



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

Regular Meeting  
February 27, 2008

A Regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Rodes Park Referendum Committee, was conducted on Wednesday February 27, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the South Area Parks & Recreation Office Conference Room, 1515 Sarno Road, Melbourne, Florida.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe LaPointe  
Ken Dyke  
Bart DeNitto  
Steve McKibben  
Debra Thompson, Chairwoman  
Keith Barton  
Ted Whitlock  
Carol Burns

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Al Genchi  
WM Rep.

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

### **PUBLIC**

Mark Mannarino  
Lennox King

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.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 January 23, 2008, meeting. After review, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the January 23, 2008, minutes, and Mr. Dyke **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Vergara showed the committee a draft copy of the invitation and the program for the Ground Breaking Ceremony. Mr. Vergara also asked the committee members if they had any special invitees that they wanted to invite to the ceremony, and the committee members asked for an email of the invitation so they could spread it to their youth groups. Mr. Whitlock suggested that all dignitaries from the city of West Melbourne be invited, as well as the police chief and the Brevard County Sheriff. The committee suggested that football and basketball be added to the program. Ms. Burns stated that she received a suggestion from a parent that something at the new park be named after Sid Kingery, discussion ensued regarding how things would be named at the new park, and the possibilities of naming things if the existing parks stayed as a Brevard County park. Mr. Vergara stated that the ceremony would take place at the existing Rodes Park, on the North side of the park, and those dignitaries and committee members could be shuttled to the construction site for pictures. Discussion ensued regarding what would happen during the ceremony, and the committee was happy with the layout presented and stated that a simple ground breaking would be good, and that the grand opening would be the big deal. The committee also decided that dirt should be brought to the site rather than shuttling people to the construction site. Mr. Vergara talked about the newspaper article which came out on the Florida Today news paper on February 25, and stated that he had received letters from the community wanting to name the road after certain individuals. Mr. Vergara stated that there was a specific county policy for naming facilities after them, and Mr. Poppe explained the process that would take place once the committee named the road. Mr. Lapointe made a recommendation that no road should be named after an individual in order not to offend anyone, and that the theme for naming the road should involve something to do with nature. Mr. Whitlock asked that Mr. Vergara email the county Policy for naming facilities to all the members. After discussion, Mr. LaPointe made a **MOTION** not to name the interior loop road after an individual, Mr. Dyke **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Mr. Poppe stated that he would keep the committee members informed about the plans for the existing Rodes Park. Mr. Vergara provided the committee members with a copy of the current budget for the park project, and Mr. Poppe stated that if anyone had any questions regarding the budget, to email Mr. Vergara and he would contact the finance manager and get the answers. Mr. DeNitto asked if the park would have street lights, and Mr. Poppe stated that the park would be sufficiently lit according to safety specifications, and that there would be no lights within the conservation area.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Burns asked about naming something in the new park after Mr. Kingery, and Ms. Thompson responded that the issue would be revisited once the park is closer to completion.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Lennox King stated that he had entered a request for naming the interior loop road after Mr. Salberg, and that he respected the committees decision to not name it after a particular individual, and asked if the names that were entered could be kept for naming future facilities within the Park, and the committee responded favorably. Mr. Poppe added that once the park is built, the process for naming anything at the park would have to go through the South Area Advisory Board, and then onto the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Mannarino asked about having a portable shed at the new community center in order to store tables for table tennis. Mr. Poppe stated that this was an operational issue and that he would have to wait until the community center opened before he could make that kind of a decision. Mr. Whitlock asked if any budget workshops had been scheduled yet, and Mr. Poppe stated that he had not heard of any Board of County Commissioner budget work shops yet, but the committees support would be critical when the budget work shops were held. Mr. Whitlock stated that it would behoove the committee members to attend the workshops and ask for funding to support Parks & Recreation. Ms. Burns asked that they be informed whenever the budget workshops were scheduled.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Thompson stated that the next meeting date would be the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April and that the site of the meeting would be at the South Area Parks & Recreation office. Seeing no further business, Ms. Thompson called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. LaPointe made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Whitlock **SECONDED**. Ms. Thompson adjourned the meeting of the Rodes Park Referendum Committee at 8:10 p.m.