



SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION South Area Advisory Board

Regular Meeting
February 18, 2008

A Regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, South Area Advisory Board, was conducted on Wednesday, February 18, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 1515 Sarno Road, Building B-2, Melbourne, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben Clark
J. Keith Farquharson
Jerry Jagrowski
Ted Whitlock
Guillermo Capote, Sr.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mary Ann Bowman
Mary Goelz

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Whitehead, South Area Parks Operations Manager
David Moore, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Fred Poppe, Recreation Superintendent
Jerry Gust, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Rich Cohen,
Gustavo Vergara, Special Projects Coordinator

PUBLIC

Susan Yonce

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jagrowski called the meeting to order at 7:09p.m. Mr. Vergara called the roll, and Mr. Jagrowski noted that a quorum was present and that the meeting would be conducted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with copies of the minutes from the November 8, 2007, meeting. After review, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the November 8, 2007, minutes, Mr. Clark asked for corrections on typos on pages 3 and 4, and Mr. Whitlock amended the **MOTION** to approve the minutes as corrected, Mr. Farquharson seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Jeff Whitehead

Mr. Whitehead stated that on Saturday, March 29th at 11:00 a.m. Brevard County Parks & Recreation would be hosting a Ground Breaking Ceremony for Rodes Park, and that on Friday, April 4th at 10:00 a.m. Brevard County Parks & Recreation would be hosting a ground Breaking Ceremony for the Senior Center at Wickham Park, and that the ceremony would take place at the Wickham Park Main Pavilion. Mr. Jagrowski asked if that ground breaking would include the POW / MIA memorial, and Mr. Whitehead stated that it would not include the memorial. Mr. Whitehead stated that Parks & Recreation was looking for names for the interior loop roads for Palm Bay Regional Park, Rodes Park and Wickham Park. He stated that there was a contest in place to name the roads at Palm Bay, and a future contest was to be held for Rodes Park. Mr. Whitehead formally apologized to Mr. Capote for confusion regarding the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Cricket building at Palm Bay Regional Park. He stated that in no way shape or form did he mean to leave Mr. Capote out, and that the certificates given out were for the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee members, not the South Area Advisory Board Members, and that Mr. Whitlock received a certificate because he was part of the Palm Bay board. He apologized again to Mr. Capote for the confusion and stated that there were no political issues behind Mr. Capote not receiving a certificate at the ceremony. He followed that South Area Parks & Recreation would be hosting the south east regional baseball tournaments for the senior youth division at Viera Regional Park. He stated that this was a huge tournament which was previously held in Tampa, and that the league paid 25,000 to bring this tournament to Viera. He stated that the tournament would be televised by ESPN, and that the tournament would be held in July. Mr. Whitehead stated that on April 12, there would be a big women's Soccer event, and that Florida State University would be coming down to play the University of South Florida or the University of Central Florida. Mr. Whitehead then moved on to the hiring freeze, and stated that the County had release hiring at the campgrounds and golf courses, but all other positions had been frozen as well as capital equipment purchases. Mr. Whitehead stated that during the budget workshops the boards support would be critical in regards to defending Parks & Recreation's operations budget, and that last year during these workshops only two people showed up to defend Parks & Recreation, and he was afraid that if that was the case this year, Parks & Recreation's budget would be decimated. Discussion ensued regarding the budget and amendment one's repercussions on the Parks & Recreation department. Mr. Clarke asked for an estimate amount of all programs that have kids involved and the amount spent and that way he could offset the amount spent per child. Mr. Capote asked what the difference was between last year's budget and this

year's budget, and Mr. Gust responded that there was a 10% difference. Mr. Whitehead then stated that April 26th was Get Active Brevard Day at Viera Regional Park, and that it was an event being held in order to educate children and their families on how to eat healthy, and that concession stands would not be serving hotdogs, burgers or sodas. Mr. Whitehead stated that Apples, Bananas, Water, and many other healthy foods would be served on that day. He also stated that the traveling skate park would be on site, as well as the portable stage, and that dance performances would take place on it.

