

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, February 12, 2009, in the Brevard Room of the Brevard County Government Complex-North.

Members Present

Ted Beck, Chairman

Jan Alwine

Glenn Dames

Barry Gainer

Dick Gossett

Neta Harris

Members Absent

Dr. Ron Bobay, Vice Chairman

George Newman

City of Titusville Elected Officials/Staff Present

Walt Johnson, Council Person Alternate Liaison

Grace Galiano, Redevelopment Planner

Brevard County Staff Present

Commissioner Robin Fisher

Kathie England, Administrative Aide to Commissioner Fisher

Don Lusk, Recreation and Parks Department Director

Cheryl Page, Assistant Parks and Recreation Department Director

Marsha Cantrell, Parks & Recreation Dept. Support Services Manager

Stephen Johnson, Public Works Department Land Acquisition Specialist

Terry A. Lane, North Area Parks Operations Manager

John Dacus, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

Michael J. Rubacky, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

Jeff Davis, Jr. Recreation Superintendent

Richard L. Tucci, Recreation Superintendent

Michelle Summers, Area Finance Manager

Chuck Mays, Construction Coordinator

Judy Inman, Administrative Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and called for a moment of silent prayer. Terry Lane introduced recent Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) appointees Neta Harris and Rev. Glenn Dames. He noted there is a vacant seat to be appointed by the City of Titusville; however the City has no qualified applicants. Mr. Lane reported Dr. Bobay had a meeting in Viera and George Newman called in ill. Chairman Beck welcomed Walt Johnson who was attending for Conrad Eigenmann.

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Neta Harris, to excuse absences of Ron Bobay and George Newman.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris

NAY: None Carried 6-0

II. PERSONAL APPEARANCE DISTRICT I

COMMISSIONER ROBIN FISHER—(Actually heard later in the meeting when Commissioner Fisher arrived from meetings in Viera. See V.B.)

Chairman Beck requested the item under VII.A. New Business be heard at this point. Discussion/action is recorded in the order of the Agenda.

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

Joan Wheeler stated she thinks the rules are to keep more people from being able to talk; this board should start watching out for "our" money and stop giving it away until Marina Park is finished, noting work has not

started there; spoke against people wanting money for special things; and to use Referendum money to start projects that haven't been started.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Jan Alwine, seconded by Barry Gainer, to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris

NAY: None Carried 6-0

V. REFERENDUM & OTHER PROJECTS

A. Reports—Chuck Mays reported as follows:

- Chain of Lakes (COL)—Working on permitting for lake expansion. The entrance at Diary Road design is in progress and will take about five months. The rest room bids open on February 26. There may be a joint project with the Transportation Department for a small trailhead using DOT grant instead of Referendum funds. The Rails-to-Trails museum is in design process.
- Cuyler Park—The pavilion electrical and plumbing is under review by the architect and will be forwarded to site engineer to complete the site plan. The gym flooring has been removed and if there are no moisture problems, the floor should be installed on February 18.
- Fay Lake Wilderness Park—The notice of award will be issued on February 16 and the notice to proceed on March 1.

- Gibson Fields—The permit was sent to SJRWMD and they have 30 days to comment. If no comments, the project can move forward.
- Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park—Replica house bid opening is February 13.
- Marina Park—The permitting process is underway and takes 30 to 60 days. Mr. Lane reported staff has been working at the park to remove fencing, some of which can be relocated to other parks. Lighting is waiting on relocation permits for the osprey nests.
- North Brevard Senior Center—The retention pond plans should be ready for permitting by February 20.
- Parrish Park-Titusville—Waiting for approval from the State to change to stationary docks.
- Pritchard House—Exterior work is in progress. Mr. Lane reported he gave a tour to Commissioner Fisher who was very impressed with this very solid building. Work can be done inside after the exterior is completed.
- Scottsmoor Meeting Hall—The project should be finished shortly. Mr. Lane reported staff met with representatives of the Scottsmoor Community Association to review the draft agreement for lease of the facility to them, for submission to the BoCC in March.
- Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier—The apparent low bidder is Shoreline Foundation at \$2,729,000. Tomorrow is the pre-qualification meeting, that can be followed by the notice of award and contract signing. References have been positive. Mr. Lane noted the bids from 14 contractors had a wide range from \$2.7 million to \$4.6 million.

