



SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION *South County Boat Ramp Referendum Committee*

PUBLIC MEETING
September 19, 2007

A public meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, South County Boat Ramp Referendum Committee, was held on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, 6:00 p.m., at the Grant Community Center, Grant, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jamie Seymour
Albert Malerk
Michael Rowland
Ron Rincones

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Cunningham
Duane Ball

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Ross, Interim Construction Manager, Parks and Recreation
Jeff Whitehead, South Area Parks Operations Manager
Jerry Gust, South Area Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Denise Hayes, South Area Administrative Secretary
Bernice Smith, South Area Staff Assistant
Gustavo Vergara, South Area Special Projects Coordinator I

PUBLIC

Attached.

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rowland called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and introduced himself and thanked the public, Committee members and staff for attending. He then recognized Councilman Joe Hack Ford and the new mayor of Grant/Valkaria Dale Yonts. Ms. Hayes called the role, and Mr. Rowland confirmed quorum was present and a meeting would be conducted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the May 17, 2006, meeting. After review, Mr. Seymour made a MOTION to approve the minutes, and Mr. Malerk seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Bill Ross

Mr. Ross introduced himself as the interim construction manager for Brevard County Parks & Recreation. He presented the committee members and the public with the following progress report:

South County Boat Ramp Progress Report – September 2007

Permitting status and Issues

March 2007

- Permit applications were submitted to St. Johns Water Management District, Florida Fish and Wild Life and Army Core of Engineers.

May 2007

- Permit application was submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection for septic tanks and storm water runoff from the site.
- Received comments back from permitting agencies requesting the following comments and analysis:
 - o Sea Grass Impact Analysis
 - o Flushing Analysis – Identifies the change in water quality due to tidal change. If tidal flushing was not adequate, degradation of the site would occur.
- Coastal Tech performed these tests from June through August.

June 2007 – Present

- BCP&R Construction met with FDOT regarding the development of a entry - exit plan based on safety considerations due to turning radius of large trailers in and out of the park.
- BCP&R Construction received preliminary review and input from FDOT. An agreement was made that BCP&R could proceed with that plan with the understanding that once 100% design plans are obtained, they will have to be submitted into FDOT for final approval.
- Coastal Tech hired a specialty roadway design contractor to work on additional soil borings and surveying which were needed in order to finish the 100% design Plans.
 - o As of today, most of the field work is finished, and drafting of the plans is in process.
 - o 100% Design Plans are expected from Coastal Tech by late October. These plans are expected to be submitted to FDOT by November. There is a 60 day turnaround period expected from FDOT.

June 2007 – Present (continued)

- County personnel were involved in the removal and replacement of a substantial amount of contaminated soil, which was residue from the previous owner. This work occurred under the direction and supervision of Brevard County's Natural Resource Office.
- Preliminary designs were received from Tedder for the Boat Ramps and Piers. These design plans were submitted to the Board of County Commissioners and action was requested making Tedder the sole source of this product due to the minimal affect on the environment from using this design.

June 2007 – Present (continued)

- The Board of County Commissioners approved Tedder as the sole source vendor for the boat ramp system being installed at this site at their July 23rd meeting. Since this action from the BOCC, Tedder has been working with Coastal Tech in developing final plans and specifications for the water front work.

Possible Issues That Could Delay This Project

- Public objections to this project.

- Additional requirements of further studies of the marine environments – up to 6 month set back.
- FDOT Permits – i.e. having to cut center islands on FDOT property to accommodate turning radius of boats up to 30' coming in and out of the site.

The future of this project

- January 2008 – All permits are expected to be in place.
- February 2008 – Project goes out for bid. This is a 3 to 4 month process. Here's how it works;
 - o Advertising process
 - o Collecting bids process
 - o Analyzing bids process
 - o Checking credentials and qualification process
 - o Agenda item will have to be prepared for BOCC approval of winning bidder
 - o Final contract documents will have to be reviewed by County Attorney, and then signed by winning contractor, Chair of BOCC, Clerk of the court.
 - o Pre construction meeting is held between the contractor and BCP&R Construction
 - o Notice to proceed is issued
- June 2008 – anticipated start date for this project.

Mr. Ross also explained the new “One Away In / One Way Out” Design to the committee.

Mr. Yonts asked if there were any permits that needed to be cleared through the new town of Grant/Valkaria, because as of October 1, 2007, the Boat Ramp would fall under the jurisdiction of the new town.

Mr. Rowland asked about a larger scale drawing of the site plan, and Mr. Ross responded that he would bring one to the next meeting. Mr. Rowland then asked how wide the space between each dock was, and Mr. Ross responded that the space was 15 ft, and that the docks were almost 100 ft long. An audience member asked if the parking lot would be lighted, and Mr. Ross responded affirmatively. Discussion ensued regarding the parking and the material for the base of the parking lot.

A member of the audience asked what the hours of operation for the restroom would be, and Mr. Gust responded that the restrooms would be open from dusk to dawn. Discussion ensued regarding the maintenance of the bathrooms at this facility.

Mr. Rincones asked about the kind of sea grasses that required further studies, and sited that when Sebastian Inlet was being built, the sea grasses that posed difficulties in the building process were not native, and Mr. Ross responded that he had not heard any disconcerting comments about the sea grasses present at this site. Mr. Rincones also asked about the median cut on US 1 and if that permit required for that would cause any kind of delay to this project, and Mr. Ross answered that he did not believe that there would be any kind of delay from this.

A member of the audience asked if the name of the boat ramp will be changed to Christensen’s Boat Ramp, and Mr. Seymour stated that about 300 people from Grant signed a petition, which he presented to the South Area Advisory Board, asking for that name for this facility. Mr. Seymour stated that the next step was for the Board of County Commissioners to approve this name for the new boat launch facility.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC INPUT

Public input was received

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Mr. Rowland thanked staff, Committee members the public for their attendance. He then adjourned the meeting of the South County Boat Ramp Referendum Committee at 7:15 p.m. and noted that the next meeting would be held on February 5, 2008, 6:00 p.m., at the Grant Community Center.