

## 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, October 9, 2008, in the Brevard Room of the Brevard County Government Complex-North.

### Members Present

Ted Beck, Chairman  
Dr. Ron Bobay, Vice Chairman  
Jan Alwine  
Barry Gainer  
Dick Gossett

### Members Absent

Shawn Harris—Working out of town  
Gigi Henkel—Out of town  
Scott Johnson—Working  
George Newman—Ill

### City of Titusville Elected Officials/Staff Present

Walt Johnson, Alternate Liaison  
Grace Galiano, Redevelopment Planner

### Brevard County Staff Present

Kathie England, Administrative Aide to Commissioner Scarborough  
Cheryl Page, Assistant Parks and 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 5:03 p.m. and called for a moment of silent prayer.

### Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Jan Alwine, to excuse absences of Shawn Harris, Gigi Henkel, Scott Johnson, and George Newman

**AYE: Alwine, Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett,**

**NAY: None Carried 5-0**

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

Cindy Deleo spoke for building a dog park at Marina Park and presented 100 signatures of dog owners at Sand Point and other friends to support putting the dog park at Marina Park.

Chairman Beck and Terry Lane explained a dog park is in the master plan for Marina Park but is not in the current budget as it ranked lower on the priority list than funding allowed. A dog park at Fay Lake Wilderness Park has been approved to put out to bid with funding in place to build that park mid to late next year.

Ray Smyth presented 11 pictures of the Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier (Pier) provided by the Brevard Historical Society and he is coordinating with staff and the concessionaire to display the pictures.

Chairman Beck welcomed Walt Johnson who stated he was present at the request of Conrad Eigenmann who could not attend the meeting.

## III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer, to approve the minutes of September 11, 2008.

**AYE: Alwine, Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett,**

**NAY: None Carried 5-0**

## IV. REFERENDUM & OTHER PROJECTS

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

- Chain of Lakes (COL)—Directional signs on US 1 at Jay Jay Road are to be placed in the next few weeks. Construction of a 68 foot fishing dock is to start the middle of next week, with two to three weeks for completion. Lake expansion behind BCC was approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)—waiting on paperwork for contract to start about the 1<sup>st</sup> of November. Staff is working with the County Transportation Department to get traffic signals at the Dairy Road entrance. Staff is going to the BOCC next week for Road and Bridge and Landscaping Department to work at the entrance road.
- Cuyler Park—Application has been made for the land clearing permit to remove trees from the large depression on the new property, then the hole will be filled. Staff is working with PBSJ to get the site plan for the pavilion. The first contractor for replacement of the gym floor was not qualified. A meeting is scheduled next week with second contractor who has experience installing floors and hopefully work will start in November.
- Fay Lake Wilderness Park—The plan goes to bid on October 24 for a 30-day bidding period.
- Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park—The plans are complete for the replica house. It looks like the original site plan can be reactivated with Land Development, and then there is permitting and bid.
- Marina Park—Approval was given to move forward. A purchase order has been requested to move the light poles from field 2 to field 3. Once the money is transferred, a purchase order will be requested to work on boat ramps. Mr. Honeycutt is in contact with St. Johns Water Management District for permitting.

- North Brevard Senior Center—Kick off meeting for the trails and retention pond is Monday afternoon.
- Pritchard House—Negotiations with the contractor for renovations of exterior of the house were held earlier this week. An extension is being requested to extend the grant beyond the end of the year. Approval is expected.
- Scottsmoor Meeting Hall—The slab in the garage area has been elevated to meet the floor of the main building and the expansion is framed in. Completion date is March 14, but may be sooner.
- Titusville Veterans’ Memorial Fishing Pier—The plans were sent to FEMA in Washington, D.C., on September 16.

Chairman Beck announced the BOCC approved the Marina Plan at \$3.2 million with no changes. Dick Gossett stated his hope that someone is moving this along with the City and suggested placing dates on the status report. Mr. Lane stated that typically the permitting process takes months, then a month or so to respond to questions, and hopefully that will be completed in early 2009. Terry Lane reported Commissioner Scarborough is trying to make sure the FEMA funding is approved before he leaves office. Mr. Mays reported once the permits are in hand, the bidding process takes about three to four months.

**B. Request from U.S. Space Walk of Fame for Additional Funding for Completion of Monument**—Charlie Mars, president of U.S. Space Walk of Fame (SWOF), gave a presentation about the 501(c)(3) organization’s efforts to preserve space history created in Brevard County, noting the three-way partnership with SWOF, the City and the County, and the County doing a magnificent job of taking care of the park. He reviewed the completed Mercury Monument for which SWOF raised \$350,000 and the \$500,000 Gemini Monument. The Apollo Monument estimated at \$850,000 is partially completed and space is reserved for the Shuttle Monument at the Downtown Stormwater Park. Much of the project has been completed with untold hours of volunteer work and in-kind services such as stainless steel, engineering, and contractor. However \$100,000 is needed to complete the Apollo Monument prior to the July 16, 2009, dedication. Mr. Mars responded to Jan Alwine’s questions regarding funding for the Shuttle Monument that is estimated at \$1,000,000.

