

**Wickham Park Advisory Committee  
Ascension Catholic Church  
2950 N. Harbor City Blvd, Melbourne, FL**

**June 5, 2002  
6:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Richard Butler, Chairman  
Ken Baker  
John Corelli  
Ollie Olsen  
Sally Richardson  
R.L. Jones  
Eleanor Munton  
Ralph Earrusso  
Carol Mulligan

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Greg England  
Cheryl Palmer  
Thomas Seaman  
Bill Conner  
Lauren Milne

**STAFF PRESENT**

Charles Nelson, Department Director  
Jack Masson, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director  
Karen Palus, South Area Parks Operations Manager  
Todd Babione, Park Supervisor III  
Bill Ross, Parks and Recreation Construction  
Vickie Pack, Staff Assistant II

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Dede Conner  
Bob Ryland  
Sherry & Nelson Secor  
Jennifer Fountain  
Jennifer Dunagan  
Syd & Gary Merrell  
Susan Palmbach  
Dianne Young  
Debora Nadeau  
Joy Holloway  
Karen Murphy

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Olsen made a **MOTION** to accept the minutes from 05/1/02. Mr. Baker seconded the motion.  
**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Ms. Conner of the Florida Whips, showed a video of the horse and carriage. Mrs. Conner would like to see an area at the Equestrian center for driving horses. She stated that after going to the equestrian area at Wickham Park the arenas if made larger through the referendum, would be sufficient for horse driving. She stated the organization would not require any expense from Wickham Park. She then stated the cross-country area at Wickham Park would be sufficient for practicing. Mr. Butler asked if the carriage events would need to be coordinated through the office at Wickham Park like the horse shows that take place. Ms. Conner replied that she would rent the facilities needed through the office. Mr. Corelli asked if the facilities would also be needed for training purposes. Ms. Conner replied

**MINUTES APPROVED 9/4/02**

yes, she would need the space for training from time to time. Mr. Corelli asked if there would be a level of certification needed to perform the shows. Ms. Conner replied no, it would be like a fun show.

The committee then moved on to the Equestrian area. Mr. Merrell stated the horse boarders at Wickham Park already had minimal use of the arenas with all the horse shows that take place. He stated that having the horse driving in the park would limit the use of the arenas more for the horse boarders. Ms. Conner stated she would only be looking for about 2 shows a year at Wickham Park. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Babione how many shows are now being held at Wickham Park. Mr. Babione replied approximately 20 shows a year are scheduled. Mr. Corelli asked when the current shows start and end within the year. Mr. Babione stated the shows run all year round. He then stated that with the Wickham Equestrian Saddle Club starting up in the near future more shows may be held at the equestrian center. Ms. Conner stated that if the cross-country area were available for use, the arena would not be needed. Mr. Nelson stated the arenas at Wickham Park could rightfully be rented every weekend through a Facility Use Permit. Discussion ensued regarding the need of a policy for activities outside of the arenas. Mr. Nelson stated there might be other areas to look at with the changes being made to the equestrian area. Mr. Jones made a **MOTION** to look at other possible areas in the equestrian center and to review this issue at a later date. Mr. Baker second the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Mr. Nelson stated there would not be any decisions made until Ms. Conner's requests are reviewed further. Ms. Palus stated that she and Mr. Babione would meet with Ms. Conner and work on other possible areas.

