

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 14, 2010, in the Brevard Room of the Brevard County Government Complex-North.

Members Present

Ted Beck
Rev. Vernor Clay
Rev. Glenn Dames
Barry Gainer
Dick Gossett
Neta Harris
Ron Swank

Members Absent

Dr. Ron Bobay
George Newman

City of Titusville Elected Officials/Staff Present

Walt Johnson, Council Member, Liaison
Grace Galiano, Redevelopment Planner

Brevard County Staff Present

Terry A. Lane, North Area Parks Operations Manager
Richard L. Tucci, Recreation Superintendent
Jeff Davis, Jr., Recreation Superintendent
Michael J. Rubacky, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
John Dacus, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Michelle Summers, Area Finance Manager
Joan Van Sickle, Construction Manager
Judy Inman, Administrative Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked Rev. Clay to give the invocation.

Terry Lane and Chairman Beck welcomed Ron Swank who was appointed by the City of Titusville. Mr. Lane reported Dr. Bobay is recovering from illness and George Newman is working. Rev. Glenn Dames and Neta Harris were reappointed by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

Motion by Rev. Glenn Dames, seconded by Barry Gainer, to excuse the absences.

AYE: Beck, Clay, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Swank

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

Rev. Dames suggested going on record that all are praying mightily for Dr. Bobay.

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

Joan Wheeler stated she believes the liaison with the City should report to the NBCPR and City what the other is doing and not to influence votes. Ms. Wheeler asked that Ron Swank not be appointed as liaison to the Marina Park Committee and that he abstain from voting on anything about Marina Park as he has demonstrated a bias to extend the City Marina into Marina Park and she has a printed transcript of the same. She also stated Council Member Johnson endorsed turning Marina Park over to a private business. She noted Chairman Beck previously admonished an NBCPR member for speaking without being recognized and she stated what is "good for the goose is good for the gander." She also spoke for not changing anything at Marina Park and noted recent actions regarding funds by Titusville City Council.

Chairman Beck welcomed Walt Johnson from the City.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Neta Harris, seconded by Glenn Dames, to approve the minutes of December 10, 2009, as written.

AYE: Beck, Clay, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Swank

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

IV. REFERENDUM & OTHER PROJECTS

A. Reports—Joan Van Sickle gave the following updates to the printed report:

- Chain of Lakes expansion site plan meeting is with the City on January 21.
- Chain of Lakes entrance road signalization drawings from PBSJ, sub-consultant of BRPH, to be submitted to DOT next week.
- Cuyler Park Picnic Facilities—Staff will be preparing bid documents while waiting for approval of site plan changes.
- Fay Lake Wilderness Park (FLWP)—The playground is almost in.
- Gibson Practice Field is mostly complete. Tree mitigation process is next.
- Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park—Bid documents are ready for advertisement on January 21.
- Marina Park—Road & Bridge is still doing site work and they used more fill onsite from the dog park area that will mean less imported fill and will help keep costs down. Discussion introduced by Dick Gossett ensued over using one floating dock at Marina Park that Terry Lane explained has been in the plan since Tedder quoted the project. It is in a protected area and will provide ADA access, noting the floating docks at Parrish Park-Titusville that were destroyed

due to wave action were replaced with stationary docks.

- Moore Replica Home/Gardens—Ms. Van Sickle reported the stove is installed and home is complete. Staff is meeting with the architect to bring the drawing and elements for the garden/reflecting pool/gazebo to within the budget. Ms. Van Sickle responded to Rev. Dames that she didn't have the exact number difference but Bill Gary will be involved in making decisions.
- North Brevard Senior Center—The issues between the parties are worked out and drawings were submitted to St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). The project will go to bid after SJRWMD permit approval.
- Parrish Park-Titusville—Tech Systems starts roof replacement on January 25.
- Pritchard House bid opening is January 20.
- Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier—There is one more section to be finished up and poured before getting to the platform.

B. Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Project Update—Terry Lane reported direction from the NBCPR to staff was to deal with the Salib property as option 1 and Whitten property as option 2. Dr. Salib was not interested in the appraised value which was the third appraisal the County had done on that property. When Parks and Recreation staff met with Natural Resources staff to walk the Whitten property, they found extensive wetlands in the center portion of the property. There is a 2001 phase 1 assessment on the Whitten property, but it is too old to use per Natural Resources. County staff and Commissioner Fisher don't want to spend more money assessing the property. If the seller is interested in doing and paying for the assessments, talks can continue. Mr. Lane asked if the NBCPR would like staff to call the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Committee back together to look at additional properties. He noted Anjelika Teynor has a listing for about 11 acres on US 1; staff has been contacted by the Thompsons who have property north of Aurantia they are interested in selling; and there may be other properties that have come on the market.

