



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

Regular Meeting  
September 23, 2009

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Rodes Park Referendum Committee, was conducted on Wednesday September 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the South Area Parks Operations, 1515 Sarno Road, Building B, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Melbourne, Florida.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carroll Burns  
Keith Barton  
Mike Hazlett

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

### **PUBLIC**

Jason Abbott, Post Buckley Schuh & Jernigan  
Stephen Rossi  
Norm Maynor  
Mike Rottkamp  
Artie and Julie Ulmer  
Joey Munson

### **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**

Approved w/change, January 20, 2010

Committee members were provided with a draft copy of the minutes from the July 22, 2009, meeting. After review, a correction was noted and Mr. Kibben made a **MOTION** to approve the July 22, 2009, minutes, and Mr. Whitlock **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Minor introduced Lori Helton, Aide to Commissioner Infantini, to the committee members. Mr. Minor then introduced Joan VanSickle, the new construction manager for parks and recreation, she comes to us from Fire Rescue and has been on board approximately one month. Mr. Bill Porzio who was on the project was a layoff candidate and now a new project manager, Carlos Zarate is now handling the project. Mr. Zarate is also handling the Senior Center at Wickham Park. Mr. Minor then introduced Jason Abbot, the engineer from PBS&J. Post Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan is doing the re-design of Flanagan Avene. Mrs. Thompson stated that Mr. Abbott has been with the project for quite a while.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Thompson stated that at the July meeting there were concerns about funding, Mr. Minor responded that all elements are fully funded. Mr. Minor stated that all the structures are in the building department for review right now, they are expected to be permitted and released for construction soon, the contractor is mobilized on the site and they are poised and ready to begin Phase II. Mrs. VanSickle expects to have Phase 3 out to bid by Christmas, but optimally is looking at January 1, 2010. Mr. Gust inquired about the request of the street naming, Champion Way, he stated he will take that before the South Area Advisory Board at the next meeting on October 19, 2009 and then on to Address Assignment for approval. The members were asked if they had an alternate name, Mrs. Thompson asked the members to come back to the next meeting with some suggestions that could be decided upon if Champion Way was not approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Abbott, Engineer with Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan, who has been a part of the Rodes Park team for at least the last seven years spoke about the planned upgrades to Flanagan. Mr. Abbott stated that he was very sensitive the needs of the homeowners as he was a rural property owner himself and that he understood their concerns with the traffic flow increase. The plan is to install a five foot wide sidewalk and widening the road from 20 to 24 feet. Mr. Abbott brought plans depicting the two concepts, the residents of the area prefer the south side for the sidewalk installation but the cross sections show what it would take to put it on the south side. A heated discussion ensued concerning Crystal Lakes Subdivision, Bertram Schields land donation, Mr. Keith Mills of the City of West Melbourne and the Maronda Homes right of way donation, and the property owners present stated that they expected with these donations that the sidewalk would be moved to the south side instead of chopping up the area. Mr. Abbott stated that the option had several disadvantages and pedestrian hazards to it. Mr. Abbott stated that PBS&J recommends the road way improvements on Flanagan and to let the park get operational.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Approved w/change, January 20, 2010

Property owners from the Flanagan Avenue area were present at the meeting and discussed their concerns with drainage in the area, culverts, increased traffic on the roadway, the agricultural lifestyle of the property owners, and the removal of tree canopy. The property owners spent some time reviewing the plans that Mr. Abbott had brought to the meeting and discussing their concerns with him. Mr. Abbott stated that PBS&J had evaluated multiple alternatives, but their recommendation was to put the sidewalk on the north side of the road and even though there was a loss of trees with either option, the argument was simply over a difference of five feet between the options. Mrs. Thompson asked if the concern was dollar amounts and Mrs. VanSickle stated that was not the concern.

One of the questions presented was to pipe for drainage, Mr. Abbott responded that it would become a 5 x 7 box culvert and the costs would be very expensive and they would still lose a majority of the trees. Mr. Abbott stated that PBS&J would not be installing a guard rail. Another question was would there be significant savings in going with curb rather than the 4 to 1 slope. Mr. Abbott responded that a detailed cost estimate was not pursued for that option due to the lack of advantages to that option.

Mrs. Thompson stated that the donated land could not be used for widening of the road or installation of the sidewalk as it was not right of way. Mr. Abbott stated that the Crystal Lakes subdivision discharge is less than before as the discharge now goes to a stormwater pond and Canal 62. Mr. Rossi expressed concerns over his upgrades to his culvert and the costs he had expended and would he receive a comparable replacement from the county, he stated he had been directed by the County to replace his pipe and headwall.

Mrs. Thompson stated that Mr. Abbott was making a presentation to the committee with his recommendations to Parks and Recreation for the project and she wanted the members of the public present to know if they had another venue to voice their objections and true concerns and that the committee's purpose was to represent the community. Mr. Dyke stated that the reason we were told Fell Road was not pursued was that it would involve right of way taking and it would double the price of the project and delay the project. Mr. Abbott stated that the 2006 cost for the project was 2.2 million and it is projected with the economic downturn that the costs will be less now. Discussion ensued concerning traffic control, traffic counts and studies, signalization and costs, parking availability, pedestrian safety issues, and 9-1-1 emergency access, traffic flow and volume from Calvary Chapel Church, the locked gate at Fell Road, and personal accessibility to the property owners property.

Mrs. Thompson gave each member of the public an additional opportunity to pose a question in an individual manner to Mr. Abbott or the Parks and Recreation staff prior to calling the meeting to an end. Mrs. Thompson thanked Mr. Abbott and stated he had done a great job.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. McKibben made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Whitlock **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mrs. Thompson adjourned the meeting of the Rodes Park Referendum Committee at 9:00 p.m. and stated that the next scheduled meeting would take place on January 20, 2010, unless Mrs. VanSickle would be able to find out information on the project that would need to be presented to the committee and the public through a special meeting.

Approved w/change, January 20, 2010