

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
Broken Glass Referendum Committee  
Regular Meeting  
November 28, 2001

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Broken Glass Referendum Committee was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2001, at 5:00 p.m. at the Grant Community Center, 4580 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Grant, FL.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dewy Leidal  
Theo Adkins  
Robin Tibbits  
Barbara Ray

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Adam Hill  
Jane Cooper  
Barbara Meyer  
Steve Caporusso

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jack Masson, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager  
Greg Minor, Construction Coordinator  
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

**PUBLIC PRESENT:**

Rita Nicosia  
Marion Leidal

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ms. Ray, Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Leidal made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from 10/24/01 as presented and Mr. Adkins seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**STAFF REPORTS:**

Ms. Palus informed the committee that Road and Bridge gave Parks and Recreation the front pond area located in the north central part of the property as requested by the committee at the last meeting. Ivey, Harris and Walls, A&E Firm will back out to re-survey the area and re-address the conceptual plan to include development of the pond area. Road and Bridge agreed to assist in developing the proper slope of the pond. Discussed fencing the area. Mr. Leidal asked about connecting one pond to the other three large ponds and Ms. Palus responded that it maybe a possibility in the future development of Phase II of the park. Ms. Palus asked the A&E Firm to design in the playground as well. Discussion ensued regarding location of gas line. Cannot put any permanent structure over the gas line area.

Ms. Palus informed the committee that the South Area Advisory Board approved the decision to recommend the naming of the facility "Valkaria Community Park". The Board of County Commissioners will vote on the naming at the December meeting. Mr. Leidal asked about including 9-11 in the naming of the facility due to the September 11, 2001 situation. Ms. Palus recommended the possibility to have some type of memorial at the park and that could be discussed later in the project.

Mr. Adkins asked about the access for the gas company in relation to the gas line if the park is going to be fenced. Ms. Palus mentioned that Parks and Recreation would work with them to ensure accessibility.

Mr. Leidal asked about swimming in the pond. Ms. Palus responded that it may not be feasible due water quality issues.

Mr. Leidal asked if there was any indication as to what is happening to the existing buildings on the property. Ms. Palus stated that the buildings were not in any condition to utilize or renovate. A pavilion is proposed for the project and there is a possibility to look at planning in a building for future development with Phase II.

The A&E firm should be at the next meeting with a conceptual plan for review and comments by the committee. Mr. Masson stated that after the conceptual plan is approved by the Committee; the plan will then be presented to the South Area Advisory Board for approval and recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. Palus committed to bring the playground information to the next meeting to allow the committee the opportunity to choose the elements and vendor of their choice.

There was a question of having basketball courts. Ms. Palus stated that funds are not available for basketball at this time, but can address the idea with Phase II. Mr. Masson mentioned that the cost of a basketball court is about \$30,000.

Ms. Ray asked the possibility of allowing overnight-organized scout/youth camping at the park. Ms. Palus responded that any group wanting to do so would need to apply for a Facility Use Permit through the Parks and Recreation Department.

Discussion ensued regarding moving the entrance more south; having an open field space for various outdoor activities; and possibility of trail heads to the west corner of the property in the future.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Public Input occurred during the meeting as represented above.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There was no further business to discuss. Ms. Nicosia made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Mr. Adkins seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2002.**