Public Comment:

Jim Stephenson, a member of the Mims Little League Board of Directors, spoke regarding an extra ball field at Holder Park as was presented a few meetings ago. Opening day is February 28 with about 400 kids and 30 teams sharing four fields, including ten t-ball teams, and eight softball teams sharing a major field that requires removing the Little League mound for softball games. Terry Lane answered Mr. Stephenson's inquiry about parking improvements, explaining the project and that the League wanted the parking stabilized only because of the possibility of additional fields. Mr. Lane noted \$1.4 million was expended at Holder while the original Referendum was \$850,000 and that the League's numbers are growing particularly with the impact of Titusville Little League disbanding. Mr. Stephenson reported IRC Little League didn't have enough softball teams so those teams were rolled into the Mims' program. Mr. Lane noted the explosion of girls' softball through Little Leagues and girls' fast-pitch softball.

In response to an inquiry from Chairman Beck, Mr. Lane stated information on the Max Brewer Bridge catwalks was included in the packet although not on the agenda. The State of Florida awarded the bridge contract, around \$45 million to Lane Construction (no relation). The catwalks were approved with State giving \$500,000 and the County giving \$1 million with just under \$600,000 being Referendum dollars and over \$400,000 from FIND.

B. North Brevard Referendum Projects

Terry Lane reviewed each Referendum project listed in the 2000 North Brevard Referendum Brochure and gave updates from the North Brevard Referendum Project report contained in the advanced packet. Additional comments included:

- Causeway Improvements—To be completed after Max Brewer Bridge completion that is a design/build.
- Chain of Lakes grew from 90 acres to over 300 acres because of partnerships with other agencies.
- Cuyler Park has grown from \$70,000 to \$665,000 including contracted and committed expenses.
- Downtown Urban Parks—The County entered into an agreement with City of Titusville for them to make the improvements to the Julia Street parking lot that was purchased by the City.
- Equestrian Trails & Facilities—Project is on hold pending Rails-to-Trails.
- Gibson Gym & Field—Committed to do practice fields for youth football which staff hopes will be completed by July 2009.
- Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park—The support organization, Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Complex, Inc., secured State money for construction of replica of the home.
- Holder Park—Addressed earlier in the meeting. No additional Referendum funding identified for future improvements.
- Improvements to Existing Parks—Playgrounds installed.
- Marina Park—Changed from home for Titusville Little League which is disbanded to a budget of \$3.2 million to do well more than was originally envisioned. Mr. Lane answered several questions from Dick Gossett regarding Tedder Construction doing the boat ramps, Road and Bridge Department doing the infrastructure, explaining they are an enterprise fund similar to Manatee Hammock and generally perform work for less than if the project is bid, and Parks and Recreation purchasing equipment for remainder of the project. Mr. Lane also explained the lift station at Marina Park will be only the size needed for the park, not for the Mooring Field Upland Facility that may be further out into the future.

Mr. Gossett suggested updating the information from September on Marina Park and providing it to the new members.

Chairman Beck introduced Commissioner Fisher who apologized for being late due to BoCC workshops and executive session. He thanked the board for serving. He reported he asked staff to get rid of all the fancy wish lists and get the Referendum projects finished. He noted the public trust when going out for Referendum and the hope to deliver more than what is stated. He stated overall Parks and Recreation has done a great job. As to Road & Bridge, if for some reason they can't do Marina Park, the project could go out to bid, but historically Road & Bridge is less costly than going to bid, however, he doesn't want them to hold up the project for a long period of time. Commissioner Fisher spoke for naming the entrance to COL Truman Scarborough Way as that was his baby and he is an icon and therefore Commissioner Fisher wants to recognize his 20 years of service in District 1, even though Commissioner Scarborough doesn't want that. Commissioner Fisher asked all present if they had questions of him. There were none.

Terry Lane continued his report.

- Mims Scottsmoor Community Center—Most of the funding remains.
- North Brevard Senior Center—City will bring grant dollars to the project and will repay the County. Mr. Lane and Chuck Mays confirmed for Ms. Harris that the 10' wide asphalt trail will be completely ADA accessible including the boardwalk over the wetlands.
- Parrish Park-Scottsmoor—Mr. Lane encouraged visiting this completed facility.
- Sand Point Park—The Brewer swing bridge mechanism is to be placed at Sand Point Park as a historical monument.
- Sandrift Community Center—The playground is installed and ADA requirements are being completed.
- Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier—The hurricane-damaged pier is to be completely replaced with \$3,400,000 from FEMA. It will be lower to the water to make it more convenient for fishing and shrimping.
- U.S. Space Walk of Fame was contracted to SWOF Foundation for the project and expenses were justified with invoices.
- W.W. James Park—The County owns property south of the park for future development. Mr. Lane answered questions from Ms. Harris stating the property abuts EEL/Enchanted Forest and the County is in contact with a property owner regarding the half of the lake not

owned by the County. There was a land swap with EEL for some high and dry disturbed property for park amenities in exchange for wetlands to EEL.

