mr. Simperts will give the constraints and what can fit.

Chairman Pettit noted BCC has expressed some interest in sharing facilities. Dr. Laurence Spraggs said, in general, collegiate sports basically use adult size fields. He will get the specifications.

Faith Chandler suggested that accessibility of emergency vehicles to fields be added to the list, as well as well-marked entrances and navigable connectors between the lakes.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Simperts also displayed a board with items listed at last meeting and an engineering cross section. He noted the elevations on the cross section are not to scale. Packets of cutouts for fields were available for each board. There were pinwheels for both adult and girls' softball. He stated Parks and Recreation suggested the soccer area be flexible for the various size fields to be arranged as needed.

The packet included one tournament size soccer field. There were a few tennis courts, a maintenance yard, tot lots, two-story concession buildings. What was not in the packet are things Mr. Simperts will add to the layout such as parking lots, storm water pretreatment, road network, trail system and passive areas. He suggested the group divide between the two boards with representation of soccer, softball and BCC at each board. Some things will fall out beautifully after the fact. A 3"x3" square would accommodate 300 cars. The drawing was a raster image applied to the City of Titusville's 1974 aerial.

Mr. Simperts stated he hopes to take the dirt out of the lake and find a good source of well-drained material for the fields. Of the points from the list from previous meeting, Mr. Simperts has a problem with crossing the railroad tracks. FEC still controls the right-of-way. Therefore it probably won't be possible to legally cross the railway. An elevated crossover is beyond the budget at this time as it could be half a million dollars. Canoe access to the lagoon is a problem. There is still an out parcel for which access still needs to be worked out.

Faith Chandler asked if there are any areas where things shouldn't be placed. Mr. Simperts indicated there is a nice stand of red cedar which he would like to leave as a passive area. The groves are not sprayed and are overgrown with Brazilian pepper, and with the exception of a few hardwoods, there is nothing there but a few Sabal palms which can be transplanted.

Chairman Pettit indicated committee member Jim Yount is a competent biologist and asked staff to ask him if there is any critical stand which shouldn't be touched. Mr. Simperts stated a wetlands determination has been made and activities won't be in the jurisdictional wetlands. Chairman Pettit noted a stand of hardwood he would like to see remain.

Mr. Nelson noted the soccer area has a variety of field sizes and the block is based on an eight-field layout. Mr. Simperts suggested members work on both tables.

The group gathered around the tables to work on the layouts

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**At 8:00, a motion was made by Crizzer Kennedy, seconded by Ed Bertot, to extend the meeting another 30 minutes.**  
**AYE: Bertot, Canfield, Chandler, Daniel, Kennedy, Krisingha, Livingston, Moon, Pace, Pettit, Radcliff, Spraggs, Thompson, Vieira, Zediker**  
**NAY: Benson** **Carried 15-1**

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The groups continued at the layout tables and Ms. Benson left during sometime after the vote.

Gayle Krisingha noted the soccer fields are laid out by age and size. Access is important. She stated the group wasn't sure about the concession and noted the need for storage of equipment. She noted permanent structures need access for delivery. Flexibility of field layout is desired. Mr. Simperts noted the soccer area will be crowned for drainage. Nets are portable.

Chairman Pettit noted the runoff from softball is close to the lake and subsequently drainage was discussed by Mr. Simperts. Mr.

Simperts noted it would be cheaper not to have softball over the ditch which would then have to be piped—800' at about \$300 per foot. Mr. Simperts suggested realigning the softball fields. Crizzer Kennedy noted the two large fields on the girls' quadrant can be shortened with portable fencing.

Faith Chandler cautioned about having tot lots too close to the ball fields or parking lots. Mr. Simperts stated he will locate the fields, roads, then parking and lastly the tot lots.

Someone suggested switching soccer and softball. Mr. Nelson cautioned the soccer fields would be split by a road.

Chairman Pettit suggested a pavilion and possibly dock where the creek goes into the lake with parking nearby. That could be the center point of the park.

Mr. Nelson suggested the roads should curve as it slows the speed down. The road could go between the softball quads and branch out to the parking areas.

More time was spent at the design boards.

It was agreed Mr. Nelson should still collect the numbers.

