



SOUTH AREA PARKS AND RECREATION Wickham Park Advisory Committee

**REGULAR MEETING
November 5, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, Wickham Park Advisory Committee, was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, 6:30 p.m., at the site of Wickham Park, 2500 Parkway Drive, Melbourne, Florida, 32935.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Kilianek (Chair)
Ted Whitlock
Liz Lee
Phyllis Principe
Richard Contreras

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Baker
(D4) position vacant (Munton)

REFERENDUM MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Seaman

REFERENDUM MEMBERS ABSENT

Greg Welsh
Carol Mulligan
Sally Richardson
Bill Connor
Greg England
Ralph Earusso

STAFF PRESENT

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. Ms. Mechelle Cook called the roll with five members present, one member absent and one vacant (D4) seat.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members were provided with a copy of the minutes from the September 10, 2008, meeting. Ms. Karen Kilianek asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes and called for a motion to approve. Mr. Ted Whitlock made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes, and Mr. Richard Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

Mrs. Kilianek noted that Josh Henderson's monthly staff reports were now available via e-mail for the members to review prior to the meetings.

Mr. Fred Poppe stated that the next series of burns would take place in January. Mr. Greg Minor stated that the SMG report would be received by the county by the end of the week with recommendations on the highest and best use of the horse stables. Mrs. Kilianek asked what the next step would be after Brevard County Parks and Recreation had received the report. Mr. Fred Poppe stated that Don Lusk would brief Commissioner Bolin and county staff, then bring it to the South Area Advisory Board and then on to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval. Mr. Poppe added that briefings may be required before all the Commissioners.

Mr. Poppe stated that Road and Bridge was finishing the parking lot at the facility and that Brevard County Parks and Recreation should receive a certificate of occupancy (C/O) for the building very soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Kilianek asked about a gate on the north side of the park. She asked if the gate could be locked when it is found open. Mr. Poppe asked if there was a lock on it. Mr. Henderson responded yes and that the Jaycees had cut the lock. Discussion ensued concerning the issue of locking the gate. **ACTION ITEM**, Mr. Contreras stated that he would research the matter and contact the appropriate parties to resolve the issue. Mr. Contreras will advise the county staff of the resolution.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Richard Contreras stated that he had enjoyed his stay on the committee, but Representative Elect Nowlin will be fulfilling his seat due to term limits. Mr. Contreras stated that it had been a pleasure serving on the committee.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Nancy Carey stated that she had been attending the dog park since it was opened and that she helps out at the dog park a lot. She said that a lot of the dirt had eroded away from the area and that she had 3 pages of signatures to present to the staff requesting Brevard County Parks and Recreation to buy dirt/sand for the dog park and a small deck for washing their dogs. Mrs. Carey stated that the big dog park area was very muddy and that it made a mess of everything. Mr. Henderson stated that a lot of fill was brought in about a year ago but it had since eroded. Mr. Henderson stated that he wanted the area to dry out before putting sand or other materials in the area. Mr. Henderson added that he would look at it the next day. Mrs. Kilianek asked what would be a solution to the problem, Mr. Henderson stated that he wanted to wait until the area dried to bring in some sand, and said that we had received 26 inches of rain to date in the area. Discussion ensued regarding the dog park. Mrs. Kilianek asked if Mr. Henderson could do a small report explaining a solution. Mr. Henderson said that the best solution would be for a volunteer organization to help out and donate materials to help alleviate the situation. Mr. Thomas Seaman stated that at the original time when the dog park was built, BARK had agreed that if the dog park was built, they would take care of every aspect of it. Mr. Seaman added that originally the dog park wasn't supposed to be staffed, but money came in for staff and then it was taken away. Mr. Seaman added that the dog park is becoming a strain, drawing resources from the Wickham Park budget and that the maintenance of the dog park was becoming something that was never meant to be and that the maintenance of the dog park should go back to a local group. Discussion ensued concerning the history of bringing the dog parks to Brevard County Parks and Recreation. Mr. Fred Poppe asked for volunteers and stated that Brevard County Parks and Recreation staff should meet and create a game plan and to table the issue until the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Ms. Karen Kilianek called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ted Whitlock made a **MOTION** to adjourn, and Mr. Richard Contreras **SECONDED, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Ms. Karen Kilianek asked about the next regularly scheduled committee meeting. Mr. Fred Poppe stated that January 7, 2009 would be the next regularly scheduled meeting, but that a Special Meeting may need to be arranged with South Area Advisory Board to discuss the equestrian report from SMG. Mrs. Kilianek adjourned the November 5, 2008, meeting of the Wickham Park Advisory Committee at 7:20 p.m.