

## NORTH BREVARD COMMISSION ON PARKS & RECREATION

Minutes of the regular meeting of the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation (NBCPR), an advisory board, held Thursday, January 10, 2008, in the Brevard Room of the Brevard County Government Complex-North.

### Members Present

Ted Beck, Chairman  
Dr. Ron Bobay, Vice Chairman  
Barry Gainer  
Dick Gossett  
Shawn Harris  
Gigi Henkel  
Scott Johnson  
Rick Pucci

### Members Absent

George Newman—Working

### City of Titusville Staff Present

Conrad Eigenmann, Titusville City Council Person, Liaison  
Jim Herron, Public Works Director  
Courtney Harris, Planning Director

### Brevard County Staff Present

Kathie England, Administrative Aide to Commissioner Scarborough  
Heidi Denis, Assistant County Manager  
Don Lusk, Parks & Recreation Director  
Terry A. Lane, North Area Parks Operations Manager  
John Dacus, Parks Maintenance Superintendent  
Michael J. Rubacky, Parks Maintenance Superintendent  
Richard L. Tucci, Recreation Superintendent  
Chuck Mays, Construction Coordinator  
Judy Inman, Administrative Secretary

### I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.  
All were present except Scott Johnson who was expected to arrive later in the meeting and George Newman.

Terry Lane introduced Heidi Denis, new Assistant County Manager. Ms. Denis reported she came to Brevard from Ocala County where she was Assistant County Manager for six years and has experience supervising parks in two different counties in Florida.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT (items not appearing elsewhere on the agenda)

Bea Polk chided the NBCPR for removing the ball field from the Marina Park plan and stated she wants it put back in. She also stated money is being moved without approval and asked if anyone knows what is happening to the parks money.

James H. Burke, of JB Race Team, had his three drivers show their awards and thanked the board for allowing the karting track to be converted to dirt. Josh Robinson placed second in the country and first in dirt in Florida. They were the most winning team in Daytona.

Susan Canada stated \$500 per month is coming out of the Referendum for supports under the Grove house and Oliver's house foundation at BCC is listed under requested enhancements at \$200,000. She noted the people voted against this home in last referendum and it is the advisory board's fiduciary duty to look into this.

Rick Pucci noted speakers are speaking on items appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Shawn Harris, to approve the minutes of November 8, 2007.**

**AYE: Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Henkel, Pucci**

**NAY: None** **Carried 7-0**

At this point Chairman Beck asked that election of officers be held which is recorded below under VI.A.

Chairman Beck welcomed Councilman Conrad Eigenmann and Courtney Harris, City Planner.

### IV. REFERENDUM & OTHER PROJECTS

#### A. Reports—Chuck Mays reported as follows:

- Chain of Lakes—Additional fencing was completed. Soccer pavilion is being built. Two playgrounds—soccer and 3-plex softball, will be installed in February. Pedway lighting should start next month.
- Cuyler Park—Preliminary work for filling depression continues and will require 74 trees to be replaced in Cuyler or another park. The parks maintenance crew is working on irrigation for softball field, and then sod will be placed.
- Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park—Phase II. The A&E proposal was approved and staff is working on the agreement.
- Holder Park—New roofs were installed on the old concession and pavilion. Work starts Monday to put in lift station and sewer system before baseball season starts in February.
- Manatee Hammock Shoreline—Work should be completed next week.
- Marina Park—On the agenda for later this meeting.
- North Brevard Senior Center—Application for roof repairs permits has been submitted to the City.
- Parrish Park—Scottsmoor Field Lighting—Work started this week.
- Pritchard House—Stabilization is underway. Contract is being prepared for restoration.

- Sand Point Park—Bid opening for nine pavilions is January 28.
- Scottsmoor Meeting Hall—Plans are in the permit review stage.
- Walter Butler Community Center—Final inspections were held today. Next is final walkthrough so building can be turned over to Parks and Recreation.
- Bernice G. Jackson Park—Landscaping should be completed next week.
- Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier (Pier)—The 30% design should be received next week.

Dick Gossett asked about the public comments regarding Referendum money being spent without approval. Terry Lane noted not everything could be identified in the green Referendum brochure; some things are approved at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) level. Mr. Lane stated questions can be answered next month. Shawn Harris stated he is disturbed about accusations and expressed the need for clarification, perhaps from the County Attorney. Mr. Lane will provide a copy of a memo from the County Attorney's office presented to the advisory board previously stating the BOCC by vote has the authority to spend the funds as appropriate from the Referendum.

**B. North Brevard Referendum Prospective Projects**  
Public Comment

Susan Canada brought up historical houses being moved to Brevard Community College (BCC) property which was paid from the Referendum and Commissioner Scarborough told her it should not have come from the Referendum. She spoke against Referendum funding for historic houses on BCC property, noting the 2006 Referendum for these did not pass, and stated she hasn't seen where the BOCC voted for \$500 per month for supports for Oliver Camp house.

