

**EQUESTRIAN TRAILS & FACILITIES & MIMS-SCOTTSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTER
REFERENDUM COMMITTEES**

**Appointed by the North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation (NBCPR)
Minutes of the Joint Meeting held February 16, 2004, 6:00 p.m., at the Mims/Scottsmoor Library**

Equestrian Trails & Facilities Members Present:

Connie Carswell, Sabrina Jeffers, Dan Matrazzo,
Donna McCone, Kay Miller, Mary Page, Winnie Woods

Members Absent: Cindy Carlton, Jennifer Hill

Mims-Scottsmoor Community Members Present:

Lee Bird, Don Katrik, Lorene Shafer, Carol Thompson

Members Absent: Katherine Bonnici, Shelly Kipp, George Nolan

NBCPR Liaison Present: Gigi Henkel

County Staff Present:

Charles S. Nelson, Parks & Recreation Director

Cheryl K. Page, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

Terry A. Lane, North Area Parks Operations (NAPO) Interim Manager

Judy Inman, NAPO Administrative Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Cheryl K. Page called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. Page asked for new members and those not present at the last meeting to introduce themselves.

- Connie Carswell, an equestrian, would like a really nice, safe place to ride.
- Carol Thompson, is an equestrian but is interested in the other project as well. She is a competitive distance rider, 25 to 100 miles in a day, and can bring in expertise of equestrian trail riding organizations. (Actually introduced just before approval of minutes.)

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mrs. Page opened the floor for nominations for chairman by the combined group.

Lorene Shafer declined a nomination as chairman by Lee Bird

Donna McCone was elected as chairman at the nomination by Mary Page, seconded by Kay Miller.

AYE: Bird, Carswell, Jeffers, Katrik, Matrazzo, McCone, Miller, Page, Shafer, Woods

NAY: None

10-0

Mrs. Page handed the gavel to Donna McCone.

Connie Carswell declined nomination as vice chairman.

Mary Page was elected as vice chairman at the nomination by Lee Bird, seconded by Kay Miller.

AYE: Bird, Carswell, Jeffers, Katrik, Matrazzo, McCone, Miller, Page, Shafer, Woods

NAY: None

10-0

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 28, 2004, were approved at the motion by Lorene Shafer, seconded by Dan Matrazzo.

AYE: Bird, Carswell, Jeffers, Katrick, Matrazzo, McCone, Miller, Page, Shafer, Thompson, Woods

NAY: None

11-0

V. STAFF REPORTS—None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nelson gave a recap of the last meeting where there was discussion of combining the two committees and pooling resources to begin to develop a project which combines the two projects and the possibility of additional things such as a library. With the right site and right conditions, a library would be advantageous, and could also open it up to other recreational uses that may be identified.

Mr. Nelson stated the need to identify uses and how much land would be required, then begin to discuss where in the community it would be advantageous. The trails element is an opportunity for combination of equestrian for access to the Maytown trail. Before the next meeting, then staff will look for properties to meet the criteria.

Mr. Nelson reported Commissioner Scarborough had a conflict in his schedule and sent his regrets he was not able to attend, but feels very comfortable this group knows the direction they want to go. He will attend anytime the committee wants him to.

Elements

- Sabrina Jeffers reported she talked to members of the community and found a lot of people would like to have some kind of an arena for public use, clinics, and practice.
- Access to Mims-Maytown trail (Nelson).
- Show stalls like at Silver Sands for people coming from out of town for horse shows—permanent stalls without permanent boarders (Jeffers). Mr. Nelson recommended not having boarders in a public setting.
- Paddocks (Thompson).
- Community center as large meeting facility for community events (McCone). In response to an inquiry from Carol Thompson, Mr. Nelson reported 18,000 square foot centers are being built in other areas. Community center was defined as meeting rooms, basketball court (gym), kitchen, emergency shelter (Bird).
- Overnight camping for horse shows/RV hookups (Thompson). Mr. Nelson inquired if electricity off parking area or full-blown camping was desired. Donna McCone noted the potential for large shows, and hearings where international judges evaluate horses which will benefit the identity of Mims-Scottsmoor. Mr. Nelson noted the need to be careful not to compete with campgrounds. Hookups would be for equestrians only, and only electricity and water. Gigi Henkel suggested one in the show area, and a separate area for overnight trail rides.
- Showers (Carswell).
- Trail head for parking trailers for access to trail at distances along the trail. Mr. Nelson noted being careful not to impact residential streets.
- Area for library (McCone).
- Outdoor athletics for softball and soccer with the community center element (Nelson).

- Special events open space for auto shows, antique shows, community flea market (Bird).
- Junior/senior regulation baseball field (M Page).
- Bath house–restroom/showers (Thompson).
- Playgrounds (Nelson). Ample parking with adequate turning radius for horse trailers (Bird).
- 40x60 picnic pavilion with grills, tables, benches (Nelson).
- Restrooms.
- Concessions for arena and athletic fields. The problem of recruiting volunteers was noted. Donna McCone suggested portable concessions could be contracted to save construction costs. Mary Page stated there shouldn't be a problem getting people to volunteer for a concession.
- Non-potable water for horses at trail head access points (Thompson).

