

NORTH BREVARD COMMISSION ON PARKS & RECREATION

Minutes of the special meeting of the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation (NBCPR), an advisory board, held Monday, June 30, 2008, in the Brevard Room of the Brevard County Government Complex-North.

Members Present

Ted Beck, Chairman
Barry Gainer
Dick Gossett
Shawn Harris
Gigi Henkel
Scott Johnson

Brevard County Staff Present

Don Lusk, Parks and Recreation Director
Terry A. Lane, North Area Parks Operations Manager
John Dacus, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Richard L. Tucci, Recreation Superintendent
Jill Hill, Recreation Program Coordinator

Members Absent

Dr. Ron Bobay, Vice Chairman
George Newman

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Scott Johnson, to excuse Dr. Bobay and George Newman from the meeting.

AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Johnson

NAY: None **Carried 5-0**

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

Bea Polk stated her concerns regarding the appraisal and purchase of the Marr property and stated she would like to see additional funds go to the Marina Park project.

III. A. MAX BREWER BRIDGE CATWALKS

Terry Lane stated the proposal meeting will be held at Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 5 headquarters on July 25, 2008. Mr. Lane stated the final deadline for submission of questions and information will be on September 4, 2008. He added the anticipated award date is October 20, 2008, or there about, to actually award the project. Mr. Lane stated it is anticipated that work may begin in early 2009 on the bridge.

Terry Lane stated in the board package is the matrix which shows \$800,000 in the middle column that was originally allocated for the Causeway Improvements and the Catwalks. He stated, in the packet there is copy of the agreement from March 20, 2007, with FDOT and the Board of County Commissioners to allocate funding for the Catwalks. Mr. Lane stated FDOT has allocated \$500,000 and the Board of County Commissioners has allocated \$1 million. Terry Lane stated the original estimate to build the Catwalks was \$1.3 to \$1.4 million

dollars. He added that today's numbers are just over \$2 million. Mr. Lane stated that Parks and Recreation is applying for funding through FIND (Florida Inland Navigational District) in the amount of up to \$500,000 to add towards the project.

Terry Lane stated there were several recommendations from the Catwalk Committee Mr. Lane stated they would like a 660' looping catwalk on the west side of the bridge and a 300' single catwalk on the east side that would have lighting that meets code and the railing constructed of concrete at ADA height. Mr. Lane added they also wanted cleaning tables located in the area of each catwalk and seating, trash receptacles and an informational kiosk. He stated on the east side the Committee wanted a location for a possible future rest room facility if funding is in place. Terry Lane stated these recommendations were included in a letter sent from Don Lusk to Todd Long with FDOT reaffirming Brevard County's commitment to this project.

Terry Lane stated the matrix is currently showing an amount of \$800,000 in the committed column for this project and staff is looking for a recommendation from this Board to move the other \$200,000 into that committed column for the Catwalk project.

Ted Beck stated this Board has never seen any plans for the Catwalk. Mr. Beck stated he believed the Catwalk Committee went to the Board of County Commissioners and got permission for \$1 million and this Board did not know anything about it. Mr. Beck inquired where the other \$200,000 is supposed to come from. Terry Lane reviewed the matrix and stated that it previously stated \$1 million. Mr. Lane advised they had a cost estimate that was coming in less expensive and at that time only \$800,000 was allocated and the other \$200,000 was to

be saved for another project. Terry Lane stated the latest estimate from FDOT is just over \$2 million dollars. Mr. Lane further explained that these are all estimates and a true number will not be established until the bid goes out and is awarded. Discussion ensued regarding the Catwalk Committee bypassing the NBCPR and going to the Board of County Commissioners and where the money would be moved from on the matrix.

Bea Polk inquired why this issue was coming back to the NBCPR when the Board of County Commissioners had already approved it. Ms. Polk suggested the NBCPR not take any action.

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer, accept the presentation as information and recommend it be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for action.

Motion amended to state: Accept the presentation as information and recommend it be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners. Any excess money is to come back to the Referendum projects and to this Board for discussion on reallocation of funds. Any future recommendation regarding the catwalk come before this board.