Bob Kellar of Caldwell Banker Commercial, representing the Whittens, indicated they are interested in selling and asked if anything was found in the 2001 phase 1 assessment that would eliminate the property. Discussion ensued on the amount of the wetlands which is unknown definitively without flagging. Joan Van Sickle noted the wetlands are in the middle of the property which would make it difficult to develop. Mr.

Kellar reported he believes the Whittens are willing to flag the wetlands and noted no chemicals were found in 2001. Mr. Lane noted Natural Resources staff's statement that it is in the best interest of the County to further investigate to determine the downstream deposits from the rail ditch on the west side of the property. It was noted that could affect phase 1. Dick Gossett noted the property is below the grade of US 1 and that could impact the property. Chairman Beck noted the property borders the rail trail. Neta Harris spoke, on behalf of the citizens, for moving on to other properties inasmuch as the wetlands won't get any better and she agrees not to spend additional money on the property. She noted when the committee picked the two properties, not enough was known about the Whitten property.

Motion by Neta Harris, seconded by Barry Gainer, to move on from the Whitten property, take a look at other properties that might be available, have the Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center Referendum Committee meet and bring recommendations back. AYE: Clay, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Swank NAY: Beck Carried 6-1

The following discussion occurred prior to the vote on the motion: Rev. Clay expressed concern about the wetlands, and spoke for moving on. Ron Swank noted the amount of wetlands and asked if this is the ideal location for the community center. Terry Lane gave a brief history that started with the Salib property in 2001, joining with the Mims-Scottsmoor Library fell through, donation of property adjacent to Parrish Park-Scottsmoor fell through, then the property search for 10 acres was between SR 46 to just north of Aurantia Road, preferably centralized near Lionel Road. Appraisals were also done on the Marr property but the family didn't accept the appraised value. Mr. Swank noted the Whitten property is within the window, as are the two new properties. Neta Harris noted abutting the rail trail shouldn't be a determining factor. In response to an inquiry from Dick Gossett, Judy Inman indicated the committee was not notified of this meeting. Chairman Beck spoke for allowing the seller to flag the wetlands and show proof the railroad isn't a problem before completely throwing it out as long as County money isn't being spent. Rev. Dames called for the question.

Following the vote, Chairman Beck recognized Arnie Benson, vice president of the Scottsmoor Community Association who was present and said he was willing to answer questions.

In response to an inquiry from Barry Gainer about the property at the intersection of Glenn Road and US 1,

Angelika Teynor, realtor with Prudential, indicated it is between 10 and 11+ acres, centrally located a little north of the Marr property, on the east side of US 1 and across from Glenn Road that gives easy access to the trail. It is high, dry, zoned commercial, priced at \$599,000 and the owners are very motivated. In response to an inquiry from Terry Lane, Ms. Teynor indicated there is a phase 1 assessment and she will provide a copy to Mr. Lane for the committee meeting.

Mr. Lane reported the Thompson property is about 35+ acres, about 1.5 miles north of Aurantia on the west side of US 1. It will be presented to the committee.

C. North Area Referendum Projects Report—Mr. Lane indicated the report has been cleaned up to show improvement to existing parks and Sandrift now at zero. The only other changes are payments to contractors for ongoing work. Mr. Lane confirmed for Mr. Gossett that the expenditures for Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center are for appraisals. Neta Harris asked that the NBCPR be notified of the committee meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS—None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers—Chairman Beck passed the gavel to Terry Lane for election of chairman. Neta Harris nominated Dick Gossett as chair. Barry Gainer nominated Ted Beck as chair, noting his wealth of experience and spoke for keeping him on.

Dick Gossett was elected chairman as follows:

For Dick Gossett: Clay, Dames, Gossett, Harris 4

For Ted Beck: Beck, Gainer, Swank 3

Terry Lane congratulated Dick Gossett who, before taking the gavel, commended Ted Beck for his 28 or so years of service. Walt Johnson thanked Mr. Beck on behalf of the City of Titusville. Rev. Dames indicated to Mr. Beck it has been a pleasure working with him and thanked him for his welcome knowledge.

Ted Beck was elected vice chair at the nomination by Barry Gainer.

AYE: Beck, Clay, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Swank

NAY: None Carried 7-0

B. Schedule for November Meeting that Falls on Veterans' Day Holiday

Motion by Barry Gainer, seconded by Ron Swank, to meet on November 4, 2010, due to Veterans' Day Holiday on the regular meeting date.

AYE: Beck, Clay, Dames, Gainer, Gossett, Harris, Swank

NAY: None Carried 7-0

VII. REPORTS

A. Miscellaneous Reports & Updates—FYI—Terry Lane reported a draft of a dress code for centers will be presented at next month's meeting, and once approved by the NBCPR, it will then need to go on to other advisory boards.