Following are comments made during the compiling of the above list:

Don Katrick asked if other equestrian trails have arenas. Donna McCone responded, there are not a lot in Florida, but they are quite prevalent in other areas of the country.

Donna McCone suggested looking at property such as Silver Sands which was originally purchased by the County and now is owned by members. The area is not cluttered, but a disadvantage is that it is not near a trail head. Connie Carswell noted that at Silver Sands restrooms and meeting rooms are in a building attached to the arena.

Sizing

- Library, 5+ acres–Mr. Nelson believes library sites need a minimum of 5 acres. Lorene Shafer noted the library in Titusville is on 5 acres.
- Community center–minimum 10 acres.
- Athletic fields–10 acres.
- Arena and parking–20 acres.
- Mr. Nelson noted facilities can be shared by scheduling. Donna McCone noted the benefit of cross using for events which increases attendance for each.

Mr. Nelson suggested starting out at 60 acres would be reasonably comfortable. Staff will look for properties from 50 up to 80 acres.

Target Area

Lee Bird inquired if the target area is between S.R. 46 to the Volusia County line, to which Mr. Nelson agreed.

Mr. Nelson diagramed on a map that the trail runs NW on the west side of U.S.1 and crosses under I-95 at Aurantia. Access off of I-95 is limited due to interchanges. Access off U.S. 1 would be preferable. It was agreed the best location would probably be in the middle area between S.R. 46 and Volusia County line, with access from U.S. 1, between U.S. 1 and I-95, with Johns Road on the north and McCullough on the south. That would be about the north edge of Mims and south edge of Scottsmoor, with Aurantia in about the center.

In response to inquiries from Donna McCone and Gigi Henkel, Mr. Nelson stated he is not aware of any County-owned land or St. Johns land along the Maytown Trail. Connie Carswell cautioned of flooding of St. Johns land.

In response to an inquiry from Don Katrick, Mr. Nelson reported the County is moving ahead with acquisition of the trail, noting there were problems with the Miami Corp holdings.

In response to an inquiry from Lee Bird, Mr. Nelson stated the trail can be accessed in the target area from any public road. Staff will define access, will check on any other public ownership, and will look for tracts within 50-80 acreage. Based on that, the committee can give direction to contact owners. Mr. Nelson noted some landowners may come forward.

Donna McCone summarized that staff reports next meeting will include parcels currently owned or that could be combined to be large enough for the project.

When Sabrina Jeffers inquired of the time frame, Mr. Nelson stated the sooner the better. The controlling factor is the bond is for 20 years, with about 18 years left.

Sabrina Jeffers stated she would like to find out what grant money maybe available.

VII. PUBLIC INPUT–None

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to meet on March 15, at 6 p.m. Terry Lane will reserve the Mims-Scottsmoor Library.

Lorene Shafer suggested a larger map be available for meetings. At Sabrina Jeffers' inquiry, it was determined the maps used were from June 2002.

In response to an inquiry from Blaise Mancini, Mr. Nelson indicated pieces of property to be considered should be submitted to staff and it will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m. at the motion by Connie Carswell, seconded by Lee Bird.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McCone, Chairman jbi

**Elements & Estimated Acreage for Equestrian Facilities & Trails &
Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center**

Element	Estimated Acreage
Equestrian Facilities & Trails	
Arena with restrooms/concession/horse stalls	20+
Access to Maytown Trail	
Stalls for use during horse shows	
Paddock	
Bath House—restrooms/showers	
R.V. Hookups—electricity/water	
Trailer Parking	
Trail Heads with non-potable water for horses	
Mims-Scottsmoor Community Center/EMS Shelter	
Meeting Rooms, Gym, Kitchen	10+
Athletic Fields	10+
Softball, Soccer, Jr./Sr. Baseball, Concession	
Library—Include in Master Plan for future	
	5+
Shared Areas	
Pavilion—40x60 with grills, tables, benches	
Special Events—Open Space	
Playgrounds with swings	
Restrooms	
Target 60 acres	50-80

Following is as listed during meeting

Arena w/restrooms/concession/horse stalls	20+ acres
Access to Maytown Trail	
Show stalls—temporary	
Paddock	
Community Center/EMS Shelter	10+ acres
Meeting rooms, Gym, Kitchen	
Athletic Fields	10+ acres
Softball, Soccer	
R.V. hookups—electrical/water	
Trail Head	
Library	5+ acres
Special Events—Open Space	
Jr/Sr baseball—field—concession	
Bath house (restrooms-shower)	
Playgrounds w/ swings	
Trailer parking	
Pavilion—40x60—grills, tables, benches	
Restrooms	
Non-potable water (well)	
Target 60 acres (50-80)	