



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

### **Regular Meeting February 15, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, South Area Advisory Board, was conducted on Monday, February 15, 2010, 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  
Damian Wilson  
Ted Whitlock  
John Kendrick

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mary Goelz  
Richard Contreras  
Jack Smink

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Greg Minor, South Area Operations Manager  
Fred Poppe, Recreation Superintendent  
David Moore, Maintenance Superintendent  
Jerry Gust, Maintenance Superintendent  
Gustavo Vergara, Recreation Superintendent  
Troy Cox, Recreation Program Coordinator  
Lori Helton, Aide to Commissioner Infantini (D3)  
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

#### **PUBLIC**

Cassandra Mueller, Viera Soccer Club  
Shannon Walter, Viera Soccer Club  
Jeff Carr, BCC  
Perry Walter, Space Coast Rudderbusters  
John Riley, Babe Ruth Baseball  
Bruce Riley, Babe Ruth Baseball  
Dave Hover, Babe Ruth Baseball  
Heather McDonough, Space Coast United Soccer

Approved April 19, 2010

Scott Stengel, Space Coast United Soccer  
Robert Dinnie, Space Coast United Soccer  
Darcy Otranto, Space Coast United Soccer  
Kevin Neighbor, Space Coast United Soccer  
Marcos Obermaier, Space Coast United Soccer  
Bill Heiselman, Space Coast United Soccer  
John Duguid, Space Coast United Soccer

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Jagrowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The board members, county staff, and members of the public introduced themselves around the room, it was noted that we had a quorum.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Jagrowski called for review of the meeting minutes and for a motion to approve. Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2009, meeting. Mr. Damian Wilson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Minor stated that Mr. Lusk has retired and his vacancy is posted. Mr. Tipton anticipates filling the vacancy by May or June. Mr. Minor stated we are in the midst of working on our budgets, he noted the decline in property values in the area, and that cuts are anticipated in the 3 million dollar range. Mr. Minor stated that last year we were able to cut supplies, but that this year we would lose open positions, have position cuts, and position downgrades. Mr. Minor said that we have cut our community center hours and that the maintenance side of the house has really seen the impact of the cuts. Mr. Minor stated that we are looking at having the recreation partners take up slack at the facilities.

Mr. Wilson asked what was the status of the fee increases from last year. Mr. Minor said that they are in place, but that we have not looked at additional fee increases for this year. Mr. Wilson stated that for the record he was against fee increases of any kind.

Mr. Farquharson asked what would be the extent of the staff cuts. Mr. Minor stated that we have already reached the saturation point and now we would have to look at closing of facilities. Mr. Farquharson asked if any referendum monies were available, Mr. Minor stated that referendum monies could only be spent on referendum projects and staff for those projects.

Mr. Wilson inquired what our total budget was. Mr. Minor responded that the south area budget, including the two campgrounds, was approximately 19.6 million.

Mr. Gust stated that we are working on Rodes Park, with Phase 1 and 2 being completed and Phase 3 going out for bid and completed in 2011. Mr. Gust stated that we are working on several other projects, such as the South County Boat Ramp. Mr. Wilson stated that he did not

Approved April 19, 2010

like the cuts and felt they impacted the function of the department and added to the unemployment rolls.

Mr. Cox stated that he currently has 18 recreation partners in the process of renewal with 4 groups slated to present their request to the SAAB tonight for consideration as a recreation partner. Mr. Cox stated that he is the liaison between the groups and would resolve any conflicts that occurred. Mr. Jagrowski inquired what on the status of the addition of football at Viera, Mr. Cox said there was no conflict between the groups as they had different seasons and field use times and that both groups were helping by rotating their goals and keeping up the fields.

Mr. Vergara gave an overview of the Movies in the Park events and stated that they have hosted two successful events to date, but they are struggling with the cold weather. Mr. Vergara also announced that Futsal is now coming to the South Beach Community Center; it is a type of indoor soccer. Mr. Minor added that we have received over \$7,000.00 in monies for the Movies in the Park events.

Mr. Minor stated that Canova Park has been awarded a notice to proceed. Mr. Kendrick asked in anyone is staying in touch with FDOT concerning the lane changes at the boat ramp. Mr. Minor stated yes, and that we have the FDOT permit in hand and the notice to proceed will be awarded on March 23. Mr. Kendrick stated that the county is doing an excellent job on the project.

Mr. Wilson asked how much money was brought in by India Fest. Mr. Minor said that we only receive monies for the facility rentals and staff manpower that is charged at \$30 per hour. Mr. Wilson said that they raised at least \$250 thousand and that amount was matched by a donor.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

BCC Ladies Soccer (Mr. Jeff Carr) was the first group requesting to be recreation partners. Mr. Carr presented his request to the board members and outlined his plan to give back to the department with a press box, scoreboards, benches or other amenities. The group plays by NCAA rules. Discussion ensued concerning the group, Mr. Jagrowski asked what fields they would be using, and Mr. Carr responded that they would like to use Viera. Mr. Gust asked if they were established through Title 9 and Mr. Carr responded that they are. Mr. Cox said that Space Coast has done an excellent job with scheduling, sharing the fields and cooperation. Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to accept BCC Ladies Soccer as a recreation partner, Damian Wilson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Brevard County Babe Ruth Baseball was the next group to address the board. Mr. Riley represented the group and he stated they are still waiting on the 501c3 approval. Discussion ensued concerning the group, they are a grassroots organization that caters to the 4-18 age

