

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Ponce Landing Referendum Committee
Regular Meeting
January 15, 2002

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Ponce Landing Referendum Committee was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2002, at 5:00 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, 3780 Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cynthia Ruitter
Blair Witherington
Jim Rosasco
Jim Culberson

MEMBERS ABSENT

South Area Advisory Board Rep
Gerald Heyes
Paul Tritaik

STAFF ATTENDING

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director
Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager
Greg Minor, Parks and Recreation Construction
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Culberson called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Rosasco noted that (not) needed to be added to the sentence, "The park closes at dark, therefore would (not) require any parking lights. Mr. Witherington made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as corrected Ms. Rosasco seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS:

Ms. Palus thanked the committee for their work and provided calendars in appreciation.

Project Review:

Ms. Palus discussed the conceptual idea with the committee. Mr. Rosasco asked about re-visiting the entrance/driveway idea as discussed at the last meeting. Due to existing vegetation it would be more feasible to have the entrance at the south end.

Mr. Nelson noted that if the committee is comfortable with the design, then the project could move forward to the County's technical review. He mentioned that the project is over budget and after County Review the plan would be brought back to the committee to discuss.

Mr. Culberson asked if the Referendum funds for this project included removal of the pepper trees. Ms. Palus stated that she was not sure, but would check into it. She noted that funds might be available through other resources to eradicate the pepper trees.

Discussion ensued regarding a three-level observation tower/educational area. The ADA requirement is to have access to the first level. Mr. Rosasco asked about the small island of landscaping in the middle of the northern-end of the parking lot. The committee discussed whether or not there was a need for the island. Discussion ensued and the committee agreed that the island was not a necessity.

Mr. Witherington asked about the cost of landscaping. Discussion ensued and Mr. Nelson replied that the cost may have included the re-vegetation of the southern portion. Mr. Witherington asked if anything creative was done regarding the handicap accessibility to the crossover. Mr. Minor explained that the design of the crossover would follow later in the

plan process. Mr. Nelson replied that staff would remind the A&E firm that the committee would like to see an innovative design for the crossover.

Mr. Witherington asked about the Public Safety requirements as discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Minor explained that Public Safety needs a 10 feet turning radius with a minimum width of 60 inches. Discussion ensued. Mr. Culberson stated that he would like to move the concrete island and limit the cost of the landscaping.

Mr. Rosasco made a **MOTION** to approve the conceptual and move forward with the process. Mr. Witherington seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Nelson mentioned that the committee will not need to meet until right before construction. Mr. Culberson stated that he was pleased to see that the County was watching cost expenditures. Mr. Witherington asked for a species list from the A&E Firm. Mr. Nelson stated that they would provide him with a list.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Culberson made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Ms. Ruitter seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.