The Equestrian Trails & Facilities Referendum Committee vacancy was postponed to next month's agenda due to only one application and that being received today.

In 2007, by motion the NBCPR directed staff to work with the quarter midjets for a track at Space Coast Communities Sports Complex. An agreement with Space Coast QMA Inc. will go to the BoCC in February.

Staff is working on getting information required of all recreation partners from East Mims Civic League, Inc., so staff can move forward with an agreement. In response to an inquiry from Chairman Gossett about the deadline, Mr. Lane reported that the agreement expired December 31, 2009, so each time they use any part of Cuyler Park, they must complete an application for use permit and pay the appropriate non-profit fee. Once they have a recreation partner agreement, they will pay direct cost only, which would be for staff outside of normal working hours.

Mr. Lane reported the need for naming interior roads within Fay Lake Wilderness Park (FLWP) as part of phase 2 construction. Commissioner Fisher had no particular name to suggest therefore the naming could be done by NBCPR, it could go back to the FLWP Committee, or names could be brought to the NBCPR. Mr. Lane stated staff would prefer not to hold up the construction project. Ron Swank noted the possibility of a name failing due to similar names. Rev. Dames spoke for putting out feelers. Rev. Clay spoke for inviting the citizenry to be involved in the process. Neta Harris strongly suggested making a special invitation to the FLWP Committee and the public. Mr. Lane indicated a press release will also be sent to schools, the FLWP

Committee, community centers to send written suggestions to the NAPO office.

B. Advisory Board Members

Rev. Dames highlighted the Martin Luther King celebration on January 18 that will begin with a parade starting at 10 a.m. at Harrison and Barna, proceed down DeLeon, and end with activities at Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park, about which the community is excited. He thanked Parks and Recreation for their diligence in preparation for the event.

Rev. Clay reported he visited Cuyler Park and received a copy of requests for refurbishing. As to budgeting, he noted the disproportionate spending and asked to look at the disparity and to justify where one park has \$60 million and another has \$3 million. Terry Lane invited Rev. Clay to come to his office for information to answer his questions. Rev. Clay noted the need to plan for one park as for all and to do what we say we are going to do and operate above board and in the Sunshine. Mr. Lane extended the invitation to the entire board.

Rev. Dames noted in some cases parks receive outside funds from other organizations such as Parrish Medical Center and others giving funds for Chain of Lakes. He also stated he would also like to meet with Mr. Lane.

Rev. Dames addressed security concerns at Walter Butler Community Center and asked to look into an alarm system. Mr. Lane reported that because of the break in at Butler that had about \$20,000 in damages and equipment stolen that has not been recovered, and the North Area office where stolen equipment was recovered, John Dacus received quotes for monitored security systems and cameras for all the centers. Staff is reviewing the elements of the low quote. He noted there isn't money to do this, but can't afford not to do it, to which Rev. Dames agreed.

Chairman Gossett requested staff provide the advisory board members with contact information for the supervisors at the various parks. Terry Lane suggested reviewing the park assignments next month to include the new advisory board member. Neta Harris requested the current park assignment list which staff will send out now and include in the packet.

C. City of Titusville—Walt Johnson asked if parks qualify for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding. Mr. Lane replied that Jeff Davis will be making a presentation to City Council on Tuesday for additional playground equipment at Isaac Campbell, Sr.

Park. Rev. Clay noted that Cuyler Park was built with CDBG funds.

D. North Area Parks Operations Staff—Mr. Lane reported Mr. Davis will be requesting just over \$60,000 for additional playground equipment at Campbell Park, noting CDBG projects must be within target areas. Campbell Park is in the South Street Target Area and was built and improved with CDBG funds. Cuyler and one third of Bernice G. Jackson/Walter Butler Community Center projects were funded by CDBG. Mr. Swank noted funding is very competitive. Terry Lane reported that Terrie Franklin with the City is staff's direct contact to make application for City CDBG projects, including the interior improvements to Campbell being made this year.

Mr. Lane informed the board that Howard Tipton, county manager, gave a report to the BoCC of a vision of what could happen in the future regarding funding and the challenges ahead. Opinions of many are that there will be two more years of continued decline in revenues. In response to an inquiry from Chairman Gossett, Mr. Lane said that about \$350,000 from last year's balance forward was used to save 10 positions this year and it is hoped to use balance forward to save positions next year. He noted balance forward is money moved forward for unfinished projects and the balance forward from September 2009 won't be known until spring 2010.

Chairman Gossett requested an item be added to the agenda for Chairman's report. He agreed it was fine to put it under reports.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Gossett, Chairman

jbi