AYE: Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Johnson

NAY: Harris Carried 4-1

Dick Gossett inquired about the ADA standards and requirements. Mr. Gossett stated he did not understand if it is in the Florida Building Code, how the State of Florida can draw specifications for the Max Brewer Bridge Catwalks and part of the specification is that the new fishing pier will include ADA compliant concrete rails. Terry Lane stated that Brevard County Parks & Recreation Department has been on record for requesting ADA compliant railings. Mr. Lane stated that all of the builders, the City of Titusville, which is who the project is permitted through, are saying that the Florida Building Code has to be followed. Mr. Lane stated that the FDOT does not have to go to the City of Titusville to get permitted. Mr. Lane stated he understood Mr. Gossett's question and that the County would like to see 100% concrete ADA accessible railings, or as much as is possible. Terry Lane stated on the recreational side, staff wants it to be accessible to everyone and used by everyone. Mr. Lane stated that staff also wanted it to be something that the public wants.

Terry Lane stated that the Florida Building Code, from the article he just read, is discussing next year changing the code.

Dick Gossett stated the ADA requirements require 25% to be ADA compliant. Terry Lane stated it has to be 25% minimum but could be more. Dick Gossett stated that it was his understanding that the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) offered to the City of Titusville to make the pier and the catwalk 25% and someone somewhere along the way said no. Discussion ensued regarding ADA standards on the Catwalks.

Don Lusk stated that staff has no issues with making as much of the pier ADA compliant as it can be. Mr. Lusk stated the barrier appears to be the building code. He advised there are two facets of that with one relating to the height of the railing and the other is the toe clearance. Mr. Lusk stated it is his understanding that the 25% of the railing can be achieved. Mr. Lusk stated he believed the real issue is the toe height. He stated there is a desire for it to be 9" and according to building code, based on engineering and construction, the most you will get at the bottom is 4". He advised that is where the issue stands with the building official. Mr. Lusk added there are some things pending at the state level and there are some interpretations of ADA that are uncertain. Mr. Lusk stated he would continue to monitor this situation.

IV. NORTH BREVARD REFERENDUM OPERATING

Ted Beck stated there was a memorandum in the NBCPR packet from Larry Wojciechowski, Parks and Recreation Finance Officer, regarding funds. Terry Lane stated there is money within the reserve of North Area Operation budget. Mr. Lane explained that he took one page out of the budget to give the NBPCR an overview of the revenue versus expenditures. Mr. Lane stated at the bottom line where the revenue R30205 is where this \$2.7 million is currently. Mr. Lane stated he also provided the NBCPR with a page that shows the actual amount in next year's projected budget. Terry Lane stated that Mr. Wojciechowski explained in his letter that this is anticipated to end in 2009, because as property values come down, this reserve is going to go away. Mr. Wojciechowski suggests we keep \$500,000 in reserve for any future needs. Terry Lane stated there is \$1.8 million dollars that has not been allocated. Mr. Lane stated it is an operating portion of the Referendum. Terry Lane continued to explain the Referendum funds. Ted Beck stated there is \$2.3 million that is in reserve that needs to be allocated. Mr. Beck stated that staff is recommending \$500,000 remain in a reserve account for any unforeseen issues.

Shawn Harris inquired if the \$500,000 has to be expended before 2009. Terry Lane stated in 2009 is

when the revenue source will stop due to property values, tax reform and Amendment 1. Mr. Lane stated it does not have to be expended; it would remain in reserve. Terry Lane stated if the \$500,000 is put in reserve, it will still leave \$1.8 million to be allocated.

Terry Lane discussed the need for a North Area operations complex. Mr. Lane explained to the Board that currently North Area Parks Operation is operating on leased property and staff would like to relocate the complex to County-owned property. Discussion ensued between staff and the Board regarding locations and costs for an operations facility. Terry Lane stated he would not know an exact number until the project went out to bid. Ted Beck inquired if this had to be decided tonight. Terry Lane responded it did not need to be decided tonight but should be done soon. The Board agreed they would like to see a presentation from staff regarding a facility to house operations in comparison to what other areas of Parks & Recreation currently have and would like to see some numbers.

Motion by Scott Johnson, seconded by Shawn Harris, of the \$2.3 million in referendum operating reserves, keep \$500,000 in reserves and move \$1.8 million to the referendum matrix in the revenue portion operating/maintenance for further discussion.

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

NAY: _____ Carried 6-0

Shawn Harris requested that numbers on the matrix be updated. Mr. Harris stated that some money may be moved from one project to another if the cost for completion has gone up or down. Mr. Harris stated this would better help the committee make funding decisions.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted M. Beck, Chairman

jh/jbi