



## **SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION South Area Advisory Board**

### **Regular Meeting October 19, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, South Area Advisory Board, was conducted on Monday, October 19, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 1515 Sarno Road, Building B-2, Melbourne, Florida.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jerry Jagrowski, Chairman  
J. Keith Farquharson, Vice Chairman  
Richard Contreras  
Mary Goelz  
Ted Whitlock

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ben Clark  
Damian Wilson  
Frank Bevack

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Greg Minor, South Area Operations Manager  
Fred Poppe, Recreation Superintendent  
David Moore, Maintenance Superintendent  
Jerry Gust, Maintenance Superintendent  
Gustavo Vergara, Recreation Superintendent  
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

#### **PUBLIC**

Scott and Linda Smith  
Hazel Farquharson

#### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Jagrowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mrs. Cook called the roll and the board members and county staff introduced themselves.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Jagrowski called for review of the meeting minutes and for approval. Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the Special Meeting minutes from September 21, 2009, Mr. Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mr. Contreras made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2009 Regular Meeting, Mr. Farquharson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Minor stated that we are now in a new fiscal budget year and that it would be a tough budget year. South Area Parks has sustained cuts in the O&M section that will reflect in a downturn in maintenance of our facilities. All our capital monies were spent; we still have referendum monies, on the referendum construction side of the house they are getting ready to bring the buildings out of the ground at Rodes Park, Phase II. Christenson's Landing dredging will start on Thursday, ramps and most of the docks are in, the remainder of upland work, such as parking lot, restroom, landscape and irrigation, electrical, bid opened 10 days ago, at \$877,000.00, \$300,000.00 under what we expected, sign of the times for construction costs, now is the time to build.

Mr. Minor stated we were fortunate to get our recreation positions posted and filled and we have some good recreation programs up and coming. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Disabilities Golf Tournament was very successful, Harvest Splendor Event was held last weekend with 119 children attending, we held a ribbon cutting ceremony at South Beach Community Center, and the Senior Center @ Wickham Park has experienced tremendous growth in membership. Part of our budget cuts is that we are reducing the hours of operation at community centers and the pool by 10 hours per week. Mr. Jagrowski asked if we anticipated any further personnel cuts, Mr. Minor stated that currently we are not anticipating any cuts at this time. Mr. Minor stated that staff is working on programs to increase our revenue.

Mr. Whitlock asked if we anticipated having any referendum dollars left over after the current projects are completed, Mr. Minor responded that he anticipated 15 to 20 million and it would be up to the Board of County Commissioners to decide how to utilize the funds, Commissioner Anderson and Commissioner Bolin have already started game plans on how to spend their monies. Commissioner Nelson (D-2) will be the first test of the waters with spending remaining referendum monies (5.2 million) with a proposal to build an 1800 sq. ft community center at Mitchell Ellington Park.

Mr. Minor stated that the majority of the remaining referendum projects to be completed are in the south area, Canova Park, Valkaria Community Park, Christenson's Landing, and the Brevard Zoo Trail. Mr. Jagrowski said he had heard rumors of redesign of the zoo trail due to flooding concerns, Mr. Minor stated that we would do modifications to the permit as needed, the project had been visional at ground level, but it was now realized that the boardwalks would still impact the wetland areas. Mr. Whitlock asked if we could use remaining

Approved, February 15, 2010

referendum funds to reduce the bond, Mr. Minor said it would not be financially prudent to do that, as there would be heavy penalties for prepayment.

Mr. Farquharson asked if we needed to send a special invitation to the Commissioners to attend the meetings. Mr. Minor stated no, that the Commissioners were noticed of the meetings and that all public meetings were published.

Mr. Whitlock asked if the new fee schedule had been accepted, Mr. Minor replied yes and stated that Mr. Lusk wanted the fees implemented by September 15, 2009. Mr. Gust said that we have new trades building that will be completed within 30 days, and we will be using that building for the 1<sup>st</sup> time as a central housing situation for the storekeeper, enabling him to purchase and store items in bulk. Mr. Poppe said that our goals are to make everything safe and usable, but that high levels of service will suffer. Mr. Vergara said that we had purchased with referendum monies a new inflatable movie screen and projector and that it would be used to sell sponsorships and to present movie events in the parks. Discussion ensued concerning the planned use and scheduling of the new movie screen. Mr. Vergara said that all the coordinators were very budget conscious and looking for ways to boost revenue and defray costs.

Mr. Moore said that we had replaced two playgrounds at Howard E. Futch and Flutie Park, the playgrounds failed miserably due to the salt environment. The playgrounds were replaced with a new product using recycled plastic; they consisted of 97% plastic lumber and marine grade stainless steel. Mr. Moore stated that we have implemented the control link system on lighting this year, it is a much better system and would save money. Mr. Jagrowski asked if we had installed some kind of mesh in the river at POW-MIA, and if the POW-MIA Pavilion (name) at Wickham would be transitioned to POW-MIA Park. Mr. Minor said that we planned to do a POW-MIA Memorial at Wickham, to hopefully be completed some time next year and anticipated that building could begin at the first of the year.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Moore stated that we have a verbal approval from the St. Johns River Water Management District for the mitigation of the Brevard Zoo Linear Trail Project and the first payment in the amount of \$9,600.00 will be forwarded to the District.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gust stated that at the last Rodes Park committee meeting, the committee had voted on and approved the name of Champion Way, 9-1-1 has approved the naming, and the members requested SAAB approval of the name. Mrs. Goelz made a **MOTION** to accept the street name Champion Way, Mr. Whitlock **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mr. Minor advised the SAAB members that the official ribbon-cutting and grand opening had been held for the South Beach Community Center and that typically the committee would be sunsetted as the referendum projects were finished. Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to sunset the South Beach Community Park Committee, Mr. Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Approved, February 15, 2010

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Scott Smith introduced himself and said that he was representing the Florida State Soccer League; he stated that they needed a central location to play, they would require 3 or 4 fields, they were looking to acquire fields for Sundays, and he stated that the Viera complex would be an ideal location for his group. Mr. Smith stated that it was hard for his group to obtain fields; they were typically bumped by youth groups. Mr. Gust requested Mr. Smith to get a written proposal together for Mr. Troy Cox and Mr. Gustavo Vergara to review his request.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Discussion ensued concerning the upcoming City of Palm Bay 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Mr. Whitlock is serving on the Palm Bay Recreation Advisory Board and the RAB is requesting input or suggestions with this task. It would be a year-long celebration with several events planned throughout the next year. If you have any ideas that you would like to see the city do for this celebration, please put them in writing to the Palm Bay Parks and Recreation Department, 1150 DeGroot Rd., Palm Bay, FL 32909. For more information email us at [palmbayturns50@pbfl.org](mailto:palmbayturns50@pbfl.org) or call (321) 953-8961. The RAB is also forming various event committees and would like Palm Bay citizens to participate on those committees. The next 50th Anniversary meeting will be on December 8, 7:00 PM, at the Palm Bay Community Center, 1502 Port Malabar Blvd. The public is invited to attend.

Seeing no further business, Mrs. Goelz made a **MOTION** to adjourn, Mr. Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p. m.