

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
South Mainland Community Center Committee
Regular Meeting
April 24, 2002

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department South Mainland Community Center Committee was held on Wednesday April 24, 2002, at 2:00 p.m. at the South Mainland Community Center, 3700 Allen Avenue, Micco, FL.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eugene Gwinn
Jeanne Osborne
Scott McCullers
Phyllis McCullers
Ken Black
Robin Tibbits

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bruce McMann
Flo Canham

STAFF PRESENT

Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager
Greg Minor, Construction Coordinator
Barry Portnowitz, Recreation Superintendent
Yvonne Collins, Community Center Coordinator
Donna Oddi, Natural Resources
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT

Mike Cunningham, Micco Homeowners
Angela Bowen, Ivey, Harris & Walls, A&E Firm

Call to Order:

Ms. Osborne called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. McCullers noted that Mr. Arens named was spelled incorrectly. Ms. Osborne mentioned that under project review, the word here should have been hear. Ms. Osborne also stated that what she meant at the last meeting regarding public input on the agenda was to let the public speak after old business on anything related to the agenda items only and then have public input after new business for anything else that the public would like to speak about. Mr. Black made a **MOTION** to accept the minutes from 3/27/02 with the corrections and Ms. McCullers seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Staff Reports:

Ms. Collins spoke regarding spring break camp. She mentioned that they had 43 children and will try to get close to 100 for the summer. Ms. Osborne asked about the age group for teen camp. Ms. Collins responded between 13-15 years old. She informed the committee that February was the busiest ever for SMCC rentals. She is in the process of hiring more staff. The outside of the building has been painted and staff is working on the gutters. Ms. Osborne the charge of a rental if it is a non-profit organization. Ms. Collins replied, I think it is 9.38/hr. but if it not non-profit it is 12.50/hr. plus tax. If they rent the kitchen the applicant is responsible for cleaning up and provides a deposit that is refundable. Mr. Black stated that the community was originally concerned about vandalism and asked if there had been any at the Community Center. Ms. Collins replied that there has been zero vandalism.

MINUTES APPROVED 5/22/02

Ms. Tibbits arrived at 2:20 p.m.

Mr. Portnowitz mentioned that the only thing that has been vandalized was the construction trailer related to the construction of the gym. Mr. Portnowitz stated that one of the programs that is offered through Parks and Recreation is specialty camps like "One With Waters", which is four weeks and includes kayaking, sailing, surfing etc. for 10-15 years old and is at different locations. The camp holds about 20 kids per camp.

Old Business:

Scrub Jay Issue:

Ms. Palus informed the Committee that two guests were present to discuss the scrub jay issue: Donna Oddi, Natural Resources and Angela Bowen, IHW, A&E Firm.

Mr. Black stated that he and Mr. Cunningham did meet on the site to talk about this issue. They did not see any birds back there except for a crow. Mr. Cunningham put together a report for the committee.

Mr. Cunningham distributed his report and briefly discussed the material he provided. He also stated that he did not meet to discuss this with Parks and Recreation staff.

Ms. Bowen informed the committee that Ms. Oddi and herself met with Fish and Wildlife last Wednesday on site to discuss the scrub jay issue. She stated that Fish and Wildlife verified the findings and methodology as reported by Ms. Bowen. Ms. Oddi distributed a survey of what Fish and Wildlife do to give the committee some insight as to what is done. Mr. Black asked what the outer limits are in calling in a scrub jay. Ms. Oddi stated that the average territory size is 25 acres. If you get close to the boundaries you could get some from other sites. However, the scrub jays make more aggressive sounds when defending their actual territory which was evident when the survey was done by Ms. Bowen. Discussion ensued. Ms. Osborne questioned the current guidelines being from 1991. Ms. Oddi replied that this is the current guidelines being used at this time.

Ms. Osborne asked how much land is going to be impacted. Ms. Oddi replied 3.5 acres out of the 7 acres in the north half of the property. Mr. Black commented that he would be happy to be able to do the soccer field and mulch path. If that could be done then he doesn't have a problem with the scrub jay issue. Ms. Oddi explained the cost of mitigation and stated that mitigation usually takes about two to two and a half years. She also informed the committee that Fish and Wildlife could request another survey now that it is nesting season. Ms. Bowen said she would be speaking with Fish and Wildlife and would ask if another survey would be required. Ms. Oddi spoke regarding Mr. Cunningham's concern about previous surfacing for the mulch path.

Ms. Osborne asked to discuss prioritization for the plan elements. Mr. Minor provided some cost estimates. Discussion ensued. Ms. Palus stated that we would be required to meet ADA on the mulch path so wood fiber mulch would be used. Ms. Oddi informed the Committee that Fish and Wildlife might assist in funds with the mulch path due to the scrub jay issue.

Playground:

Ms. Palus showed the committee the layout of the playground as provided by Rep Services. All members received a copy of the playground elements. Ms. Palus walked the Committee members through the playground magazines to show them what items were in the plan and see what they want as a committee. She informed the committee that we added a cool mister into the play area for the kids and showed them where in the magazines to find it.

Ms. Osborne asked for the cost of the cool shade over the entire playground, the type of fabric and the topper. Ms. Palus explained that the topper is of canvas; Patrick Air Force Base has them on their playgrounds.

The Committee discussed the colors of the playground elements and decided on the following: Would like the elements combined and would like the colors to be primary colors: yellow, green and blue They would also like to see some spring rides like a dolphin and diggers, which will require a small area of sand. Ms. McCullers made a **MOTION** to do the playground in blue, green, and yellow and add aquatic animals. Mr. Black seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

New Business:

Ms. Palus spoke regarding the grand opening. It looks like May 3 should be the substantial completion and June 3 is when they have to do the punch list. Ms. Palus stated that she left a message with Nancy Higgs, Commissioner Office and asked which date would be better for her to do the grand opening on either June 22 or 29. Ms. Osborne prefers June 29.

Ms. Palus asked the committee if staff could move forward with the covered walkway. They replied yes.

Public Input:

None

Adjournment:

There was no further business to discuss. Ms. McCullers made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Black seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m. The next meeting is May 22, 2002 at 2:00 p.m.