Fred Poppe

Mr. Poppe stated that last month, the Department of Forestry performed prescribed burns at Wickham Park, and that these burns were part of an overall maintenance plan for the park which was needed in order to maintain healthy vegetation and reduce fire risk at the park. Mr. Poppe stated that many efforts were made in informing the public about what was happening at Wickham. He stated that an event called Operation Stand Down was going to take place at Viera Regional Community Center in March, and that it was an event where the Veterans Administration helped out homeless veterans with many things like health examinations, legal issues and counseling. He stated that he had also been in discussions with the Viera Ride Shop about the second annual Big Rigg'in' skateboarding event which would be held in June. Mr. Whitlock asked the date for the Veteran's Stand Down, and Mr. Poppe responded March 15.

David Moore

Mr. Moore stated that Little League tournaments were starting at most of the parks he manages, and that his crews were working hard on that. He stated that he had the opportunity to meet with the residents of the Lake Sheppard area, and that these residents overwhelmingly supported the county replacing the existing boat ramp which was in very bad shape, and that he had started the process surveying and acquiring quotes for this project. He stated that he had the opportunity to help District 4 with their ground breaking for the Pineda Causeway extension. He then stated that at Juan Ponce de Leon Park, on January 7, marble facing had been installed on the pedestal for the future statute of Juan Ponce de Leon.

Gustavo Vergara

Mr. Vergara read off a referendum project update (attached).

Jerry Gust

Mr. Gust stated that for the road naming contest at Palm Bay Regional Park Mr. Vergara had delivered flyers to the schools on the west side of Palm Bay and that the Parks & Recreation was waiting to see what entries the school would provide. He stated that Palm Bay Regional Park would be hosting a state cup soccer tournament in April. He stated that this tournament had the elite youth players in the state. He followed by stating that the superintendents had trained most of their staff on a storm water pollution program called good housekeeping training, and that this program focused on how to be better stewards of the environment and how to clean up responsively after anything spilled.

Rich Cohen

Mr. Cohen stated that he had been tasked with going to each park and viewing it from a facilities stand point and looking for things that needed fixing or repair to any facility.

Mr. Whitehead stated that before the budget is presented to the Board of County Commissioners, he would make sure that the advisory board had a chance to give their input on it.

Mr. Clark asked about the building that Mr. Singleton was willing to donate to Parks & Recreation and Mr. Whitehead responded that the building would be placed at Wickham Park, and that Mr. Singleton had made all arrangements and paid for everything but impact fees in order to have it at the park. Mr. Whitehead stated that the building could serve many purposes once it's in place.

Mr. Whitlock stated that on April 20 the Moving Vietnam Wall would be at Wickham Park, and that the opening ceremony for the veteran's event at Wickham would be on the night of April 21 at 7:00 p.m. and the event would go through April 27. Discussion ensued regarding this event.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Jagrowski explained some of the history behind how the Brevard Zoo Referendum Committee and the Suntree Viera Parks Referendum Committee were created. He stated that the Suntree Viera Advisory Board had merged with the referendum committees, but the referendum committee's role was complete, and that the advisory board would be taking over the responsibility of overseeing these areas. He then entertained a motion to sunset the Brevard Zoo Linear Trail Referendum Committee and the Suntree / Viera POW / MIA Referendum Committee as well as the Flutie Athletic Complex Referendum Committee/ Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to sunset all three Referendum Committees, Mr. Farquharson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Mr. Jagrowski moved to the next item on the agenda which was choosing representatives for the Palm Bay Advisory Board and the Wickham Advisory Board, Mr. Farquharson volunteered for the Palm Bay Committee, and Mr. Whitlock volunteered for the Wickham Park Advisory Committee. Mr. Jagrowski then entertained a motion to assign the members to those particular jobs; Mr. Clark made a **MOTION** to assign the Mr. Whitlock to the Wickham Park Advisory Board, and Mr. Farquharson to the Palm Bay Advisory Board, Mr. Capote **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mr. Clark asked if there would be a police presence at the Brevard Zoo Linear Trail, and Mr. Whitehead responded that discussions had taken place already regarding security at the trail, and that many other parks like Maritime Hammock Park where the public was welcome had no security, but involving the sheriff's department was always a good thing

for the parks. Mr. Jagrowski added that there were only three access points into the trail, and that the park would only be open dawn to dusk.

PUBLIC INPUT

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Mr. Jagrowski called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Capote made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Clark **SECONDED**. Mr. Jagrowski adjourned the meeting of the South Area Advisory Board at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting date would be April 21st and that the time and location would be determined.