



SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION Wickham Park Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING July 23, 2008

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Wickham Park Advisory Committee, was held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008, 6:30 p.m., at the site of Wickham Park, 2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne, Florida, 32935.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Kilianek (Chair)
Ted Whitlock
Ken Baker
Phyllis Principe
Liz Lee
Eleanor Munton
Richard Contreras

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

REFERENDUM MEMBERS PRESENT

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Greg Welsh
Tom Seaman
Carol Mulligan
Sally Richardson
Bill Connor
Greg England
Ralph Earusso
Lauren Milne- remove, moved out of state

STAFF PRESENT

Don Lusk, Director, Parks and Recreation
Greg Minor, South Area Operations Manager
Fred Poppe, South Area Recreation Superintendent
Gustavo Vergara, Special Projects Coordinator I
Josh Henderson, Park Supervisor III, Wickham Park
Mechelle Cook, Administrative Secretary, South Area Operations

PUBLIC

Attached.

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Karen Kilianek called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and noted that quorum was present. Mrs. Mechelle Cook called the roll with all members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the May 7, 2008, meeting. Ms. Karen Kilianek asked if everyone had had a chance to review the minutes, and called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Richard Contreras made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, and Ms. Phyllis Principe seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Josh Henderson handed out staff reports for Wickham Park for May and June 2008.

Mr. Don Lusk stated that there were events at the EQ center, about 1 per month since February, most construction is complete, but there were some warranty issues with sound booth and roof. We have a signed agreement with SMG Corp. to come in and do recreation assessment of the facility. They manage the equestrian center in Jacksonville. They will assess the facility, long term boarding versus day stalls, meeting with previous horse boarders, Wickham Park Advisory Board (WPAB), South Area Advisory Board (SAAB), and the equestrian community and will provide budget figures. They will address sections of the Florida Statute which relates to how you use public property, County Attorney's view is that you couldn't go with just the previous boarders; it would have to be open to the public and best use. Report is due in October but expect it in the middle of September. FY 2008/2009 Proposed Budget allots staff for Equestrian Center. It will be difficult to have a management company run it, because it is such a small facility, but he expects activity within the next couple of months. Mr. Richard Contreras asked about the barns and why doesn't the county do a short term lease, Mr. Don Lusk responded that revenue would be offset with expenses in keeping them up.

Mr. Richard Contreras asked Mr. Don Lusk if he would present recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners when he receives them. Mr. Don Lusk stated that it depends on the answer from the firm. Mr. Richard Contreras asked Mr. Don Lusk if he is prepared to turn the switch the next day after the Board of County Commissioners tells him to go. Mr. Don Lusk said yes if he is asked to go out for a Request for Proposal (RFP). Mr. Don Lusk has allocated budget for an additional person to manage the facility.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fred Poppe announced that the naming of the senior center was approved. Mr. Jasper Trigg stated that the Board decided to change the name of the Brevard County Senior Center at Melbourne to Wickham Park Senior Center because they needed a definitive location that expressed where the center was, old name was a mouthful and the old name does not state the location. Mr. Ken Baker made a **MOTION** to accept name, Ms. Liz Lee **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Discussion ensued concerning the naming of the new road “Leisure Way”

Mr. Fred Poppe stated there was a state grant that Parks and Recreation was pursuing in order to enhance the Senior Center and part of the grant will go to fund a full operational kitchen and other amenities. He requested an endorsement from the committee to pursue this grant. Ms. Liz Lee asked how much money would the grant provide and Mr. Fred Poppe stated \$450,000 to \$500,000 and no additional funds will be required from the county. Ms. Phyllis Principe asked about the deadline, Mr. Fred Poppe stated August 1st. Mr. Ted Whitlock made **MOTION** to pursue grant, Mr. Ken Baker **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

Ms. Karen Kilianek stated she had a meeting with Commissioner Bolin and stated that there were excused and unexcused absences, 50% plus 1 constitutes quorum. The main reason that members are chosen is mainly their interest, and she stated that the meeting should always have quorum. Ms. Karen Kilianek stated that Commissioner Bolin told her she may have more power than she thought, the committee can have action items and inquire about the action items which will go before the commissioners. Ms. Karen Kilianek asked when trees would be planted. Mr. Josh Henderson stated that EELs had said the park was over populated with trees. Ms. Karen Kilianek requested the committee members to make action item for Commissioner Bolin to have trees planted. Ms. Liz Lee said she could contact Keep Brevard Beautiful but felt that it was a staff issue. Mr. Fred Poppe stated that it was a forestry issue and that sometimes when you do a management plan things don't look so good at the beginning, but in the long term the fauna returns. Mr. Poppe stated that Mr. Dave Gosselin and the Department of Forestry should come in to educate the committee on prescribed burns and a good management plan. Discussion ensued regarding the replanting of trees at the park. Ms. Phyllis Principe made a **MOTION** that staff come back with a long range plan of tree planting and landscaping in the park. Mr. Richard Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

Ms. Phyllis Principe made **MOTION** that we approach the Board to have two alternates, Mr. Ted Whitlock **SECONDED**, Mr. Ken Baker asked for clarification about the member count. Mr. Richard Contreras stated that there would be a primary and secondary replacement, **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

Mr. Ken Baker stated that if the committee looked for grants, that would help speed the process along.

Ms. Karen Kilianek asked about the ponds and Mr. Josh Henderson responded that storm water had dredged them. Mr. Fred Poppe added that storm water would be putting in some reclaim things to help clean up and that storm water stated that the ponds were doing exactly what they are supposed to be doing.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Jennifer Fountain stated that she loved Wickham Park and stated that she took issue with Commissioner Bolin saying that people with only one interest should not be involved with the committee.

Mr. Richard Contreras thanked Mr. Don Lusk for attending the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Ms. Karen Kilianek called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ted Whitlock made a **MOTION** to adjourn, and Ms. Eleanor Munton **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Ms. Karen Kilianek adjourned the July 23, 2008, meeting of the Wickham Park Advisory Committee at 8:04 p.m. and informed the Committee that the next meeting would be held on September 10, 2008, 6:30 p.m., at Wickham Park.