Approved April 19, 2010

groups, they are non-profit, and any child that is not able to pay the fees is still accepted. They want to bring tournaments to Brevard County and they have removed the politics element from the baseball group and they do not have geographical boundaries concerning where the kids can play ball. Kids that cannot make the school teams or Little League can still play baseball in the county. Cal Ripken has partnered with them and every coach must take an 8 hour course. AAU has met with them and pledged their support to the group and want them to bring the tournaments to Brevard County. They would like to use any fields that are available to them, PBRP, Cocoa, or Mitch Ellington, not just in the south area. Mr. Ted Whitlock made a **MOTION** to accept Brevard County Babe Ruth Baseball as a recreation partner, Mr. Damian Wilson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The next group to address the board was Viera Soccer Club; Mrs. Shannon Walter represented the group to the board members. They are a family oriented, community based, and recreational club for children 3 to 16 years of age, boys and girls. Their season is 10 weeks and the cost per child is \$65 with a multiple child discount. Their play is internal; they do not have any competition play. They have a P1 and P2 programs, with P1 just one hour of play and an introduction to the game of soccer. They want to use/utilize Viera Regional Park for their play; they want a full-size field for their use. They stated they currently have 230 children signed up and are utilizing the Suntree-Spyglass fields for their training but these fields are becoming too small for their club. The Viera Soccer Club stated they can offer volunteer help, have the children plant and mulch flower beds. Discussion ensued between the group, the board members and then Space Coast United Soccer Club members asked to provide a rebuttal to the board.

Bill Heiselman addressed the board members as the President of Space Coast United Soccer Club which was formed in September 1984. The club began at various grass patches to practice, later moving to Wickham Park and after tremendous growth they moved to their current location at Viera Regional Park. The club secured a \$95,000.00 multiple year loan for lights, bathrooms, and concession area that is still in place today and available to be used by any club at Wickham Park. Commissioner Sue Carlson approached the club to pass the referendum for construction of soccer fields at Viera; they attended meetings and provided volunteer hours to support the referendum. On August 5, 2006 Space Coast United Soccer Club held a ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening of the new facility at Viera Regional Park. They have provided additional goals and many other items and equipment to the park to improve the facilities and pay for the lights; they have spent \$25,000.00 at Viera since their occupancy. They employ 4 full-time professional soccer coaches plus other part-time coaches. They have free after school soccer programs to participating schools. As a recreational partner they have shared the fields with many other organizations, and numerous other non-compete clubs.

Discussion ensued with the board members and the two groups. The two groups have not discussed the issue between themselves prior to Viera Soccer Club presenting their request to the board members. The Viera Soccer Club made allegations that they were not being given the right to play at a public park and that Space Coast United Soccer was forcing them out as the bad guy in this scenario. Mr. Whitlock asked the club why they did not join the existing club but choose to start their own. They stated that Udo and Sylvia had a dream to come to

America and start their own soccer club and that they wished to stand alone. Mr. Jagrowski stated that we are not arguing this point, but why are we duplicating groups when we have an excellent program already in place. Mr. Farquharson inquired if we had enough space for the two groups, Mr. Cox responded that the Viera Soccer Club is looking to use the fields/facilities at times when it is already in use by Space Coast United; Mr. Cox stated that we are at a saturation point in the area at the facilities. Mr. Cox stated that when the multi-purpose fields were constructed they possibly would be able to accommodate the group. Mr. Wilson inquired about the fees charged by the groups; they responded that it was a tiered program. Mr. Whitlock advised the group to contact all the local schools and churches to find a new place to play, and he offered his full support to the club in obtaining a location to play.

Mr. Jagrowski asked for any **MOTION**, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to table the issue until the next meeting in April, and have the club come back and advise of their success in finding a new location to play, Mr. Farquharson **SECONDED, MOTION APPROVED 4-1**, Mr. Wilson dissented from the vote.

The next group to address the board was Space Coast Rudderbusters. Mr. Walter addressed the members and discussed the radio controlled (RC) boats. They have been around for 20 years in the county, they race all over the country, and they have historically had to request a one-day permit to use the facility, then they had a one year permit to use the Sarno Lakes site, and then he was advised to apply as a recreation partner with the county. They normally average 200 boats at an event, there are 8 clubs in the State of Florida and they have a circuit of races within the state. They have to obtain the 501C3 status and are waiting on insurance to complete the process of recreation partner.

Mr. Jagrowski asked for any **MOTION**, Mr. Wilson made a **MOTION** to approve, Mr. Kendrick **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Whitlock advised that the Vietnam Veterans Reunion will come to Wickham Park in April; the Wall will be escorted into the park and on display for the length of the Reunion. The public is invited to attend.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business, Mr. Whitlock a **MOTION** to adjourn, Mr. Farquharson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p. m. The next meeting date is scheduled for April 19, 2010.