



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

### **REGULAR MEETING February 28, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee, was conducted on Thursday, February 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Palm Bay Community Center, 1502 Port Malabar Boulevard NE, in Palm Bay.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Clifford Barber, Jr.  
Dave McGovern, Designee for Steve Riser  
Ted Whitlock  
Dudley Anderson

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

James Gaines  
Keiron Jackman  
Barry Morin

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jerry Gust, Parks Maintenance Superintendent  
Rick Schuh, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park  
Patrick Clarke, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park  
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Special Projects Coordinator

#### **PUBLIC**

Lawrence McCalla  
Roy Dinham

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

Mr. Whitlock called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Mr. Vergara called the roll, and Mr. Whitlock noted at 7:17 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 January 24, 2008, meeting. After review, Mr. Anderson made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, and Mr. Barber **SECONDED. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Rick Schuh read his accomplishments and events report (attached). He stated that a new fuel tank had been installed at the park for county vehicles, and that a Frisbee tournament was held at the park. He stated that he had received complaints that people using the dog park didn't have proper dog tags on their dogs, and that he and his crew had stepped up enforcement of the dog parks rules whenever possible.

Mr. Bill Porzio explained the progress of construction to the committee. He stated that about 5 courses of block were already in place at the community center, which meant that the walls were at about 25ft high. He stated that all of the rough plumbing was in place, and that the sub base for the parking lot was in place. He summarized the report on the community center by stating that the building was anywhere from 25% to 30% complete. He then stated that the P8 (Cricket) Building was 45% to 50% Complete and that it was moving along nicely.

Gustavo Vergara explained that he had visited all the schools on the west side of Palm Bay and that only one person submitted an entry. Mr. Gust explained that each school principal was in charge of what kind of literature was given out at their schools, and that Parks & Recreation had met some resistance to distributing literature inside schools. Mr. Vergara stated that the ground breaking ceremony for Rodes Park would be held on March 29, at 10:00 a.m. at the existing Rodes Park. He stated that there would be a ground breaking ceremony for the Senior Center at Wickham Park on April 4, at 11:00 a.m.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Gust stated that he looked at a recycling program at the park, and that after investigation, he found out that waste management would be willing to give Parks & Recreation the containers for recycling, but that Parks & Recreation staff would have to sift through the containers to separate the recyclable products from the non recyclable, and that this would be a big burden on the park staff. He also stated that waste management would charge Parks & Recreation every time they picked up any of the containers, and with the current budget environment, he didn't feel that he had the funds or the man power to take this venture on. Mr. Whitlock asked what was done county wide with regards to recycling, and Mr. Gust responded that different county offices handle their own recycling needs, but that there was no county wide standard recycling policy. Mr. Barber asked if people serving community service could take up this extra responsibility, and Mr. Gust responded that people serving community service hours work with us at certain facilities, but because of the nature of Palm Bay Regional Park, community service people were not allowed at the park. Mr. Gust added that at Wickham Park and many of our beach side parks, community service was very well used.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gust introduced Mr. Jeremy Lord to the committee and stated that Mr. Lord represented a disc golf group who wanted to build a small disc golf course at the park. Mr. Lord stated that he would like to build a small disk golf course at the North West corner of the park, and that he and his group would incur all costs associated with the building and maintenance of this course. Mr. Gust added that the course would start at 9 holes in order to see how the park was impacted, and that if the course was received positively, he would then allow Mr. Lord to build 9 more holes in order to make it a full golf course. Mr. Gust added that there would be no impact on any native vegetation, and that most of the underbrush that needed to be removed would be Brazilian Pepper trees. He added that Mr. Lord and his group are trying to establish themselves as a 501C group and that possibly after that Mr. Lord and his group could become a Rec. Partner. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Lord's plans for the disc golf course. Mr. Whitlock asked if there was a national governing body over disc golf, and Mr. Lord replied that there was. Mr. Gust added that there was a group that ran the course at Wickham Park called Discallibur, and that they didn't have a 501C. Mr. Whitlock stated that by joining the organization would be covered under a big umbrella if he was part of the national organization. Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to allow Mr. Lord to build the disc golf course at Palm Bay Regional Park, Mr. Barber **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mr. Gust Introduced Ms. Stillman with the Bayside Bears youth football league. Ms. Stillman stated that the Bayside Bears had been recognized as an official football team by the Brevard County Youth Sports Organization, and that she had submitted paperwork in order to be incorporated, and that she would be receiving a 501C status in the very near future. She stated that registration was held at the park and that they had a great turnout. She stated that her organization had 7 football teams and each team would have a corresponding cheerleading squad. She stated that they would end up having about 350 children this season. She stated that there were some fields in the park that weren't sufficiently graded for soccer, but that they would work great for football, and that she was going to meet with the head of the soccer youth league in order to arrange a suitable schedule for football and soccer to work together. She also stated that storage was a concern, and that during the meeting with the soccer people she would bring up the issue. She also wanted to arrange some kind of a concession, and that the topic would be discussed in the future with Mr. Whitehead and the different user groups at the park. She stated that her first practice would be July 7<sup>th</sup>, and that the games would take place at Bayside High School. Discussion ensued regarding the leagues and the future of the Bayside Bears. Mr. Anderson asked if Mr. Gust thought that in the future a new concession stand was needed, and Mr. Gust responded that as of right now there were no plans, but that a football facility has been discussed for the future, but there were currently no plans or funds for a football concession stand. Mr. Schuh stated that there were four concession stands at the park right now that may be able to be utilized by the football organization. Ms. Stillman asked if they could build a storage building in the future, and Mr. Gust stated that if the correct permits were acquired Ms. Stillman would have to come back before the advisory board and that it could be a possibility. Mr.

Whitlock added that he had been on the advisory board for seventeen years and that he was glad to finally have youth football at Palm Bay.

Mr. Vergara read off some names from the only entry received for the road naming contest, and after discussion Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to table the matter until the meeting in March, Mr. Barber **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. McCalla stated that the rate of progress at the Cricket Pavilion seemed to indicate that the building would be ready to use by April, and Mr. Porzio responded that the building was 50% complete and that the detail work was next on the schedule. Mr. Porzio added that the sewer system had to be functional in order to acquire a certificate of occupancy. Mr. Porzio added that the June / July time frame would be more appropriate.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Whitlock stated that the next meeting date would be March 27, at the Palm Bay Community Center. Seeing no further business, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to adjourn, and Mr. Barber **SECONDED. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Mr. Whitlock adjourned the meeting of the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee at 8:22 p.m.