

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

Members Present

Ted Beck, Chairman
Dr. Ron Bobay, Vice Chairman

Jan Alwine

Glenn Dames

Barry Gainer

Dick Gossett

Neta Harris

Members Absent

George Newman

City of Titusville Elected Officials/Staff Present

Conrad Eigenmann, Council Person Liaison

Grace Galiano, Redevelopment Planner

Brevard County Staff Present

Kathie England, Administrative Aide to Commissioner Fisher

Cheryl Page, Assistant Parks and Recreation Department Director

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

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. and called for a moment of silent prayer. At the inquiry by Dick Gossett, Conrad Eigenmann offered to follow up on having the City advertise the open seat.

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Glenn Dames, to excuse the absence of George Newman.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Neta Harris asked permission to speak and read a statement into the minutes regarding her response to an email from staff that she intended for staff only, but went to all NBCPR members when she inadvertently clicked on "reply to all." A signed copy of her statement is attached to the minutes.

Jan Alwine said she mistakenly replied to the email, not realizing that is not what was asked. She stated she replied with the same passion shown here, apologized, and stated she will be more cognizant of the Sunshine Law. Terry Lane stated he replied to the emails saying they should stop and that the emails will be attached to the minutes so nothing is hidden.

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

Bea Polk asked who the head person is that gives the orders on Marina Park in North Area Parks Operations (NAPO). Terry Lane stated he is the NAPO Manager, he makes decisions on Marina Park that is owned by the City of Titusville, and he works for the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). Bea Polk stated she wants to know when dirt will start being moved around at Marina Park. She stated that if this board won't take action and

tell staff to start working on Marina Park, she will have to start somewhere else. She also stated she wants the Space Walk of Fame (SWOF) books open so she can see where the money from the State, County and City has gone. Chairman Beck assured that action is being taken at Marina Park.

Joan Wheeler took exception to (1) a City Councilman telling the board how to vote, stating one board member votes for what Mr. Johnson wants, (2) at City Council hearing work had started at Marina, when the only work involves removing fences and moving posts for lighting, and (3) stated she wanted to know why the Commissioner wanted a Councilman to come here and promote things.

Billy Reinhold and Brian O'Rourke spoke for building a concrete skate park in Titusville, which they also requested at City Council. The young men mentioned Mrs. Kane in Melbourne who would help promote a skate park. They reported about 100 kids show up monthly at Park Avenue Church when ramps are set up for kids. About 150 kids showed up last month when the mayor was present. Councilman Eigenmann added he can attest to other cities and what it brings, attendance, and how they are run, etc. The young men reported there are skate parks in Melbourne, Rockledge, Cocoa Beach, Merritt Island, and noted the distance they have to travel to skate. When Chairman Beck asked Mr. Lane about Marina Park plans including a skate park, which Mr. Lane described as a concrete slab with street course, the young men stated they had seen the plans and need a street course in a larger area similar to that of the planned dog park area at Marina. Councilman Eigenmann reported Councilman Secor offered to work with these gentlemen and City staff was authorized to seek grants. Mr. Lane suggested the board could

authorize over sizing the slab as much as possible to expand the street course.

Dwight Seigler requested a copy of the summary of community center expenses that Mr. Lane had given to Rev. Dames as a result of a request at a North Branch of NAACP meeting staff was requested to attend. Rev. Dames stated he could come to his office at 9 a.m. in the morning and he would provide a copy. Chairman Beck suggested putting it on the agenda for next month for discussion and that Mr. Seigler could pick up the report at Mr. Lane's office tomorrow.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Jan Alwine, to approve the minutes of February 12, 2009.

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

NAY: None

Carried 7-0

IV. REFERENDUM & OTHER PROJECTS

A. Reports—Terry Lane announced Chuck Mays will be giving the report and that between the two of them, he wanted to be sure all the questions on Marina Park are answered.

