



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

Regular Meeting  
October 24, 2007

A Regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Rodes Park Referendum Committee, was conducted on Wednesday October 24, 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  
Al Genchi  
Debra Thompson, Chairwoman  
Keith Barton  
Ted Whitlock

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carol Burns  
  
Ken Dyke  
Steve McKibben

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fred Poppe, Recreation Superintendent  
Bill Ross, Interim Construction Manager  
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Special Projects Coordinator I  
Denise Hayes, Administrative Secretary  
Bernice Smith, Office Assistant II

### **PUBLIC**

Mark Mannarino

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Ms. Hayes 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 July 25, 2007, meeting. Mr. Whitlock noted that a typo was present on the last sentence of the last paragraph under staff reports. After review, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the July 25, 2007, minutes as corrected, and Mr. Barton seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Bill Ross**

Mr. Ross reported that there was one tractor on site clearing along the area which will be part of the walking trail system where the turtle preservation area would have been. He stated that there were 114 gopher tortoise burrows on site, and that not all burrows have turtles in them. He then held up the permit from Florida Fish and Wild Life which allowed Brevard County Parks and Recreation to start relocating tortoises. He informed the committee that off site relocation would be starting the following week, and that the tortoises would be transported to Pasco County. He stated that the cost to the tax payers would be \$765 per tortoise and the reason that he made that determination was because all other places that accepted tortoises required a management down payment of \$15,000 to \$20,000, and that the place in Pasco County had waved that fee. Mr. Ross added that his department was trying to be environmentally conscious and that they were trying to adhere to the tightest of rules. He stated that the scientists could dig up 6 to 8 burrows per day, and that there would be two scientists on site. Mr. Poppe added that the permit from FWC allowed Parks & Recreation to relocate as many as 100 Tortoises. Mr. Ross then stated that he had the St. Johns Water Management permit on hand, and that the only permit he needed was a land clearing permit from Brevard County Site Plan Approval, and he expected a permit on hand by the following week. He handed the Committee members a list of permits that have been acquired from the consulting firm PBS&J (attached). Mr. Ross stated that the City of West Melbourne Utilities Department had two issues with the site plan of the park; one, the City of West Melbourne could not provide fire flows for the sprinkler system in the Community Center, and that in order to alleviate this problem, the consultant designed drafting hydrants into the site plan, to which the City of West Melbourne responded that they would not permit the plans with drafting hydrants. Mr. Ross explained that upon hearing this, he scheduled a meeting with the City of West Melbourne and explained to them that if they did not allow Brevard County Parks & Recreation to install the drafting hydrants, he would not be able to build the community center building, and the city consequently backed off that issue. He followed by stating that the second issue with the annexation to the park with the City of West Melbourne was that there was no money allocated for road upgrades along Flannigan Road, and that if the city annexed the park too quickly, they would be required to share in the cost of upgrading Flannigan Road. He stated that Parks & Recreation was still in discussions about that. Mr. Ross stated that the next big permit coming up was the St. Johns Consumption Usage Permit, which had to do with irrigation because he will be pumping from ponds for irrigation, and he didn't feel that he would have any problems

acquiring that permit. He stated that on November 1<sup>st</sup>, he had an agenda item going to the Board of County Commissioners on their monthly zoning meeting regarding Brevard County Road and Bridge doing the major site work for the park. He stated that the cost proposal was for \$8.8 million dollars. Mr. Ross stated that he will be bidding separately the construction of the buildings, the finished grading of the athletic fields, and the fencing of the property. He expected road and bridge to be there for about 12 to 13 months, and that bid packages would start being put together by mid to late summer of 2008. He stated that 237,000 cubic yards of dirt would have to be brought on site for this facility.

Fred Poppe

Mr. Poppe stated that as far as the naming of the interior road at the new park, Mr. Vergara had no luck with getting the newspapers to help with acquiring input from the community. Mr. Poppe stated that Mr. Lusk, Mr. Whitehead and himself felt that the committee would be the best way to get possible names for this road, and asked the committee to talk to the people in their community and bring possible names to a future meeting. Ms. Thompson stated that at the March meeting the committee would come together with possible names and that at this meeting the names could be discussed and a name or a list of names would be made ready to present to the South Area Advisory Board. Discussion ensued regarding possibilities for acquiring names and acquiring suggestions from the community.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Thompson stated that the committee had lost a member from the committee, Ms. Urban. She asked if Ms. Urban had to be replaced on the committee, and stated that it would be difficult to catch a new member up with all of the history of the committee.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Mannarino asked about fees at the community centers, and Mr. Poppe responded that the fee structure was posted on line, and a new fee structure was getting ready to be updated by Brevard County Parks & Recreation and the Board of County Commissioners.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Vergara introduced Ms. Denise Hayes as the new Administrative Secretary for South Area Parks & Recreation. Seeing no further business, Ms. Thompson called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Whitlock made a MOTION to adjourn and Mr. LaPointe seconded. Ms. Thompson adjourned the meeting of the Rodes Park Referendum Committee at 8:00 p.m.