

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Pineda Causeway Boat Ramp
Regular Meeting
October 1, 2001

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Pineda Causeway Boat Ramp Referendum Committee was held on Monday, October 1, 2001, at 6:00 p.m. at Pineda Landing, 5995 US 1, Melbourne, FL.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ayn Samuelson
Mark Leslie
Mary Ann Kise
Herb Richter
Ken Vilardebo

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Hanlin
Al Vazquez

STAFF ATTENDING

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director
Bill Ross, Parks and Recreation, Construction
Barry Portnowitz, Recreation Superintendent
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC

Michael Walter, Coastal Tech, A&E Firm
Melynn Chiariello, Coastal Tech, A&E Firm
See attached list.

Mr. Leslie, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Richter made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Samuelson seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS:

Mr. Nelson introduced himself and asked the staff and committee members to do the same. He then went over the proposed referendum project and the goals/objectives, challenges, and positive impact as determined at the last meeting by the committee.
Mr. Nelson discussed how the Referendum Projects came to be and how it was represented.

Discussion ensued with questions from the public regarding the following issues: history of the area, was a sanctuary or not, some residents were told by their real estate company that the area was a sanctuary and would not be built upon. Mr. Nelson stated that the County has no documentation that the area was a sanctuary. Some members from the public mentioned that they would do some research to find out. If documentation with this information existed and could be verified, the project would then be stopped.

Discussion also ensued with concerns from the public regarding: manatee issues, other land possibilities for boat ramp, utilization survey, Patrick Air Force Base property, buffers, mangroves, sea grass, depth of water, noise, traffic control, security, endangered plant life and vegetation and permit accessibility.

COASTAL TECH, A&E FIRM:

Michael Walter, Coastal Tech, informed the committee that they have surveyed the site. He mentioned that a portion of the highway drains across the site; the proposed finger area is shallow (about 1ft.) and would need to be dredged; he showed the committee the wetland areas, which seems to be about 50% (although that had not been verified yet); land contains mostly Brazilian peppers; no endangered plant life or vegetation on upland; showed the committee a map provided by St. Johns' Water Management, of the location of sea grass in the area. Mr. Walter does believe this site is permissible. Mr. Walter continued to reflect the condition of the site currently. He stated that he believes the more desirable and safer place to build the ramp would be in the finger area as shown on the map. Committee asked if Coastal Tech had met with the Manatee group and Mr. Walter informed them that he has not had contact with them at this time, but would address the Manatee issue during the process. He also stated that he would return to the November meeting with a "conceptual idea" for review and discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding permitting challenges, and a meeting room for the next meeting.

Mr. Leslie asked the committee if anyone was interested in serving as the Vice-Chairman. Mr. Vilardebo volunteered. Ms. Samuelson made a **MOTION** to have Mr. Vilardebo serve as Vice-Chairman and Ms. Kise seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

PUBLIC INPUT

Public Input occurred during the meeting.

Mr. Nelson thanked all for attending.

There was no further business to discuss. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2001.