- Chain of Lakes (COL)—There will be a change to the lake expansion that is in the design stage and then permitting. Mr. Lane reported grant funding from FDOT will provide a trail head with rest room, 30x50' pavilion with educational kiosk, bike racks and water fountains, without using Referendum funds. Mr. Lane also reported the lake expansion will be on County property, rather than on Brevard Community College (BCC) property, and connect to the lake on Parrish Medical Center (PMC) property. This will take care of a commitment to St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and the historical homes are being moved from BCC to County property just south of Oak Grove Road for storage until restoration funding being sought by the North Brevard Historical Foundation is available. PMC is looking to develop the Main Street PMC Health Village on PMC property in conjunction with that lake. An updated conceptual will be presented when completed.
- Cuyler Park—Work is still being done on the site plan and pavilion. Staff received a community request this week to look into installing gas for the kitchen appliances to assist the community during power outages. Dick Gossett spoke of a motion he made last summer regarding the pavilion and stated he wanted to know (1) who approved the added expense of a kitchen in the pavilion and (2) how much more it will cost. Mr. Lane stated it was at the

request of the community and is not a new recommendation from staff. Mr. Gossett took exception to the plan not coming back to the NBCPR for approval. Mr. Lane stated even before the motion, staff's recommendation was for a pavilion with a kitchen and rest room. Design changes were needed to provide for electrical needs, possibly a new transformer, and now for gas. He noted staff gets criticized for not moving things fast enough and now is being asked to slow down. He stated staff tries to follow the direction of the NBCPR, and the Board of County Commissioners and City take NBCPR's recommendations 99% of the time.

Motion by Jan Alwine, seconded by Barry Gainer, to continue the project at Cuyler Park.

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

NAY: None

Carried 7-0

Mr. Mays also reported the new floor has been installed in Cuyler gym. Mr. Lane said the floor is wonderful and forgiving to knees and ankles.

- Fay Lake Wilderness Park (FLWP)—The contract documents for the contractor are being signed, then a pre-construction meeting can be scheduled and notice to proceed given. Staff is also still waiting on the permit to relocate gopher tortoises.
- Gibson Fields—Approval was received from SJRWMD and now site plans go to the City for approval.
- Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park—Replica house bids were received. Staff is reviewing bid documents for qualifications of the low bidder who is the same contractor as for FLWP. Next is contract document preparation.
- Marina Park—The permitting process continues. Comments were received this week from SJRWMD that require response. Road and Bridge (R&B) is under agreement to do the work once permits are in hand. Hopefully there will not be eggs in the osprey nests when relocation permits are received. Mr. Gossett inquired if any work not requiring a permit can be done. Mr. Mays responded not until permits are in hand. Chairman Beck noted no one is more adamant about starting work at Marina Park and other projects than is Commissioner Fisher. Dr. Bobay asked about the normal permitting process and response time. Mr. Mays indicated permitting normally takes 90-120 days. Thirty days are allowed for each comment and each response cycle. Best case scenario is 90 days. Mr. Lane reported information on the project was given to the new members as requested. He just received a break-

down project sheet from R&B that will be included in next month's packet. The A&E estimate for work at Marina Park was about \$1.4 million and R&B's estimate is about \$1.3 million.

- North Brevard Senior Center—Permitting should be submitted to SJRWMD by next week.
- Parrish Park-Titusville—The contractor that staff was hoping to use backed out this week. Staff contacted another continuing contractor and it will take about a month to get that contractor moving forward. The only permit needed is a maintenance permit from the Army Corps of Engineers and that should coincide with the contractor being ready.
- Pritchard House—Exterior work continues with a good job being done. The grant deadline is in June.
- Scottsmoor Meeting Hall—The substantial completion inspection was done today with only a few items to correct. Community members present are happy with it.
- Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier—As soon as the contract is signed, the notice to proceed can be issued and work can start, hopefully in April. Mr. Lane reported the concessionaire gave 30-days notice of termination on March 5. Staff is reviewing the RFP and will move forward quickly with that.

B. Legal Opinion re North Brevard Referendum Project Funding—Mr. Lane reviewed the legal opinion on changes to Referendum projects indicating the BoCC can delete for legitimate business reasons or add to spending of Referendum dollars for any new projects that fall into the general description projects identified in the brochure.

C. Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Project—Marr Property Negotiations—Mr. Lane reported he sent a memo to the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Committee and the Equestrian Trails Referendum Committee that they were not going to meet because of BoCC action on July 8, 2008, that authorized staff to move forward with negotiations for the Marr property that, when complete, is to come back to the NBCPR for advice to the BoCC. Documentation of BoCC action was included with the memo.

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Jan Alwine, to remove the Marr property from the table and come back after negotiations.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

D. North Brevard Referendum Projects—Mr. Lane reported there were not many changes other than for

COL that was already mentioned. Reserves total \$1,038,111.

Dwight Seigler stated the original \$70,000 Referendum amount for Cuyler was ridiculous and now the pavilion kitchen is being questioned, noting changes for other projects such as COL did not come before the NBCPR. He stated Cuyler doesn't get its fair share of general revenue dollars from Brevard County and asked Mr. Lane for a breakdown of the figures in the community centers report given at the NAACP meeting with copies of purchase orders and bid contracts to match the dollar amounts on the report. Mr. Lane explained the report included expenses other than Referendum dollars at all North Area community centers over the past three years. He noted that since he has been manager, he has systematically included capital and operating dollars for needed improvements to facilities each year. Some improvements at Cuyler include covering wall insulation in gym, redesigning Crandall J. Warren Community Building roof, covering the gym flat roof with membrane. Chairman Beck indicated the Community Center report would be on the next meeting agenda. It was determined the large volume of backup documentation requested by Mr. Seigler would not be included in the board packet. Dr. Bobay expressed the request for public records should be strictly an administrative request unless the information is not provided. Mr. Seigler stated he wanted it in the public record. Mr. Lane noted there are costs associated with public records requests of this size and asked Mr. Seigler to come to the NAPO office, look at what he wants, and pay according to County policy for copies provided.

Joan Wheeler asked if the County has the Referendum money in the bank, noted amount spent on COL, and stated she wonders how much it will cost for the rest of Marina Park. Mr. Lane responded the money is in the bank—the amounts in contracted, committed, plus reserves. COL shows \$12 million between the 2000 and 2006 Referendums plus over \$10 million from sources other than Referendum. As to Marina Park, the contracted amount will take care of R&B and the boat ramps. The over \$500,000 is to purchase the park amenities after R&B is done.

James Jackson thanked Barry Gainer for visiting Campbell Park, stated he is disillusioned about when a recommendation will be made for Referendum funding for Campbell, and asked Mr. Gainer to reflect conditions seen at Campbell. Mr. Jackson stated he has been before this group and the City and there will be another step he will take and heads will be swinging. He urged the board to take steps on that facility.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Vacancies—Mr. Lane reviewed the report submitted by staff, noting there is still one vacancy on the NBCPR and whoever is appointed may want to be a liaison.

Motion by Neta Harris, seconded by Glenn Dames, to downsize the Causeway Improvements Referendum Committee to seven members.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Motion by Dick Gossett, seconded by Barry Gainer, to appoint Jan Alwine as liaison for the Equestrian Facilities & Trails Referendum Committee.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Jan Alwine, to appoint Dick Gossett as liaison, Jan Alwine as alternate liaison, to the Marina Park Referendum Committee, and reduce the size of the committee to five members.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Motion by Jan Alwine, seconded by Glenn Dames, to appoint George Newman as liaison to the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Committee.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

James Jackson spoke out from the audience. Mr. Gossett called for a point of order regarding meeting procedure, to follow procedure or do away with the procedure.

No action was taken on Sand Point Park Referendum Committee at this time because the project is waiting on the high-rise bridge plans.

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Glenn Dames, to appoint Jan Alwine as liaison to the Fay Lake Wilderness Park Committee.

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

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Mr. Gossett introduced discussion about the NBCPR receiving copies of committee meeting minutes. Judy

Inman explained originally the NBCPR received all committee minutes but that became very cumbersome and presently the NBCPR only receives copies of the minutes with the committee's recommendation. Jan Alwine agreed the minutes with recommendation were sufficient. Terry Lane noted that in the past the adopted Referendum committee minutes were posted on the web at www.brevardparks.com. Judy Inman offered to see if those are still available and to post any missing minutes that have been approved by committees. Dr. Bobay stated he would be comfortable with requesting minutes as needed or a summary of recommendations.