Joan Wheeler questioned why the County is spending more money on enhancements when other projects haven't been started and spoke against buying property for another entrance to Chain of Lakes. She stated she would like to have the minutes from the BOCC showing how much the BOCC has approved for District 1 and what for. She also stated she hasn't seen approval for the storm water pond at the North Brevard Senior Center.

Dwight Seigler stated Cuyler Park was not treated fairly in the 2000 Referendum, is being shortchanged in the 2006 Referendum, and if the items in the wish list do not go to the committed column, he doubts anyone will ever vote for another Referendum.

John Pine questioned where all the money for the prospective projects is coming from and stated someone

definitely needs to look at where the money is coming from and where it is going.

Mr. Pucci suggested discussing the matrix at the April meeting as directed at the last meeting. Mr. Lane will send letters to all the special interest groups for each of the Referendum projects so the items in the third column of the matrix can be explained at the April meeting and decisions made for funding.

Mr. Gossett expressed concern that the public doesn't always get adequate answers to questions asked in public comment. Mr. Pucci noted the NBCPR is advisory and most of the answers exist beyond their scope, but staff can be directed to answer in a future meeting if there is a reason to do so. Chairman Beck indicated he thinks questions are answered by the NBCPR and staff except when guessing is required.

C. Fay Lake Wilderness Park (FLWP) Phase 2 Conceptual Plan—Terry Lane noted that FLWP Committee members were invited and explained that due to environmental issues, some of the elements in the plan were relocated because of trees, wetlands and species. Most changes occurred in the south portion of the park. All elements of the original plan are still there.

Bill Bender, chairman of the FLWP Committee, stated he would like to have seen the boardwalk and access to land extended south, and noted wilderness camping needs to be identified on the plan.

D.J. Olson, vice chair of the FLWP Committee, stated concern that a few trees are changing the plan and asked that the Committee meet again to go over the plan more.

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**Motion by Rick Pucci, seconded by Dick Gossett, to table Fay Lake Wilderness Park Phase 2 Conceptual Plan to allow staff to get back with the committee and then bring it back to the NBCPR.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Pucci**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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D. Marina Park Conceptual Plan

Public Comment—Marina Park Referendum Committee members had been invited to attend and to speak.

Bill Powell commented on the City owning the finger at Marina Park and through questioning staff determined that the County has maintained the finger for the past 35 years. He also noted the NBCPR removed the ball field the committee left in, and asked if that is saving money and, if so, what it is going to be spent on.

Barry Gainer stated he was one of those who pushed for removing the ball field at the last meeting because funding is \$1.4 million, the committee gave a wish list of \$4 million, and there are many ball fields in the County.

Mr. Powell disagreed, saying the County is short on ball fields, and wishes Chain of Lakes was 10 times bigger. Courtney Harris stated she doesn't know why the line was drawn as the City owns it all and she doesn't have concern about improvements on the point at Marina Park. It was noted the land is leased from the state.

John Pine stated the City said not to use the finger at Marina Park. He commented on the retention area looking larger than is needed for the park, spoke against taking out the ball field, and commented that everything seems compacted into the smallest possible part of the park in order to have the largest open area possible.

Susan Canada reported seeing people play ball at Marina Park nightly and requested the existing ball field be put back in the plan, stating she will get the cement donated for sidewalks to the ball field and put them in herself. She noted the need for a place for Challengers to play.

Barry Gainer stated he appreciates Ms. Canada's concerns, but still doesn't think there needs to be a ball field at Marina Park.

Bea Polk commented about Barry Gainer telling her something else about the ball field. She also mentioned a private business next door and the City wanting a dry dock. She asked who gave the cost figures, stated the public wants ball fields, and asked why the advisory board doesn't do what the people want.

Barry Gainer stated no one from the City has contacted him to do anything about Marina Park and that Walt Johnson stated that the City has no plans for a business at Marina Park.

Joan Wheeler stated she doesn't believe Mr. Johnson or Mr. Gainer, noted the cost for demolishing the ball field is not on the cost list, and stated Mr. Gainer's changing his vote was a message to her that he wanted to stay on this board. Barry Gainer stated no one has asked him to trade his vote for anything.

Chairman Beck invited someone from the City to speak. Councilman Eigenmann stated the City has not voted on this and no one has directed anyone to include or exclude anything in the park. He stated he has done his own investigative questioning and hasn't come up with anything at all. He stated he thinks the citizens are clearly saying to complete the 2000 Referendum, and then focus on enhancements.

In response to Gigi Henkel's inquiry about why the point was blocked off, Courtney Harris stated City Council has given no direction for that; the line came out in a deed search for mooring fields facility. Councilman Eigenmann stated he believes City Council looks at the piece as a whole, without lines or fences. Terry Lane reported Mark Ryan, City Manager, presented a drawing

showing the point as not being part of Marina Park. Jim Herron clarified it was expressed to the Marina Park Referendum Committee as part of the Municipal Marina. Chairman Beck requested Rodney Honeycutt to clarify why the point was taken off. Mr. Honeycutt responded he removed it because at the last NBCPR meeting there was discussion that the jetty is not part of Marina Park.

