



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

Regular Meeting  
July 22, 2009

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Rodes Park Referendum Committee, was conducted on Wednesday July 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of West Melbourne City Hall, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe LaPointe  
Ken Dyke  
Steve McKibben  
Debra Thompson, Chairwoman  
Ted Whitlock  
Bart DeNitto

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carroll Burns  
Keith Barton  
Mike Hazlett  
Al Genchi

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Commissioner Trudi Infantini (D3)  
Lori Helton, Office of Commissioner Infantini (D3)  
Greg Minor, South Area Operations Manager  
Jerry Gust, Maintenance Superintendent  
Bill Porzio, Construction Coordinator  
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary

### **PUBLIC**

Joey Munson  
Jim Tapp

### **MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mrs. Cook called the roll, and Mrs. Thompson noted that quorum was present and that the meeting would be conducted.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Committee members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the October 22, 2008, meeting. After review, Mr. Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the October 22, 2008, minutes and Mr. LaPointe **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Minor introduced Ms. Lori Helton, Aide to Commissioner Infantini (D-3), to the committee members. Mr. Minor stated that a lot has transpired on the construction side at Rodes Park in the last few months. Mr. Minor then introduced Mr. Bill Porzio to the members and stated that Mr. Porzio had been working on the Rodes Park Referendum Project for the last several months. Mr. Minor stated that we have bid Phase 2 of the project, which consists of the soccer and football fields and maintenance buildings, sports lighting for the fields, two restroom/concession buildings and an 1800 square foot community center, and the apparent low bidder was McCorkle Construction out of Orlando. Low bid was 4.636 by McCorkle. Road and Bridge will complete all the infrastructure work and then McCorkle will go in and finish the buildings. Mrs. Thompson asked Mr. Minor if everything in the Phase 2 scope was part of the original referendum and he replied yes, it was.

Mr. Porzio gave a status report of the on-going construction at Rodes Park to the committee members. Discussion was on drainage issues, designated ponds, water piping, conduit installation, and FP&L providing power to the site. Communication conduit installation will be off Fell Road and services are currently being installed on the site, the center will eventually be able to utilize Rec-Trac for reservations of the facilities. Mr. Porzio stated that the construction timeline was approximately 374 days to substantial or final completion. Mr. Minor stated that the longest lead-time on the project will be the vertical completion of the community center. Road and Bridge is doing the contours and McCorkle will laser the grade.

The baseball fields are to be included in Phase 3; the bid package for Phase 3 is anticipated to be out in August. We are working with Post Buckley to develop bid package 3. The southwest area, baseball, softball and outdoor basketball areas are included in this package. The two phases could run concurrently because they are in separate areas. They are starting the design process on Flanagan Avenue and are working through the various agencies review processes, and will eventually present the information to the committee members. Mr. Porzio is hoping to have the design in by January 2010 and final completion by the end of year 2010. Mr. Minor said that safety was the concern with the design of Flanagan Avenue; he said we have four concepts for the design and he recommended that we get with Mr. John Denninghoff to review the concepts. Mr. Porzio said that right now the planned configuration is to have two lanes going east, one for right turn, one for left turn, and a decel lane coming down across the current face of Rodes Park.

Mr. LaPointe asked who is going to pay for the cost of piping in the drainage upgrades. Mr. DeNitto said that Carriage Gate is digging out the drainage on Minton Road, 6 inches. Mr. LaPointe asked if the plan was to bring a 12" line down Flanagan Avenue. Mr. Porzio said that the point of contact with St. Johns River Water Management District would be Mr. Fariborz Zanganeh. Commissioner Infantini arrived at 7:22 p.m. and joined the discussions. Mrs. Thompson stated that there were concerns about seeing the construction stopped if there was no maintenance money. Mr. Minor stated that O&M monies were included in the figures. Commissioner Infantini then stated that with the Sunshine Law she was not able to discuss this issue with the other commissioners and her staff was only able to amass a small amount of research on the subject. Commissioner Infantini stated that she had spoken with the Interim County Manager, Stockton Whitten, and Don Lusk, Parks and Recreation Department Director, and that the centers would remain open even if they needed to be staffed with volunteers. Her concerns were if we would be able to staff and operate the center, that funding was there and the concerns were with the recurring operating costs and that she wanted to proceed with the construction of the park facilities. Mrs. Thompson stated that Commissioner Infantini had the support of the committee. Mr. DeNitto asked why Commissioner Anderson did not attend the meeting. Mrs. Thompson asked Commissioner Infantini if they needed to be present at the board meeting tomorrow and present their concerns at that meeting. Commissioner Infantini said that was not necessary that she was clear on the project funding and had no plans to stop the construction process.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion ensued about the name selection of Championship Way and that Mr. Gust would be presenting that to address assignment for approval and return to the committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to report to the committee. Commissioner Infantini returned to the meeting and provided a copy of the community center costs that had been compiled for her that day for the committee members to review.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Jim Tapp with the Field of Dreams introduced himself and gave the committee members an overview of his sports park concept for handicapped and disabled children. Mr. Tapp asked the committee members if his group would be able to utilize the old Rodes Park to put in operation a special needs facility for the disabled population of Brevard County. Mr. Tapp stated that there are over 4,800 disabled people in Brevard between the ages of 5 to 64 and that there is not one single special needs recreational facility for the disabled in Brevard. Mr. Minor advised Mr. Tapp that he would need to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the organization to create the special needs facility. Mr. Minor stated that county staff would be visiting Trotter's Park in Orlando to view their facility; it is a special needs facility for the disabled. Mr. Minor said there had been a lot of discussion about what to do with the old Rodes Park;

questions were asked if funding was available for such an undertaking. Mr. Minor said that funds would be available after the completion of all the Rodes Park facilities. The committee members felt that the project would be a great asset to the park; Mr. Tapp thanked the members for their time.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. LaPointe made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. DeNitto **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mrs. Thompson adjourned the meeting of the Rodes Park Referendum Committee at 8:05 p.m. and stated that the next meeting date would be August 26, 2009.