Dick Gossett readdressed handicapped requirements and ADA for the Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier, noting common sense has to prevail sometime. Mr. Lane reviewed the matter indicating staff's desire to have up to 100% accessibility, but neither the engineer nor the City building official is willing to go against Florida Code. Chairman Beck noted waiting on ADA might delay the project two to three years. Commissioner Fisher noted one of the ADA concerns is the pier is considered a gathering place or assembly of folks.

Commissioner Fisher left the meeting at this point.

Dwight Seigler inquired why \$729,000 is being spent from the Referendum for construction staff, how many staff, what are they being paid, and how will they be paid after the Referendum dollars are spent? He also asked why the softball team from Holder Park can't use COL. Mr. Lane stated he doesn't have all the answers, but the construction staff was brought on board because of the Referendum projects and when the projects are complete and the construction staff is no longer needed, they will not be working. Mr. Lane stated he can send the numbers requested to Mr. Seigler and copy the NBCPR for the next meeting. Mr. Lane also stated concerns with softball are that parents find it difficult to have a child in t-ball and a daughter in girls' fast-pitch softball playing at different locations, and the concession operation is the League's biggest fundraiser which they wouldn't have at COL. Mr. Seigler suggested going to COL or disbanding the League. He also stated he thinks the numbers are being fudged for use of Cuyler softball field in 2008 because the field was under construction. Chairman Beck stated answers will be gotten for Mr. Seigler.

Glenn Dames suggested that in the future when such statements are made, documentation should be submitted to the chair so the matter can be researched.

James Jackson stated he has asked about Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park (Campbell Park) and didn't hear anything said during the Referendum Projects report. Mr. Lane stated he was going to report under staff reports that Mr. Jackson brought up a good point in that staff has since worked with the City of Titusville to resolve the odor at Campbell Community Center where there was a disconnect in the air vent for the main sewer above the ceiling that has been repaired.

Mr. Jackson asked if there will be some money from the Referendum for the park from the \$1 million. Mr. Lane responded it was not in the original Referendum and therefore might be a violation to use Referendum funds at the park. Chairman Beck stated the board will try to identify funds for the park other than Referendum funds. Jan Alwine noted she had heard this question three times and it was answered three times; funding was determined long ago and no request was made for Campbell Park. Mr. Lane stated he will get a legal opinion on the matter. Rev. Dames stated he understands fully the passion this gentleman has for Campbell Park that he and many others also have and asked Mr. Lane to research if Referendum funds can be used. Rev. Dames also asked Mr. Lane to give a report on other funding.

Mr. Lane reported he and Jeff Davis attended the Titusville City Council CDBG hearings and requested over \$90,000 for improvements to Campbell Park including repairing the glass block, replacing vinyl tile with ceramic tile, cabinetry work, and resurfacing the tennis courts. Mr. Lane noted this was a result of Mr. Jackson appearing before the NBCPR and hopefully dollars will be identified. Mr. Jackson stated he hopes some of the \$1 million (Referendum) will be considered. Barry Gainer reported he met with Mr. Jackson at Campbell Park and there are things that need to be done.

C. Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Project—Marr Property—Terry Lane announced that because Ted Beck and Jan Alwine work for the same company as the realtor for the Marr property and therefore have a business relationship conflict, even though they do not have a financial conflict. They can discuss but will not be voting on the Marr property. Therefore, there is not a quorum for a vote.

Rev. Dames left the meeting at this point.

Marsha Cantrell introduced Stephen Johnson, Land Acquisition Specialist, who reviewed the revised appraisal and information on other properties available in the area that was in the advanced packet. The Marr property appraisal is \$1,025,000 based on something that isn't but assumed is (commercial zoning), for the 19.11 acres more or less, with 11.94 acres could be zoned residential at a value of \$400,000 and 7.17 acres that isn't but may be zoned commercial at a value of \$625,000.

Dick Gossett and Jan Alwine pointed out the need for input from the committees based on a motion at the

November 2008 meeting. Terry Lane noted this is the only property that everyone agreed upon—the Mims Community Group, the Scottsmoor Community Association, the East Mims Civic League, the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Committee, and the Equestrian Trails and Facilities Referendum Committee. When asked if the seller is willing to divide the property, Anjelika Teynor indicated the seller may be willing to subdivide the land with frontage on US 1 and the trail and is open to any proposal. Regarding just the residential portion, the broker, Mike Metuzzi, stated the owners are willing to look and listen. He also noted the approval from the various community groups. Barry Gainer suggested having the committees meet. Terry Lane noted the original Referendum indicated 10 acres and he reported both the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center and the Equestrian Trails and Facilities Referendum Committees were invited to the meeting and Lorene Shafer, Chairman of the Mims-Scottsmoor Committee was present. Chairman Beck suggested inviting the committees to the next meeting or have them meet before the next meeting. Lorene Shafer stated she thinks the committee should meet before the advisory board's next meeting. Terry Lane indicated at the direction of the board, a meeting of committees will be called prior to the next advisory board meeting.