In response to an inquiry from Barry Gainer, Mr. Honeycutt estimated the retention area to be about four acres. It won't be designed any larger than needed; and it won't be known if it will be wet or dry until after tests. Assumption is that it will be wet retention.

In response to Dick Gossett noting lack of color coding for what the City was going to use, Mr. Honeycutt stated the lift station cost is split at 50% between City and County until flow is determined, and the cost for 60 parking spaces needed by the City is deleted from the cost, assuming it would be supplemented.

In response to Chairman Beck's inquiry if money is saved by taking out the ball field, Mr. Honeycutt explained the first drawing shows the area of the existing ball field as open area as NBCPR directed. The second drawing shows the location of the existing ball field. There would be some cost for demolition, field #3 doesn't have the newest lights, and there would be cost for handicap accessibility. Terry Lane reported field #2 has cement poles and newer light fixtures that, if so desired, could be moved to field #3 that has wooden poles and older fixtures.

Mr. Gossett noted with the planned overpass over U.S. 1 to Sand Point, more ball fields will be needed, and there wouldn't be much saved by taking out the ball field.

Scott Johnson noted the Sand Point Park redesign doesn't include ball fields and stated his preference is to see a ball field at Marina Park. Based on his experience, the Little League fields at Sand Point were frequently used by the people picnicking, and he would assume a ball field at Marina Park would be used extensively.

Susan Canada spoke for Ray Haskell saying if losing the fields at Sand Point, please leave a field at Marina Park for the Challenger teams and others using the park. She noted it would cost more to demolish it than to leave it.

In response to an inquiry from Barry Gainer, Mr. Honeycutt estimated there would be two acres of green space if the ball field remained. Mr. Gainer stated he still stands behind not needing it, but if that many people want it, there would still be about two acres of green space. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Gainer, Mr. Lane indicated the Sand Point Referendum Committee will have another opportunity to look at the plan after the

new Max Brewer Bridge is completed, and can decide if those ball fields stay or are removed.

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**Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Gigi Henkel, that the existing ball field #3 be reinstated in the Marina Park plan for the Referendum.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Johnson**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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**Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Scott Johnson, to approve the Marina Park conceptual plan with modification to put ball field #3 back in and a friendly amendment requested by Gigi Henkel was accepted to add back in the gazebo on the point.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Pucci**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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Courtney Harris stated the City has no problem with a gazebo on the point.

Dick Gossett expressed concern that the NBCPR doesn't always give necessary guidance to the committees, i.e. whether or not there was to be a ball field at Marina Park.

Michelle Woodruff noted how much dogs like water and suggested using some storm water drainage for dogs.

Mr. Gainer suggested the dogs could be walked through the green space to the storm water. In response to a suggestion by Barry Gainer, Mr. Lane reported there has been discussion about allowing dogs on a leash in parks with an off-leash dog park,. He also noted that dogs are allowed on a short leash at all boat ramps.

Conrad Eigenmann suggested asking the engineer to put some storm water in the dog park to feed back into the big area. Chairman Beck stated that will be looked at.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

John Pine stated Walt Johnson did say before election that he wanted to privatize Marina Park. He took exception to the City saying they own the marina basin and Marina Park when it is a lease, and that at one meeting the City said they didn't want the point used by Marina Park.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

(VI.A heard following III. Approval of Minutes)

A. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman—Terry Lane presided over the election of chairman.

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**Ted Beck was elected chairman at the nomination by Barry Gainer, seconded by Shawn Harris.**

**AYE: Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Henkel, Pucci**

**NAY: None** **Carried 7-0**

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Ted Beck resumed chairing the meeting.

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**Dr. Ron Bobay was elected vice chairman at the nomination by Barry Gainer, seconded by Rick Pucci.**

**AYE: Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Henkel, Pucci**

**NAY: None** **Carried 7-0**

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Discussion returned to IV.A.

B. Request from Jess Parrish Medical Foundation re Letter of Support for Grant Application for Restoration of Arthur Dunn House

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**Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Scott Johnson, for the chairman to sign a letter of support for a grant application by Jess Parrish Medical Foundation for restoration of the Arthur Dunn House.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Johnson**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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C. Naming of Road at Bernice G. Jackson Park

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**Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Gigi Henkel, to name the interior road at Bernice G. Jackson Park, Ferguson Lane.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Johnson**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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D. Naming Annex at Cuyler Park

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**Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Dick Gossett, to name the Annex at Cuyler Park, Crandall J. Warren Community Building.**

**AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Henkel, Johnson**

**NAY: None** **Carried 5-0**

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Terry Lane requested Dwight Seigler confirm in writing the spelling of Mr. Warren's name.

## VII. REPORTS

A. Advisory Board Members on Assigned Parks—No report.

B. City of Titusville Staff Report—No report.

C. North Area Parks Operations Staff Reports—Terry Lane announced Snow Fest at Fox Lake Park is February 2 from noon to 5 p.m. Holiday events were a success, particularly Santa Calling. February 23 is opening day for Mims and Port St. John Little Leagues, and Indian River City Little League opens March 8.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted M. Beck, Chairman

jbi