



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

REGULAR MEETING November 20, 2008

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee, was conducted on Thursday, November 20, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Palm Bay Community Center, 1502 Port Malabar Boulevard NE, in Palm Bay.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ted Whitlock, Chairman
Dudley Anderson
Keiron Jackman
Clifford Barber, Jr.
Keith Farquharson
Barry Morin

MEMBERS ABSENT

James Gaines
Steve Riser

STAFF PRESENT

Jerry Gust, South Area Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Rick Schuh, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Special Projects Coordinator
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC

Wayne Savage, BCASCA
Lawrence McCalla, BCASCA
Maria S, BCASCA

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whitlock called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mrs. Cook called the roll with six members present. Mr. Whitlock confirmed that quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the October 23, 2008, meeting. Mr. Jackman made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, Mr. Farquharson **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Schuh read his events and accomplishments report for November 2008 to the committee. Mr. Gust stated that the final walkthrough for the Ted Whitlock Community Center will be on December 14, 2008 and that he was not 100% sure that he would get a certificate of occupancy (CO) from the City of Palm Bay, and that phone lines and kitchen equipment would have to be installed before receiving a final CO for the building. Mr. Gust added that the County Manager had released the job requisitions for staffing the new community center which would include a coordinator, three recreation leaders, and two or three recreation aides and that the positions would hopefully be posted by Monday. Mr. Gust stated that the hiring process usually took about six to eight weeks. Mr. Gust added that the positions would be advertised internally first and if no qualified staff were found, the jobs would be then be posted externally.

Mr. Gust stated that the gaming equipment for the game room would be furnished once the center was open, depending on what the needs for the community were, but that all the chairs, tables, computers, etc, were currently being purchased. Mr. Gust said that possibly they would use a survey method to determine the requirements of the community, but they did plan to install TV's and possibly some Wii consoles for gaming. Mr. Gust added that all equipment was being ordered in bulk in order to try to achieve volume discounts on all items.

Mr. Whitlock asked if anyone has been laid off because of budget cuts. Mr. Gust responded that about 25 positions have been cut and that 23 of them were vacant positions. Discussion ensued concerning upcoming layoffs and budget cuts and the new on-line employment application system (EASY) now in use by Brevard County.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Gust inquired if all the committee members were aware that all street names and facility names have been approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Whitlock added that the new fee schedule had been approved and discussion ensued about the fee schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gust stated that a groundbreaking ceremony was scheduled for December 7, 2008 for the new Honorable Judge Alli B. Majeed Cricket Pavilion. Mr. Gust added that BCASCA and Judge Majeed were collaborating to make the dedication ceremony a special celebration. Mr. Gust said that Parks staff were currently in the process of having the signs made for the facility. Mr. Anderson stated that Commissioner Nelson should receive an invitation to the event. Mr. Anderson stated that Mr. Nelson was more responsible than anyone else for

bringing the site to fruition and that he had been involved with the process since 1990. Discussion ensued regarding the dedication event.

Mr. Whitlock asked how the dog park was doing. Mr. Schuh responded that no issues were noted with the dog park. Mr. Gust added that someone from the public sector had offered to buy rye seed to overseed the dog park for the winter. Mr. Gust added that unfortunately there was no irrigation system in the dog park which means that the grass is not guaranteed to grow. Mr. Gust stated that county staff would disperse the seed.

Mr. Gust stated that Palm Bay Youth Soccer Club has requested to run their own soccer tournament in February to raise funds for their club and that the County would support them in that effort.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. McCalla, BCASCA, continues to recognize Brevard County Parks and Recreation for their efforts in trying to accommodate sports and events in the parks. Mr. McCalla stated that the pavilion would help towards facilitating international cricket exhibitions in Brevard County. Mr. Savage stated that he would also like to recognize Mr. McCalla and Mr. Anderson for their efforts in making the facility happen. Mr. Gust stated that these gentlemen would be recognized at the dedication ceremony. **ACTION ITEM** – Mr. Jackman requested information on reduced rental cost for pavilions, buildings.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Whitlock asked if there was any reason to have a December meeting of the committee. Mr. Gust stated that January would be a more pertinent time to meet. With no objections from the committee members, Mr. Whitlock stated that the next committee meeting would be held on January 22, 2009 at the Ted Whitlock Community Center.

Mr. Farquharson made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Mr. Barber **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Whitlock adjourned the meeting of the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee at 7:37 p.m.