Motion by Jan Alwine, seconded by Barry Gainer, to table the Marr Property until the next meeting when there is a quorum.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Harris

NAY: None **Carried 5-0**

VI. OLD BUSINESS—

A. Naming of Entrance Road to Chain of Lakes: Truman Scarborough Way—Terry Lane noted the information in the advanced packet, that there will be pedestrian crossing from the Rails-to-Trails, a much needed entrance with signalization, and “Way” may change due to regulations.

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer, to name the new entrance road to Chain of Lakes: Truman Scarborough Way.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Harris

NAY: None **Carried 5-0**

B. Space Walk of Fame (SWOF)—CRA Funding—Terry Lane announced CRA and City Council met on February 10 and approved funding \$50,000 only if matched by the NBCPR. Councilman Johnson confirmed the commitment explaining if the CRA does not have the entire \$50,000, City Council will provide the balance. He also reported Commissioner Fisher

indicated he thought the BoCC would support the \$50,000. Neta Harris questioned having Referendum money available which Mr. Lane answered after public comment, noting the ability to provide additional funding from the 2006 Referendum for projects listed in 2000.

Public Comment:

Joan Wheeler spoke against giving money to the City, mentioned City financing of projects, and spoke against additional funding from the Referendum until all the promised projects have been finished. Councilman Johnson explained funding for the downtown US 1 corridor and indicated he didn't know what that or City financing has to do with the SWOF request.

Charlie Mars, president of SWOF, stated they are one of the few non-profit organizations dealing with the County that puts money back into parks. He enumerated the amounts on the monuments, discounts received, and noted there have been many inkind services.

Terry Lane confirmed for Chairman Beck that staff can identify funding for the \$50,000 that wouldn't come from the reserve, but rather from unexpended funds from projects such as Improvements to Existing Parks and Gibson Field. The pier replacement is funded by FEMA for reimbursement of expenses only. In response to an inquiry from Jan Alwine about James Jackson's request for Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park, Mr. Lane stated that if the City CDBG doesn't fund improvements to Campbell, staff would have to look to balance forward. Chairman Beck noted the \$110,000 already invested in SWOF and Dick Gossett spoke of the efforts of SWOF and how embarrassing it would be if the Apollo Monument is not completed in time for the first-class ceremony honoring the astronauts in July. Dick Gossett noted that the chair had suggested the 50/50 split with the City. Discussion ensued over funding part or all of the \$50,000.

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Neta Harris, to approve funding \$50,000 to U.S. Space Walk of Fame for completion of the Apollo Monument.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Gainer, Gossett, Harris

NAY: None **Carried 5-0**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Procedure for Public Meeting Guidelines—

(Actually heard near beginning of meeting.) Chairman Beck highlighted the rules, saying all who desire to speak will be allowed to do so, speaker cards must be completed prior to agenda item, speakers will have three minutes and must address the chair. Terry Lane stated the procedure includes items from BoCC and City of

Titusville policies and includes a summary sheet for the public.

Motion by Glenn Dames, seconded by Barry Gainer, to accept the Procedure for Public Meeting Guidelines as printed.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris
NAY: None **Carried 6-0**

VIII. REPORTS

A. Advisory Board Members on Assigned Parks—Mr. Lane suggested waiting on updating park assignments until the City makes an appointment to the vacant seat. There was no objection stated.

B. City of Titusville Report—Grace Galiano had no specific report other than to concur with Walt Johnson's comments regarding SWOF funding.

C. North Area Parks Operations Staff Reports—Mr. Lane reported there are some subcommittee vacancies which might need to be addressed next month, noting the possibility of reducing the size of larger committees that have vacancies. Staff can include the list in next month's packet. Chairman Beck asked for staff's recommendation for any committees that need to be sunset. Mr. Lane noted that typically committees remain until the project is completed. Neta Harris had reservations against sun setting committees prematurely.

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer, to sunset the Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier Committee.

AYE: Alwine, Beck, Gainer, Gossett

NAY: Harris **Carried 4-1**

Jeff Davis, Jr., reported two successful events: Martin Luther King march on January 19 and the first Black History program held at Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park on February 7.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted M. Beck, Chairman

jbi