#### VI. PUBLIC INPUT—None

The next meeting will be October 18 at 6:30 p.m.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. at the motion by Crizzer Kennedy, seconded by Bill Canfield.**

**AYE: Bertot, Canfield, Chandler, Daniel, Kennedy, Krisingha, Livingston, Moon, Pace, Pettit, Radcliff, Spraggs, Thompson, Vieira, Zediker**

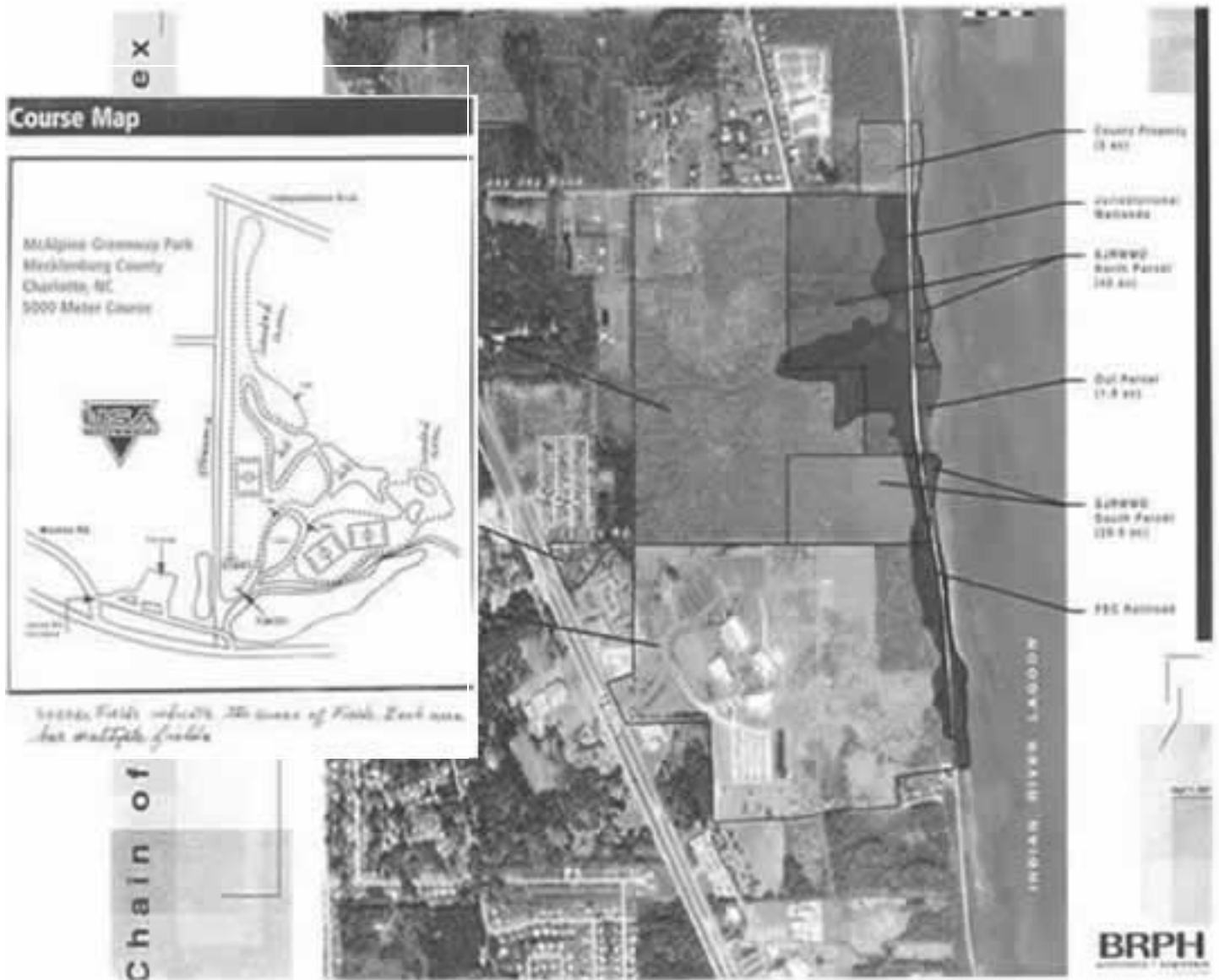
**NAY: None** **Carried 15-0**

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Respectfully submitted,

Dean Pettit, Chairman

jbi



Starting and Finish line requirements for cross country course.

- a. Start and finish line areas need to be near parking.
- b. Not to far from facilities
- c. Access for emergency vehicles.

Starting Line

- a. Starting line straight away recommended width 400 to 500 feet. (National Federation of State High School Associations)
- b. Length of starting straight away, minimum of 300 yards, before a turn. (Recommended by Florida Coaches Association. Adopted by FHSAA)

Finish Line

- a. Finish straightaway, minimum 200 yards. NFHS)
- b. Finish fine and chute area 100 to 200 feet in length. See Diagram.(NFHS)
- c. wide area needed on both sides for spectators and meet management.

Course pathways

- a. Both the NFHS and the FHSAA are concerned that course pathways be at least 10 feet in width.
- b. a loop of 1.5 miles is preferred by both organizations.
- c. by the year 2003, Girls and Boys Cross Country will be 5,000 meters (3.1 miles).



### FHSAA state cross country championships

Brevard Community College in Titusville will be the site of the 1999 Florida High School state cross country championships today. The three-mile course consists of two 1.5-mile loops around the campus.

