



## **SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION Rodes Park Referendum Committee**

Regular Meeting  
June 27, 2007

A Regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Rodes Park Referendum Committee, was conducted on Wednesday June 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the West Melbourne City Hall Council Chambers, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe LaPointe  
Jan Lieson, ex-officio  
Bart DeNitto  
Debra Thompson, Chairwoman  
Keith Barton  
Ted Whitlock  
Carol Burns

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Steve McKibben  
Mallena Urban  
Ken Dyke  
Al Genchi

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fred Poppe, Recreation Superintendent  
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Special Projects Coordinator

### **PUBLIC**

Mark Mannarino  
Carol Hebert

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:06p.m. Mr. Vergara called the roll, and Ms. Thompson noted that a quorum was present and that the meeting would be conducted.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the May 23, 2007, meeting. After review, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the May 23, 2007, minutes, and Mr. DeNitto seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Fred Poppe**

Mr. Poppe informed the committee that the property appraiser which Mr. LaPointe asked about at the last meeting had been there to assess the value of one of the out parcels adjacent to the park. Mr. Poppe explained that he spoke with Ms. Marsha Cantrell and she stated that three appraisals were needed in order for the court to decide what the final price would be for the out parcels. Mr. Poppe stated that the county did own the property, but had not paid for it as of this meeting and that the final cost for the property had not been figured yet. Discussion ensued regarding how the appraised value of this property would affect the building. Ms Thompson asked if the appraisal was based on purchase date or current market value, and what the final cost for that property will be. Mr. Poppe stated that he would have Mr. Vergara speak with Ms. Cantrell and provide as much information as possible to the committee. Mr. Poppe followed by stating that 90% design drawings would be finished in early July. He then stated that the process of moving the turtles would take place in early September, and that he had received a quote from Environmental Services Incorporated, and stated that the reason for starting the tortoise relocation in September was because construction was anticipated to start in October pending all permits. Mr. Poppe stated that PBS&J was confident that they could start land clearing in October, and the reason for moving the tortoises in September was to try to avoid the tortoises migrating back to the area they were moved from. This time frame would minimize the possibility of the tortoises coming back. Mr. Poppe then stated that the Road & Bridge department was committed to doing all of the land clearing and most of the drainage and road infrastructure in October provided that all permits are in place. Ms. Thompson asked if Road & Bridge would charge Parks & Recreation for this work, and Mr. Poppe responded that there would be a charge, but that it would be considerably less than hiring an outside general contractor for this work, he also stated that another advantage would be that the lines of communication would be much better because both departments work under the same entity. Mr. Poppe followed by stating that by Road and bridge helping us out with the turtle relocation process, the county would save a significant amount of money. Ms. Thompson asked about the cost of removing the tortoises, and Mr. Poppe replied that the cost from ESI to do the whole package was around \$144,000 and the cost of Parks & Recreation being involved in providing the equipment and operator was around \$87,000. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of turtles on site and the amount that would have to be relocated and the cost of relocation. Ms. Burns asked about the process of moving the turtles, and Mr. Poppe replied that ESI would handle the moving of the turtles, but that he believed that they were moved in cages.

### **Gustavo Vergara**

Mr. Vergara explained the Mock Web page design (attached). Ms. Thompson suggested that links at the bottom of the page would be good; Ms. Burns suggested that Parks & Recreation could attach power point presentations to the web page, and that she would forward that information. Ms. Thompson asked if all boxes were scrollable and that this

would be a great feature. Mr. Mannarino asked about the timelines and who would be responsible for providing information for the timelines, and Mr. Poppe replied that depending on what projects are being built at the time, each facet of the project would have it's own timeline which we would acquire from either the contractor, or the design firm or the county's construction coordinator in charge of that project. Ms. Thompson suggested that another nice feature would be to highlight each of those sub-timelines within the whole project time line. Mr. Mannarino asked if the park would not open until all aspects are finished, and Mr. Poppe clarified that parts of the parks could be opened depending on what was built and finished at a certain time, for example if the baseball and football fields were finished ahead of the community center, then that part of the park would be open for the community. Discussion ensued regarding the information in the mock web page. Mr. Mannarino asked if the website could include completed items that are available for use to the community, and Mr. Poppe replied that that was a feature that could be incorporated in the design.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Whitlock asked what the budget situation was. Mr. Poppe stated that it was too early to tell what county commissioners were going to do with the budget. Discussion ensued regarding the budget for the project and what the legal issues were regarding the expenditures of moneys that were allocated to that project. Ms. Thompson asked that someone from Commissioner Colon's office show up at the next meeting to let the committee know how referendums are impacted by tax rollbacks. Discussion ensued regarding how the proposed tax roll back could affect the construction of this project. Ms. Thompson also asked for someone to speak on what is happening with the money for this project and where it is and how it will be affected by the tax rollbacks.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

NONE

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Mannarino asked if the construction of the community center would be in conjunction with the building of the rest of the park, and Ms. Thompson replied that the building of the community center would be one of the last elements of the project, and Mr. Poppe confirmed that statement. Mr. Mannarino also asked if information about the construction progress of the community center would be in the timeline of the proposed website, and Mr. Poppe responded that this information would be on the timeline and on the website, and Ms. Thompson added that the committee needed to realize that whatever timeline is given would be fluid and not set in stone.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business, Ms. Thompson called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Burns made a MOTION to adjourn and Mr. Barton seconded. Ms. Thompson adjourned the meeting of the Rodes Park Referendum Committee at 8:00 p.m. and noted that the next meeting date was scheduled for July 25, 2007.