**Public Comment**

Dan LeBlanc, CEO of the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, 12-year member of SWOF and board member, stated most of the living Apollo astronauts are expected to be here in July for the dedication of the monument

and hoped the board would give serious consideration as this is important for tourism and county pride.

Ron Lang, a resident since 1958 and aerospace worker for 40+ years, noted this is the only space center that can say “it happened here.” It is also tied to marketability for Brevard County as a great place to show dedication as a community to our heritage in a pleasing visual way.

Murphy Wardman, a 50-year resident and 38-year worker at the Cape, reported his “grunt” work on each of the monuments, noted this is the only place in the world dedicated to astronauts and workers alike, and stated it would be embarrassing in July if the monument is not completed.

Ray Smyth stated he was not representing the SWOF but himself as a 43-year taxpaying citizen of Brevard County and a history buff. He noted the foresight of a few for other monuments around the county and reported the SWOF was conceived in 1988 by Dr. Doyle Chastain. The organization is in its 20<sup>th</sup> year with many working very hard to write the history of Brevard County and its people. He asked the board to please have the foresight to consider funding all they can.

Laurilee Thompson of Mims noted the SWOF is asking for an enhancement request on the matrix and has reduced their request from \$150,000 to \$100,000. She stated her love for this community and that she feels like it has some of the greatest potential to be a huge tourism destination and space is the crown jewel. She asked for favorable consideration of this very small request compared to other enhancement requests on the matrix.

Martha Long, who started her career on the Apollo project, requested the board agree to fund the \$100,000 to bring attention to her family members and 10,000’s of others who worked at the Space Center who deserve this.

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**Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer for discussion, to approve \$100,000 for the U.S. Space Walk of Fame.**

**AYE: Gainer, Gossett,**

**NAY: Alwine, Beck, Bobay**

**Failed 2-3**

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Discussion prior to the vote included:

Jan Alwine noted money was donated previously to SWOF and asked if, as a 501, the group couldn’t raise the money in the community. Mr. Mars stated the \$110,000 was spent most for Mercury, some on Gemini, some for Apollo and raising money is difficult and could take several years but the SWOF wants to finish the monument before July. Ms. Alwine stated it is

commendable what SWOF has done. She stated she spent 18 years out there also, but she is not as concerned about the 11 astronauts coming, but she wants to think of the good of the whole community and the importance of Parks and Recreation to children. When Ms. Alwine asked why this was not put out for bid through the board or Parks and Recreation and how the group would get \$1,000,000 for the Shuttle Monument, Mr. Mars stated most of the work has been in-kind, with nothing paid for engineering or construction of this monument, \$500,000 was raised by SWOF, and it could take 10 years at \$100,000 a year to raise the \$1,000,000 for the Shuttle.

Walt Johnson noted he is liaison and can't vote for this, but if he could, he would. He stated he lives by Space View Park and reported thousands are there for launches. SWOF has been tenacious in raising money. Just as they reached for stars in space program, they will reach this.

Terry Lane confirmed for Dr. Bobay that this project has the same status as any other project on the Referendum list and if it is on the matrix it is eligible for enhancements approved on the 2006 Referendum. Dr. Bobay stated he prefers prioritizing in context of all the projects, rather than piece meal enhancements, noting being overextended in the projects.

Terry Lane stated the grand total for all columns on the matrix is over \$21 million and the total projected revenue is just under \$16.5 million. Contracted is \$6.7 million and preliminarily committed is \$10.2 million. Mr. Lane further reviewed various items on the matrix and noted estimates are preliminary. Some items that might change are if the Pier comes in under projection, how the number of fields requested at Little Leagues (LL) compares with sizes of leagues, i.e. IRCLL is the smallest LL and has more fields than Mims LL. He also noted, not all the groups are as forthright as SWOF.

In response to an inquiry from Dick Gossett, Terry Lane explained that the operating reserve will cease having an excess this year above and beyond the operating portion that pays for staff. He also explained the \$11 to \$12 million operating budget for all parks in North Brevard is not Referendum.

Dick Gossett mentioned \$790,000 to be received. Michelle Summers, North Area Finance Manger, stated she believed Mr. Gossett was speaking about the Referendum operating budget and stated there will be some \$700,000 coming into that budget that also pays for seven maintenance employees. After those salaries and benefits are paid, there will be approximately \$300,000 coming in this year's taxes, and will go into

balance forward for next year unless needed for emergency for Referendum projects.

Barry Gainer asked if any current people would have to be cut if this were funded. Terry Lane stated no as this is a separate capital Referendum funding source.

Barry Gainer noted a couple projects are not moving forward at this time. Terry Lane stated the one furthest out would be the Causeway Improvements, along with Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center and Equestrian Trails and Facilities. In response to an inquiry from Jan Alwine, Terry Lane indicated construction won't start on the Causeway project until after the bridge is completed.

