

GIBSON GYMNASIUM & FIELD REFERENDUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Gibson Gymnasium & Field Referendum Committee, appointed by the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation, held Tuesday, November 13, 2001, in the Brevard Room at the Brevard County Government Complex North in Titusville, Florida.

Committee Members Present

Greg Anson, North Brevard Bears Football President
R.N. Ball, Jr., Titusville High Cross Country Coach
Herb Flack, North Brevard Bears Football
Alan Loud, Titusville PAL President
Roger Strenth, North Brevard Bears Football
Larry Van Zandt, Titusville PAL
Starling E. Bryant, Jr., Ex-Officio, NBCPR
Mel Williams, Ex-Officio, City of Titusville

Committee Member Absent

Michael L. Bowen, Titusville PAL

A&E Present

Brian M. Stahl, P.E., Baskerville-Donovan, Inc.

Staff Present

Cheryl K. Page, North Area Parks Operations Manager
Chuck Mays, Construction Coordinator

Judy Inman, Administrative Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alan Loud called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Cheryl Page introduced R.N. Ball, Jr., a new committee member, not yet approved by the North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation (NBCPR). The committee requested at last meeting that he be included. Mrs. Page briefly reviewed the Sunshine Law.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 30, 2001, meeting were approved at the motion by Greg Anson, seconded by Herb Flack.

AYE: Anson, Ball, Flack, Loud, Strenth, Van Zandt

NAY: None

Carried: 6-0

III. STAFF REPORTS—None.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Loud reported PAL has met with the contractor for improvements to the gymnasium, but haven't signed as yet. The contractor is coming back with figures. Chairman Loud reported PAL sent the agreement with the County back with changes, but they haven't heard back from the County. Mrs. Page will check on the status of the agreement. Chairman Loud reported PAL has checked with bank regarding a separate account for the project.

Chuck Mays presented the concept prepared by Brian Stahl based on comments at the last meeting. The entrance is on the east side down to parking lot with drive in middle to parking lot on west with exit to the north to Sycamore street on east side.

The football fields are full size. Both fields are lighted, with bleachers and concession stand in the middle. It is a one-story concession stand with small scoring area on top to save expense of an elevator. Roger Strenth commented that Port St. John's is two-story. Mr. Mays responded that new codes required an elevator. Mrs. Page noted PSJ was one of the last ones to receive an exemption. Mr. Mays indicated there can be more storage area on first level and a building on a pad remains for storage. The cross country trail is along east and south perimeter. The soccer field remains in the present location. Mrs. Page reported Dr. Bobay suggested talking to the School Board about

removing trees when the plans are further along. Practice fields/overflow parking are on east and west sides of football fields.

Mr. Mays reported Chuck Nelson has a few suggestions for changes. He would like to see parking on just one side, extend east lot to south, eliminate west lot and extend practice, entrance remain where it presently is—west entrance to boys and girls club. The reasoning is that runoff and discharge raises concern about another entrance from Sycamore.

Greg Anson stated the problem of people crossing to other areas and causing damage. Mr. Mays indicated the fence can be relocated. Mrs. Page also expressed concern from Boys and Girls, ARC, Child Care regarding parking and traffic. Starling Bryant inquired if Mr. Nelson received some complaints from people in the neighborhood. Mrs. Page responded it probably just dates back to longstanding issues.

Herb Flack indicated he would like two parking lots, one for each field. Brian Stahl indicated that is the easiest way to do it. It is possible to do the scenario presented by Mr. Nelson. Chairman Loud determined the consensus was the plan presented by the A&E is liked with modifications. Mr. Stahl indicated it is his job to make it work. Mrs. Page suggested keeping in mind if a significant number of trees removed, the School Board must approve. Roger Strenth introduced discussion regarding the fence. He ran three motorcycles off the practice fields last Saturday. Fences are needed to keep such activities off the field. Also other people play there, but some come in for a free-for-all.

Mr. Strenth stated the entrance for gate on east side was already discussed. Chairman Loud suggested simplifying it and looking at A&E drawing. Mr. Stahl indicated the west Sycamore exit will be as close as possible to the complex.

Coach Ball stated that when the plan is finished, he will see if he can find a three-mile course in the park. The more fence, the more difficult it is. A gate would help since it is used only two or three times a year. He would like to have a Terrier Invitation and 5-K at end of summer for all comers to have former runners and others from town. He would like to use the area in the middle of the football field, in front of the bleachers for finish and start. A double gate is fine. Berms are no problem. He indicated it looks great, and doesn't think he will have any problem. As to the surface, paved is not desired; chips or natural grass is perfect. Coach Ball indicated he is very impressed with the beautiful layout, and he will be able to put a course in which hopefully will give spectators a great chance to see the events which is difficult in cross country.

It was noted the path has been grass and Mrs. Page stated it has been up to school to mark and establish the path. Part of the course in the SW corner is not part of the developed park, but could be added as part of the project as a walking path or nature trail depending on the budget. Mr. Anson noted parents use the path now. Coach Ball suggested that with the path, groups of people would coming in. Mrs. Page reported the Chain of Lakes Committee has made considerations for Astronaut High cross country. Starling Bryant stated that the way things are going now, if Coach Ball is satisfied, it is fine. Coach Ball expressed it is unbelievable a town could have two quality cross country courses.

Chairman Loud inquired if the committee wanted to consider cross country paths as they exist or get figures in and find what funding is available.

Motion by Greg Anson, seconded by Roger Strenth, to get figures for football and associated improvements, then see what is leftover for paths.

AYE: Anson, Ball, Flack, Loud, Strenth, Van Zandt

NAY: None

Carried: 6-0

Coach Ball stated all he needs is the grass, he will mark and paint course for the runs.

Mr. Anson inquired if the bottom storage could be made larger. Mr. Mays said maybe it is 1½ time bigger than now; it will be the same for all parks. Roger noted the need for storage area and meeting space. Mr. Mays indicated the second level will be like a cupola on top to seat four comfortably, glassed on two sides.

The football group specified their requirements as follows:

- Fencing around fields.
- Concession/storage/meeting building 1½ times larger than building at SCCSC, with rest rooms on lower level

and press box on top.

- Pedestrian gate to front parking area from east side road.
- Pedestrian gate south of complex to E-W connector road north of football fields.

Motion by Roger Strenth, seconded by Greg Anson, to approve the plan with the changes as noted above.

AYE: Anson, Ball, Flack, Loud, Strenth, Van Zandt

NAY: None

Carried: 6-0

The next meeting was tentatively set for January 8 at 6 p.m. to look at design drawing and cost estimates. Mel Williams stated he will be out of town at a training seminar.

Starling Bryant expressed appreciation for the group agreeing so quickly.

VI. PUBLIC INPUT–None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. at the motion by Roger Strenth, seconded by Greg Anson.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Loud, Chairman

jbi

