



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

### **REGULAR MEETING September 24, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee, was conducted on Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Ted Whitlock Community Center, 370 Championship Circle NW, Palm Bay, Florida.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Orlando Gatell Jr.

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Greg Minor, South Area Operations Manager  
Rick Schuh, Park Supervisor, Palm Bay Regional Park  
Rob Medina, Community Center Coordinator  
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

#### **PUBLIC**

None.

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

Mr. Whitlock called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Mrs. Cook called the roll with five members present and one member absent. Mr. Whitlock confirmed that quorum was present.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Committee members were previously provided with an e-mail copy of the minutes from the March 26, 2009, meeting for review. Mr. Barber made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, Mr. Jackman **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Approved, January 28, 2010

## STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Minor introduced Rick Schuh and Rob Medina, Community Center Coordinator for the Ted Whitlock Community Center. Mr. Minor stated to the committee that Mr. Medina has far exceeded his expectations of the program activities at the Ted Whitlock Community Center in such a short period of time. Mr. Schuh read his monthly Accomplishments and Events report for Palm Bay Regional Park and provided each board member with a copy.

Mr. Minor stated that we had completed a fantastic summer recreation program and stated that the park looked phenomenal and offered his thanks to Mr. Rick Schuh and his crew members for an excellent job. Mr. Minor stated that we have a new county manager, Mr. Howard Tipton, coming on board Monday.

Mr. Medina then spoke to the board members about his vision for the center to involve the community as a whole, and building a team effort with the school board. Mr. Medina noted that Mr. Eddie Hamann of the Andretti Thrill Park had donated \$9K of arcade games to the center for the game room, along with a commitment to perform any required repairs to the equipment. Mr. Medina stated that a women's basketball league had started at the center and it was a first for the area. Mr. Medina provided the committee members with a rental guide brochure that the TWCC staff had developed for the center.

Mr. Schuh stated that the City of Palm Bay had installed a security camera to monitor the vandalism. SkyHoundz was a recent successful event held at the park.

Mr. Farquharson inquired about the Midnite Basketball issue, and the closing times of the park, Mr. Barber said an example is night activities at the Boy Scout Campground. Discussion took place concerning the Midnite Basketball program at TWCC. **ACTION ITEM**, Mr. Barber requested to see a report at the next meeting in regards to the Midnite Basketball Program, the vision of this program and how it will be promoted at TWCC. Discussions also took place for a caretaker trailer on the premises, and the substation at Veterans Park and the free security it could offer to the park. Mr. Minor stated that even with flex schedules we do not have the staff to man the park for all the hours and that the organizations using the facilities have our cell numbers in case of an emergency.

Mr. Jackman asked Mr. Schuh if we had a PA system in the park, and asked if we could we look into the costs associated with such a system. Mr. Farquharson asked if we could do a trial basis of leaving the park open at night and what would be the associated dangers. Mr. Minor said the biggest fear was kids getting into the park with vehicles and causing damages to the fields.

Mr. Anderson asked if we had a lightning warning system in the park, Mr. Minor replied that we require the Rec Partners to have a handheld system to detect lightning 8 miles out. Mr. Anderson asked if the park had a designated picnic area, Mr. Farquharson stated that we needed more family picnic areas and asked if we could add more picnic tables to the park and possibly grill stands. Mr. Schuh said we have the pavilion with picnic tables under cover and a few picnic tables around the park. Mr. Farquharson stated that he did not think the current picnic areas were adequate for the amount of people using the park, Mr. Schuh stated that the park was currently looked at as an athletic park, and the issue would be parking, or people parking on the grass areas.

Approved, January 28, 2010

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Minor stated that D4 and D5 are putting together a wish list for after the referendum projects are completed to utilize the monies left over. The Commissioners have been approached by the area football groups about their need for fields, and the Field Of Dreams, a disabilities only playfield with funding requests. Mr. Minor stated that any unfunded project, such as a BMX track, additional lighting, or any other elements that can be added to Palm Bay Regional Park, to develop a wish list that can be presented to the Commissioners. Mr. Jackman asked if the park had received any stimulus money, Mr. Minor stated no, but that the county had received funds. Mr. Jackman asked about establishing a paintball area within the park if we had enough acreage. Mr. Farquharson stated that there are not many tennis courts in the Palm Bay area, and stated that the addition of tennis courts to the park would be an asset. Mr. Minor stated that on the conceptual master plan of the park, tennis courts were included along with a swimming pool, but that they had been removed. Mr. Whitlock stated that the City of Palm Bay had built many tennis courts that were actually not being used and had converted them to other uses.

Mr. Whitlock stated that the City of Palm Bay is currently planning the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the City of Palm Bay. Mr. Whitlock is on the committee and strongly urged the committee members to become involved, attend the meetings and present any ideas or suggestions. The City of Palm Bay has a website, [palmbayflorida.org](http://palmbayflorida.org), click on the logo and it will go the site for further information on upcoming events.

Mr. Minor stated we are hosting the grand opening of the South Beach Community Park on Saturday, and invited all members to attend the event. Mr. Whitlock reminded the members of the need to attend the meetings and establish quorum, to mark their calendars with the meeting dates, and to advise the staff if they will be unavailable for the meeting by 3:00 p.m. to let the other members know, the next scheduled meeting is October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mrs. Cook advised Mr. Whitlock that Mr. Gatell had requested to resign from the committee due to other commitments, she will notify the City of Palm Bay to request a new appointee to the committee.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Jackman made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Mr. Barber **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Whitlock stated that the next meeting date would be held on October 22, 2009. Mr. Whitlock adjourned the meeting of the Palm Bay Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee at 8:08 p.m.