Mr. Gossett asked how the board will receive information about the negotiations on the Marr property. Chairman Beck and Mr. Lane indicated staff will report and it will be an agenda item for NBCPR as directed by the BoCC.

In response to an inquiry from Dr. Bobay relative to earlier questions about expenditures of SWOF, Mr. Lane reported they receive the money through an agreement that requires submission of invoices to verify the dollars given to them are spent on that project. Public records requests can be addressed to staff.

Dr. Bobay introduced discussion about the skate park requested by the young men earlier in the meeting, saying he doesn't want to amend the Marina Park plan but is sympathetic. He noted two unanswered questions (1) how much they want, should it go on the "dream sheet" and it sounds like there is some flexibility to be sensitive to where it is laid geographically and (2) who is going to generate the request of what they want and how much will it cost? Mr. Lane noted the plan is conceptual and suggested perhaps the 80x100 slab of the skate park planned for Marina Park could be expanded, funding permitting. Dr. Bobay asked that staff reach out to those they recommended to see about a proposal for when money is available. Mr. Lane reported another young man came by the office two times and gave ideas within the parameters of plan for Marina Park.

Mr. Lane noted the matrix with dream list is gone, but staff still has the list of ideas. The current report is an accounting document as opposed to a visioning tool.

Terry Lane reviewed development of the Referendum when 10 to 12 public meetings were held, ads were purchased in local newspapers, and Campbell Park was on the list with only ball field lights listed. Starling Bryant was on the NBCPR and was an activist for the community. Campbell lights were later funded with over \$82,000 from City CDBG and over \$90,000 from NAPO.

Dr. Bobay reviewed that the Referendum reserve was being held until after projects are substantially completed, and then the board will look at expansions recommended by committees. However, he would like to see if there is some way to do the skate park.

Dr. Bobay also commented if there is an issue or problem with Referendum projects, it was at the time they got into the Referendum brochure. Now that it is the implementation stage, it is difficult to argue the merits of how much should have been in those projects initially. Dr. Bobay stated his response is that the NBCPR has tried to pour additional money into the projects.

Dr. Bobay also commented that there are detailed questions being raised at the podium and if a response is needed the NBCPR should direct staff to do a written response to allow for deliberate research for a thorough answer. Some questions are routine and should go to staff, not the board. Neta Harris concurred with Dr. Bobay and expressed that citizens should not have to wait until the next meeting for a response. Mr. Lane agreed staff will make response to citizens just as expeditiously as possible and place a copy of the response in the agenda packet, as was done for questions raised by Mr. Seigler last month.

Barry Gainer expressed he is sympathetic to the skaters but emphasized the need to finish what has been started, noting the scope of what they are asking for is more of a private enterprise. Rev. Dames spoke for completing approved projects first, and then if any funds are left over, the board can look at wish list projects. He also suggested the young men (skaters) research grants, other funding, and raise money on their own.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Dick Gossett requested the chairman give a chairman's report of the meetings he attends during the month including date, who was present, what was discussed, and the outcome. Chairman Beck agreed to do so.

VII. REPORTS

A. Advisory Board Members on Assigned Parks—Mr. Gainer reported he met with James Jackson at Campbell Park and found the outdoor barbeque at Dummitt to be very shaky. He also observed four gentlemen playing tennis and the young children wanted to play but need tennis racquets and balls. Mr. Gainer suggested the men host a tennis clinic for the children.

B. City of Titusville Report—No report.

C. North Area Parks Operations Staff Reports—Mr. Lane reported the North Brevard Beautification Commission gave the March beautification award to

Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park. He also said he would have staff make sure the barbeque area built by volunteers is safe.

Dwight Seigler wanted to be on record that while the beautification award is good, the inside of Campbell Center needs to be inspected, particularly for mold in the glass blocks.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted M. Beck, Chairman

jbi

Please call (321) 264-5105 for copies of attachments.