



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

REGULAR MEETING August 28, 2008

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ted Whitlock, Chairman
Joe Fazecas, Designee for Steve Riser
James Gaines
Keiron Jackman
Keith Farquharson
Barry Morin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Clifford Barber, Jr.
Dudley Anderson

STAFF PRESENT

Greg Minor, South Area Parks Operations Manager
Rick Schuh, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Recreation Program Coordinator
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC

See sign in sheet.

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whitlock called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Mrs. Cook called the roll, and Mr. Whitlock noted that a quorum was present. Mr. Whitlock stated that quorum was extremely important and that members should confirm quorum and if members do not confirm, they should be removed from committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the July 24, 2008, meeting. After review, Mr. Fazecas made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, Mr. Whitlock **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Greg Minor provided committee members with a pictorial update which informed the members of the latest construction at the park. Mr. Rick Schuh read his monthly accomplishments and events report. It was stated that there is a hiring freeze, but a ranger at Palm Bay Regional Park was critical to the operations and Mr. Schuh had drafted a letter requesting a ranger at PBRP and that the position would be posted within the next 10 days.

Mr. Greg Minor introduced all his staff. Mr. Ted Whitlock asked about lightning problems at PBRP and if it was a problem just at the park or countywide. Mr. Minor responded that it was a countywide problem and that the north area as well as Viera had lightning at their parks. Mr. Schuh stated there was some vandalism on a bridge at the entrance of the park. Mr. Whitlock asked who owned the bridge and Mr. Schuh responded that he had reported it to the City of Palm Bay and they stated that they felt it was Brevard County property. Mr. Minor stated he would obtain ownership information for the committee. Discussion ensued regarding lightning at the park. Mr. Minor added that the whole parks department had fared well through Tropical Storm Fay. Mr. James Gaines asked if Brevard County Parks and Recreation was ready for the possibility of another hurricane. Mr. Minor stated that Brevard County Parks and Recreation had a very detailed and comprehensive hurricane plan; Mr. Scott Wallace is our department liaison with Brevard County EOC, and explained that the next day after the storm event on Wednesday, he was touring the parks looking for any damage.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Minor stated that the names for the road and community center would be handled at the next Special South Area Advisory Board Meeting. Mr. Whitlock asked about budgets and the ability to staff the community center. Mr. Minor responded that for the next couple of years, the south area had reserve monies and that he would be using that money to staff the new community center. Mr. Minor stated that if the economic downturn continues there could be problems in the next few years.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Whitlock asked about the condition of the playing fields. Mr. Schuh responded that the fields were in good shape.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Wayne Savage, President, Brevard Caribbean American Sports and Cultural Association, Inc., commended staff for their great job at the park, he also wanted to commend the Board and especially Mr. Whitlock for all their hard work with the advisory board. Mr. Savage added that he greatly appreciated Mr. Whitlock's leadership with the board. Mr. Savage then presented the committee with a letter (attached) and Mrs. Bernadette Joseph read it aloud for the committee.

Mrs. Ella Austin, one of the directors of BCASCA also thanked Mr. Whitlock for his service to the board.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Whitlock stated that the next meeting date would be September 25, 2008 at the Palm Bay Community Center. Seeing no further business, Mr. Whitlock called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gaines made a **MOTION** to adjourn, Mr. Jackman **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Whitlock adjourned the meeting of the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee at 7:36 p.m.