

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Valkaria Community Park Referendum Committee (formerly Broken Glass)
Regular Meeting
April 24, 2002

A Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Valkaria Community Park Referendum Committee was held on Wednesday, April 24, 2002 at 5:30 p.m. at the Grant Community Center, 4580 1st Street, Grant, FL.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Adam Hill
Dewy Leidal
Robin Tibbits
Barbara Ray
Steve Caporusso
Barbara Meyer, Ex-Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT

Theo Adkins
Jane Cooper

STAFF PRESENT:

Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager
Greg Minor, Construction Coordinator
Denny Bert, Park Supervisor I
Tina Webster, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Hill called the meeting to order in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman at 5:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Webster announced that Mr. Hill was left off of the absent list. Ms. Meyer asked to be listed as an ex-officio member. Mr. Caporusso made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes from 11/28/01 and Ms. Tibbits seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS:

Ms. Palus informed the committee that the Board of County Commissioners approved the naming of the park as Valkaria Community Park. She distributed a copy of the approval letter to the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project Review:

Ms. Palus stated that Jack Masson, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director, spoke with Road & Bridges (R&B) about the additional property and that the Department was able to acquire it. Mr. Perry provided a plan which included the additional piece, for the committee to review. Mr. Perry stated that R&B will do some of the grading on the pond. Mr. Leidal questioned the pond depth being correct when the ponds were originally developed. Mr. Perry spoke regarding the pond slope at this current time. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Ray arrived at 5:51 p.m.

Mr. Perry discussed the existing site and then went into the plan. He informed the committee that the site will still have a drain field; there are 16 proposed parking spaces; the gas line will stay where it is and nothing can be built over top of it. He noted that they will ask R&B to grade the north side of the northern lake comparable to the pond in the plan; there is an existing fence line which will not be removed until R&B grades out the property up to the northern pond. Mr. Leidal stated that he wants the lakes connected to accommodate small boats, kayaks, canoe, (no motorized watercraft). Ms. Ray wants to wait to connect the lakes until the second phase of the project. Mr. Perry replied that we wouldn't be able to connect the ponds until R&B has cleared the site. He spoke regarding the implications of interconnecting the ponds. Ms. Ray asked the time frame from R&B in clearing the property. Ms Palus replied that it is up to the committee as to how quickly they want to move forward with the plan. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Meyers spoke regarding the County Greenway and Trails Program. She explained to the committee the plans relating to a sidewalk from Old Dixie to the park, which would then connect to the walking/bike path of the park. The width of the sidewalk would be about 8 feet wide and would be a stabilized path. She explained that the south side of road would not be developed. Discussion ensued.

The committee was in favor of the plan including the bike parking and the entrance sidewalk as discussed by Ms. Meyer. Mr. Leidal asked to some how incorporate 9-11 into the park. Ms. Palus stated that if the committee wanted to do something when the project was completed they possibly do a flagpole or plaque.

Mr. Hill made a **MOTION** to approve the plan and Mr. Caporusso seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Ms. Palus informed the committee that Mr. Perry would come back to the committee with the cost estimates at the next meeting. She noted that staff would have a couple of the playground vendors put together some playground plans for the committee to review and discuss. Ms. Palus introduced Mr. Denny Bert as the Park Supervisor I for this area.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was no further business to discuss. Mr. Hill made a **MOTION** to adjourn and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2002.**