### **PROJECT REVIEW**

Mr. Ross discussed a proposed boarding stable, with a size of 300' x 40'; a 48 stall barn which includes rubber mats, paddock off each stall, fire sprinklers, and septic system. He informed the committee the cost estimated for this facility is \$732,000.00. He also stated it was an all-steel building, and the fire sprinklers were not required but came highly recommended for liability issues. The second pricing for a 48-stall barn comes in a kit from Denton, Texas, with no sprinkler system, no septic system, or no rubber mats and priced out at \$540,000.00. The third pricing was for a facility similar to the existing barns called a shed barn. Six barns with 8 stalls each not including rubber mats, sprinkler system, septic system, or tack rooms and priced out at \$466,000.00. Ms. Holloway asked how large the tack rooms would be in the first proposed set of plans. Mr. Ross replied that a size has not been determined at this time. Mr. Corelli asked for the pricing on the stall mats and the fire sprinklers. Mr. Ross replied the cost of the mats for a 12x12 stall, 48 stalls was 18,000.00 and the cost of the sprinklers where 18,000.00. Mr. Ross stated that the septic system was not broken out in the pricing. He then stated the septic system was not for solid waste use. Ms. Fountain asked how far the feed rooms would be located from the barn. Mr. Ross replied he has not determined that at this time. Mr. Merrell asked if there was a code for the feed rooms not being located in the barn. Mr. Ross stated he was not aware of one at this time. Ms. Mulligan stated separate feed rooms where o.k. for a commercial facility, but not for individual owners. Mr. Ross then stated the pricing for the first proposed horse barn with the covered arena priced out at 1.7 million for a wood structured cover. He stated the roof and the beams had to withstand at least 120-mile hour winds. Mr. Merrell stated the restrooms being proposed to be built near the announcers booth would be to far away from the barn area. Mr. Ross stated the feed rooms could possibly be located at the center of the barn area. Mr. Merrell asked if the steel roof of the barn would be insulated and vented due to the heat. Mr. Ross replied yes. Mr. Corelli asked about the size of the existing tack rooms. Mr. Babione stated at this time there where at least 3 different sized tack rooms, due to the different style of barns. Ms. Palmbach stated having 48 stalls in one barn would cause major congestion. Mr. Corelli stated having separate buildings would incur higher costs. Mr. Nelson stated the existing facilities where too spaced out with a lot of wasted space. Building one barn would open up a lot of possible riding space. He then stated that having the tackrooms as part of the stall would be something to look at for the needs of the boarders. Mr. Nelson commented that they would come back with another plan for the next meeting. Mr. Babione asked if reducing the stalls was an option to meet the current budget. Mr. Nelson replied not at this time. Mr. Earrusso stated the committee would need to know the needs of the boarders and what they are looking for before any more money is spent on the designs. Mr. Nelson stated we where not far off from what is wanted in the horse area, staff will continue to work with the boarders on the plans and come back with ideas at the next meeting. Mr. Nelson stated that durability and maintenance issues would need to be considered. Ms. Palus stated that Ms. Mulligan is the representative for the horse area and the boarders needed to bring their ideas to her to provide input to the committee. Mr. Nelson stated more trails where proposed in the new design for the park to compensate for the loss of the horse track area. Mr. Merrell then stated there was not enough pasture area to compensate for 48 horses, more pasture is needed. Mr. Nelson stated the maintenance is proposed to be relocated to another location with the referendum, therefore there may be a possibility for more pasture area. Mr. Earrusso stated the need for more pasture would be taken into consideration.

The committee then moved on to the shuffleboard courts proposed for the park by Mr. Ryland. Mr. Ross stated that the shuffleboard courts that where installed at the Cocoa West priced out at \$7,400.00. Mr. Ryland stated that 6 lanes where needed to have a league size shuffle board court, but 2 or 3 lanes would be sufficient for general public play. Mr. Ross stated each court with an aluminum cover at each end and a 65' x 10' concrete slab has a cost estimate of \$11,000.00 each. Mr. Baker asked if the pricing would come down the more lanes you install. Mr. Ross

replied the more concrete brought in at one time the cheaper the cost. Mr. Ryland stated he now uses the courts at the Senior Center and would like to have use of courts that are closer to where he lives. Ms. Palus asked if the discussion was brought up about the location for the shuffleboard courts at the last meeting.

Mr. Baker replied that the suggestion at the last meeting locating the courts was next to horseshoe pits. Mr. Butler stated the horse shoe area was built at a minimum cost to Wickham Park and the shuffleboard courts would be a 100% cost to Wickham Park. Ms. Palus stated the design would be included in the elements until the final decision is made on the costs for the overall project. Mr. Nelson stated adding more courts at a later date may be a possibility under the special taxing district. He also stated the courts might be a possibility to review in the overall budget for the park. Ms. Palus asked if equipment for the shuffleboard courts would need to be purchased. Mr. Ryland stated he would bring his own equipment needed for the shuffleboard courts.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Palus asked if the committee would like the public to come back with proposals in writing. Mr. Butler replied they should all be doing their homework and provide the committee with their needs in writing and have prices available. Ms. Palus then asked if the committee would like to continue with the public input at this time. Mr. Babione asked if the 3-minute rule needed to be put into effect due to the large public discussions at the meetings. Ms. Palus replied that if we continue to have large groups of public input the 3-minute rule would be utilized. Mr. Baker asked when copies of the plans would be available for the committee members. Mr. Nelson stated possibly at the next meeting. Ms. Mulligan asked if there was any new information on the entrance off Wickham Road. Mr. Ross replied not at this time; staff is still working with DOT to determine if a traffic light meets DOT's criteria.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to discuss. Ms. Richardson made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Olsen seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ascension Catholic Church.