



## **SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee**

### **REGULAR MEETING January 25, 2007**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee, was conducted on Thursday, January 25, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the South Area Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 1515 Sarno Road, Building B-2, Melbourne, Florida.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Keiron Jackman  
Clifford Barber  
James Gaines  
Jerry Sandy  
Ted Whitlock  
Dudley Anderson

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bruce Wecshler  
Kate Hehn, Designee for Steve Riser  
Barry Morin

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jeff Whitehead, South Area Parks Operations Manager  
Jerry Gust, South Area Maintenance Superintendent  
Bill Porzio, Project Coordinator for Palm Bay Regional Park  
Rick Schuh, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park  
Alicia Webb, South Area Administrative Secretary  
Bernice Smith, South Area Office Assistant

#### **PUBLIC**

Lawrence McCalla  
Mary Redmond, District 5 Commission Office  
Gary Dilts  
Wendi Kunkel

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

Mr. Whitlock called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. Ms. Webb called the roll, and Mr. Whitlock noted at 7:28 p.m. that a quorum was present and that the meeting would be conducted.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the March 23, 2006, meeting. After review, Mr. Gaines made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, and Mr. Jackman seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Jeff Whitehead

Mr. Whitehead reported that Phase 1 was almost complete. Bidding is scheduled to begin in March and a contract is scheduled for June of this year. Mr. Whitehead also noted that the county will be purchasing a Recreation tracker so the public can check live time for rentals.

Mr. Whitehead responded to Mr. Whitlock's letter of concern regarding a school being built next to Palm Bay Regional Park, using the park entrance as a school entrance. Mr. Whitehead noted that there were some big concerns, not only for the Advisory members but also for Parks and Recreation. Mr. Gaines made a **MOTION** not to allow the high school to use its entry through the park, Mr. Jackman seconded. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Gaines responded that it would be a huge safety issue to allow the entrance of the school to run through the park. Mr. Anderson stated concerns regarding the construction time and size of the new high school. Mr. Whitehead noted that the construction time for the schools would be rushed since the schools in the area were reaching maximum capacity. Motion: Not to allow the school to use entry through Palm Bay Regional Park, **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Rick Schuh

Mr. Schuh noted that two new playgrounds had been installed, there have been repairs made to 2 of the irrigation lines and the soccer fields had been topped dressed and over seeded. Vandalism had occurred at the park. Some rollup doors were damaged at the baseball complex and there is evidence of vehicles doing doughnuts in the back of the park. The entire park has been re-keyed to the Best Locking System. Mr. Schuh also noted that three new employees have been brought on board, there is a total of 9 staff at Palm Bay Regional. A city contractor had installed a walk bridge on the east side of the park. Hand dryers have been installed in restrooms throughout the park. A 10x10 building had been installed for Dog Park patrons' registration. Mr. Schuh stated that some brush had been cleared in parts of the park for better visibility, new wood backstops had been installed on Cricket Multi-Purpose field, Park Rules and directional signs had been installed and the Spring Challenge Soccer Tournament was a huge success.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Whitehead noted that the audit had been completed and should be on its way to the Parks office. Mr. Schuh stated that the front entrance gate had been moved and that there was a sign posted to keep the public out of the area while construction was in progress.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

A member of the public voiced some concern about a football team starting up at the park. The public wanted to know if a concession stand could be built around the soccer field. Mr. Whitehead replied that it was imperative to focus on the issues that need to be maintained or built and that Parks and Recreation has enjoyed a great relationship with Palm Bay Soccer.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business, Mr. Whitlock called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jackman made a **MOTION** to adjourn, and Mr. Gaines seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Whitlock adjourned the meeting of the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee at 9:03 p.m.