Chairman Beck noted the board is responsible for all of District 1, from S.R. 528 to Scottsmoor and has to look at the allover picture. He stated he thinks this is a great thing and asked how the money would be given. Terry Lane explained the BOCC approved an agreement with SWOF, wrote the check, and SWOF provided copies of invoices to meet agreement guidelines. If approved, an agreement would go to the BOCC, as did the \$50,000 to the City for Julia Street parking. Chairman Beck agreed with Dr. Bobay to identify every project, prioritize them, and if \$100,000 is left over he would support it.

Dick Gossett noted priorities have been talked about for six to eight months and only given lip service. He also stated the board doesn't get any recommendations from staff on project priorities which he would like to see staff do. He noted Orange County projects are coming in 17 to 20% below engineers' estimates. As far as supporting this thing, Mr. Gossett stated he thinks it will be a highly embarrassing to SWOF if the monument is not completed by July.

Following the vote, Jan Alwine stated she thinks the matrix is a good idea to understand the issues and suggested a meeting to discuss it. Chairman Beck stated this is not saying the board won't give SWOF any money but will go back to the drawing board to see what money to commit. Dr. Bobay stated it is best to set priorities, and would like staff to bring recommendations for priorities with narrative, i.e. for Holder and W.W. James, what is the reasonable number of fields for size of league and he would like to know standards for number of fields. He suggested discussing it and then taking action.

Chairman Beck asked if that can be done. Mr. Lane stated staff can, and has tried to give the board information without staff prioritizing things, but can come next meeting with recommendations. Barry

Gainer stated he likes the idea of a workshop. Mrs. Page stated she thinks there is some uniqueness to each of these projects, motivation, how it started, how it got to where it is today, and that will help the board establish priorities. When asked, Charlie Mars stated the absolute deadline for the \$100,000 would probably be the end of December or SWOF would have to borrow money. Mr. Mars asked if this is not a total turn down and if it would still be on the list. It was agreed it will stay on the matrix. Dr. Bobay stated he would like more of a workshop agenda rather than an action agenda, have information, and things staff knows about the projects.

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**Motion by Ron Bobay, seconded by Barry Gainer, to establish a workshop for the purpose of receiving information from staff relative to project prioritization followed by the establishment of an advisory board meeting to establish priorities.**

**AYE: Alwine, Beck, Bobay, Gainer, Gossett,**

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

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After discussion, consensus was to have a workshop for the matrix on November 13 and action can be taken at the December monthly meeting that will be moved to December 4. Terry Lane reported Commissioner Scarborough will be a special guest on November 13 as he will be leaving office before the December meeting.

C. Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Property—Marr Property—Removed from agenda at the request of the property owner. (See VII. Reports. A)

D. North Brevard Referendum Prospective Projects—Terry Lane reviewed updates to the matrix since it was distributed in the advance packet as follows: Catwalk has been funded by FIND and is under revenue. Under Moore Memorial park, \$300,000 was moved to contracted. Marina Park funding was moved to contracted based on NBCPR and September 30 BOCC action. Road and Bridge will be doing a lot of the infrastructure; their contact is \$1.6 million. The other \$987,685 is for the NAPO and Construction to purchase the remaining elements of the Marina project.

In response to inquiries from Dick Gossett, Terry Lane reported Fay Lake Wilderness Park isn't shown because it is from the Port St. John/Canaveral Groves Referendum, and the \$100,000 for Sandrift playground will be adjusted when a new quote is received. Mr. Lane also reported North Brevard Senior Center funding was moved to contracted and U.S. SWOF was changed from \$150,000 to \$100,000 in requested enhancements.

Chairman Beck announced the semi-annual report to the City will be in written form.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY 2008-2009 Budget Update—Terry Lane noted the adopted budget is in the packet. Barry Gainer expressed surprise that chain saws are \$500 and computers are \$2400. Terry Lane responded that budget books have dollar amounts for computers and sometimes two can be purchased for the amount budgeted.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

## VII. REPORTS

A. Advisory Board Members on Assigned Parks—Jan Alwine agreed to take over the park and committee assignments from former member Rick Pucci.

Barry Gainer stated he had some reports that the concessionaire at the Pier has some people working who have not had background checks and may be living under the building. Terry Lane will ask Mike Barnes to get information from concessionaire for report at the next meeting.

Dick Gossett inquired what the Marr appraisal came in at. Terry Lane stated it will be on the agenda at the next meeting and noted many times the County doesn't make appraisal public record until after negotiations. He reported the dispute is over agricultural vs. commercial and the property owner could get their own appraisal.

B. City of Titusville Staff Report—No report.

C. North Area Parks Operations Staff Reports—Terry Lane announced the bridge dedication is October 27 at 2 p.m. Parrish Park-Titusville was damaged by Tropical Storm Fay, requiring six ramps to be shut down. One ramp is currently open. On October 28, the BOCC will consider funding \$435,125 for Tedder to not replace floating docks but rather install concrete pilings and aluminum fixed docks to better withstand tropical storms. Staff is hoping FEMA will reimburse that money. Money was just received from FEMA for Hurricane Francis.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted M. Beck, Chairman

jbi