



SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION Wickham Park Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING
January 3, 2007

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Wickham Park Advisory Committee, was held on Wednesday, January 3, 2007, 6:30 p.m., at the site of Wickham Park, 2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ken Baker
Greg Welsh
Eleanor Munton
Karen Kilianek
Carol Mulligan
Bill Connor
Tom Seaman
Sally Richardson
Ralph Earusso
Ben Elliot

MEMBERS ABSENT

R.L. Jones
Lauren Milne
Greg England
Cheryl Palmer
Kevin Walsh

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Whitehead, South Area Operations Manager
Fred Poppe, South Area Recreation Superintendent
Josh Henderson, Park Supervisor III, Wickham Park
Alicia Webb, South Area Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC

Jennifer Fountain
Vicki Rogers
Victoria Tracey
Mary Checchia

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Baker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Webb called the roll, and Mr. Baker noted that a quorum was present and that the meeting would be conducted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the July 5th, 2006, meeting. After review, Mr. Conner made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, and Mr. Welsh seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Henderson reported that his crew was short a PRT (Parks Repair Technician) and that they are waiting for a hire date for a part-time dog park employee. Mr. Henderson noted that some potholes had been filled in, new picnic tables were being built, crushed shell roads were being filled in, the soccer fields are looking much better and that flag football would be starting this year. Mr. Henderson had also taken note to some of the events that have occurred in Wickham Park over the course of a few months. Paws in the Park took place in November and had a very large turnout. Sky Hounds and the Holiday Hayride also took place in the park in the month of December. The LightFest was another huge success this year, and the concerts in the park were still continuing to draw large crowds. Mr. Henderson noted that he was still in contact with the Division of Forestry and that they had just sent him some aerials of the park. Parks and Recreation has been in contact with the Road & Bridge Department and are working closely with them to provide safer walking paths for the pedestrians.

Mr. Whitehead commented on the situation with the horse stables. The County does not want to act on the horse stables until after the bond money is funded to the Department. That should take place around February 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Seaman noted that the location of the signs and trails would impact where the fire trails would be located. Mr. Baker asked if the fire trails would be used as walking trails and Mr. Seaman stated that it was possible and they were also discussing a kiosk.

Mr. Baker asked Mr. Seaman how many people were normally running around the park on a typical Saturday, Mr. Seaman stated that many people use the park on the weekend and that if the areas were marked, he felt that the public would be more inclined to use the trail.

Mr. Poppe noted that the EELS program would be doing a full evaluation of the park. Mr. Poppe also stated that the Division of Forestry was not an issue in the matter.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Whitehead presented members with letters from the public showing interest in naming a pavilion after Sam Fuller, Jr., a deceased Parks and Recreation employee. Mr. Earusso made a **MOTION** to name pavilion #4 after Mr. Fuller and Mr. Welsh seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Mr. Whitehead noted that this matter would be taken to the South Area Advisory board for approval and then to the Board of County Commissioners for review.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Jennifer Fountain asked about the current litigation in reference to the horse barns. Mr. Whitehead noted that Morris Richardson was the Assistant County Attorney for Parks and Recreation and that he was handling that situation. Mr. Ross is keeping in touch with Mr. Richardson for further details on the matter.

A member of the public wanted to know the ratio of people who visit Wickham Park, if the number of visitors was low.

Mr. Whitehead noted that there was no problem with the volume of public that come through the park.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Mr. Baker called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Earusso made a **MOTION** to adjourn, and Mr. Seaman seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.** Mr. Baker adjourned the January 3, 2007, meeting of the Wickham Park Advisory Committee at 7:30 p.m. and informed the Committee that the next meeting would be held on March 7, 2007, 6:30 p.m., at Wickham Park.