

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
South Beach Community Park Referendum Committee  
Regular Meeting  
October 16, 2001

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department South Beach Community Park Referendum Committee was held on Tuesday, October 16, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, 3780 Hwy A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robert Arthur  
Jeff Berger  
Don DeLucas  
Keith Howard  
Vince Loglisci  
Louise McDaniel  
Thomas Moore  
Susan Simoes  
Mike Slayton  
Patti Smithson  
Paul Tritaik  
Ceil Wilson  
Kathi Arms  
Brian Hurley

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Janet Adam  
Jim Davis  
Susan Margaritondo

**STAFF ATTENDING**

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director  
Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager  
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

**PUBLIC**

Tom Yonge, Kimley-Horn and Associates, A&E Firm  
Jim Rosasco  
Julie Scott  
Norma Metrolis  
Ray Maestri  
Mr. and Mrs. Hans  
Billy Burgers  
Richard Hartman

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Berger, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Ms. Simoes made a **MOTION** to add the Pledge of Allegiance to the agenda at all future meetings. Mr. Slayton seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The Committee proceeded to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Simoes made a correction to the minutes. Swimming Pool should have been listed under the Goals/Objectives as determined at the last meeting. Mr. Loglisci also asked that "southern boundary of the canal" be added to reflect the location of the Australian Pines as discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Slayton made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes as amended and Ms. Simoes seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Nelson apologized that the web page did not reveal the correct information for the meeting. He stated that he would have the web page corrected and noted that the advertisement for the meeting had been done by Ms. Webster. The advertisement is sent to numerous places including: various TV channels, radio stations, papers, Chamber, Libraries, Commissioners, etc. He also mentioned that he met with the Nature Conservancy regarding a management plan for the Groves. This will allow the County to generate revenue on the Groves rather than having to pay maintenance costs in the up-keep of the Groves until the State has accomplished a management plan to revert the land back to a natural state, which may be a three year process.

Ms. Palus asked the Committee what day they would like to take a tour of other park sites. The Committee decided on Saturday, November 10, 2001. Ms. Simoes made a **MOTION** to tour the park sites on November 10, 2001 at approximately 8:30 a.m.. The County will try to get a SCAT's bus and the Committee will meet in the Publix Shopping Center located next to Immaculate Conception Church. Discussion ensued regarding what sites the Committee would like to tour and travel time. The Committee asked that the Chairman work with the Parks

and Recreation Department to come up with the itinerary for the tour. Any Committee member may send their recommendation of the tour sites to the Parks South Area Office. Mr. Slayton seconded the original motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mr. Slayton made a **MOTION** that Mr. Berger, Chairman work with the Karen Palus, South Area Parks Manager, to come up with the itinerary for the tour. Ms. Wilson seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The Committee discussed meeting at the park site the day of the tour to get a visual of the site. The Committee decided to wait at this time.

Discussion ensued regarding the location of the park project. Mr. Nelson mentioned that the State wants to finalize the contract for the Management Plan of the Groves in 30 days or less. However, he does not believe that the State will be ready in 30 days and believes the Committee has a little time to decide the actual location of the park. Some public had concerns of the purpose of the Management Plan. Mr. Nelson reiterated that because the Committee has not yet decided where the actual location of the park project will be, the County would like to generate revenue from the Groves rather than paying the maintenance responsibilities of managing the Groves until the Management Plan is accomplished.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Project Review:**

Ms. Palus asked the committee to finish the discussion from the last meeting and to give her some challenges and positive impacts they feel this project might have on the community. The results are noted below:

#### **Challenges:**

- Security (neighborhood park, after hours, operating ours)
- Lighting
- Noise Control (outdoor/indoor)
- Environment
- Traffic Control
- Coming to Census
- Maintenance considerations (litter, design)
- Meeting the needs of the community in design

- Budget Control
- Utilization issues

#### **Positive Impact:**

- Beautiful place for family activities
- Gathering point for community/focal point
- Increased property value if designed properly

- Increased recreational opportunities
- Decrease travel time to facilities
- Bring community together
- Structured youth activity
- Create jobs and volunteer opportunities
- Increase security

### **Quorum Issue:**

Mr. Slayton made a **MOTION** that the Committee guidelines state that a quorum must be present for the Committee to conduct business. The quorum would require a simple majority, which means half of the appointed committee members plus one. This would require the committee to have nine (9) Committee members present to have a quorum. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Berger voiced his concern about the timeline as indicated in the welcome letter that the Committee members received in their original packets. Ms. Palus stated that the timeline was a general timeline and is not a required timeline for the Committee and that each project is unique. Mr. Berger also spoke regarding a community outreach survey. Discussion ensued. Ms. Simoes mentioned that the committee was made up of citizens that represent communities and/or subdivisions and that the committee members role on the committee is to go back to the community with information regarding the project and bring suggestions/concerns/comments back to the committee for discussion. Mr. Slayton and Ms. Wilson also reiterated the same information and asked that the Committee proceed and see how things progress before conducting an outreach survey.

Mr. Slayton made a **MOTION** to defer the outreach survey until a conceptual idea has been put together to give the community something to review. Ms. Simoes seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Berger asked for public input at this time and asked that everyone be limited to three minutes.

- Suggestions of categorizing the project elements by maintenance costs and high/low risks and move forward with this project from there.
- Some concerns of light spillage-comments were made that what was heard from the committee is a concern with the size and height of the proposed community center. Also suggested that the county clear all the trees on the Grove rather than maintaining the Groves. Mr. Nelson stated that clearing the trees would cost the county more money in maintenance costs than maintaining the Groves as discussed through the management plan.
- Suggestion to move public input at the beginning of the meeting, rather than making the public wait until the end. Ms. Simoes stated that the public should hear what the committee discusses so that the public can then make comments or suggestions regarding the issues presented. Discussion ensued.
- Greg Young-provided an alternate plan proposal for the South Beach Community Park (attached). He also stated that there was only around 650 children in the area and did not feel that the elements proposed in the Referendum Projects were needed as proposed. He mentioned that there were more adults and seniors in the area than children and therefore the Alternate Plan proposal was designed. He mentioned that the Alternate Plan was proposed by a survey of about 3,000 South Beach residents.
- A suggestion was made that the committee should start by using what the voters voted on in November 2000, which was the proposed Referendum project. The South Beach Community Park was listed with the elements and the voters approved it. Asked the committee to use the approved project as the starting point and to not forget what the voters approved already.

Some public as well as two members of the committee stated that the citizens did not know what they were voting for. Mr. Nelson mentioned that the Referendum Project information was handed out and was in the newspaper. A citizen group of about 25-30 citizens helped work on the Referendum and were from all areas of the county.

Discussion of public input at the beginning of the meeting continued. Mr. Nelson mentioned that the committee could choose to use the three-minute speaker cards at each meeting. Mr. Tritaik made a **MOTION** to have public input at the beginning of each meeting. Ms. Smithson seconded the motion with discussion. After discussion with the committee, Mr. Tritaik **withdrew his motion**. Mr. Slayton made a **MOTION** for the committee to do a trial run and let the public speak at the beginning of the meeting with no response from the committee members through the three-minute speaker card and to have public input at the end for committee interaction. If this proves to be successful, the committee can make a decision at the next meeting to continue the meetings in this fashion. Mr. Loglisci seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to discuss. Mr. Moore made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Slayton seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m. The next meeting is schedule for Tuesday, November 10, 2001 for the park tour and November 20, 2001 for the next Committee Meeting.