

February 20, 2008

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Naples, Florida, February 20, 2008

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, in
and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date
at 2:00 P.M., at the Immokalee Community Park, 321 N. 1st Street, Immokalee ,
Florida with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: John P. Ribes
VICE CHAIRMAN: Edward "Ski" Olesky
Frank Donohue
Barbara Buehler (excused)
Paul Nyce
Kerry Geroy
Bart Zino

ALSO PRESENT: Barry Williams, Director, Parks & Recreation
Murdo Smith, Parks and Recreation
Tony Ruberto, Sr. Project Manager
Annie Alvarez, Senior Man. V
Gary McAlpin, Coastal Zone Man. Dir

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM by Chairman Ribes.

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Invocation was held.

III. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Olesky moved to approve the agenda subject to the following addition of items:

V. New Business

3) Boat Ramp hours discussion

VI. Old Business

3) Updates by Gary McAlpin, Coastal Zone Management Director

4) Naples Girls Softball

Second by Mr. Donohue. Carried unanimously 5-0.

The Board requested that Ralph Pryor of the Sports Council of Collier County provide an update of activities at the next meeting.

IV. Approval of January 16, 2008 Meeting minutes

Mr. Donohue moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2008 minutes subject to the following correction:

In the text of the minutes change "Mr. Donahue" to "Mr. Donohue"

Second by Mr. Olesky. Carried unanimously 5-0.

V. New Business

1) Directors Highlights – Barry Williams

A. Sun N' Fun Lagoon – The Lagoon has re-opened noting that last year there was a \$85,000 deficit on a \$2M budget but this year the budget is expected to be balanced without any ad-valorem additional funding.

B. Softball Tournaments – The tournaments have been on-going including a co-sponsored event with Lee County.

C. Diversity Fair - On 2/2/08 Parks and Recreation co-hosted the first annual "Diversity Fair" with Hodges University.

D. Staff Layoffs – The County layoff involved 17 employees in February. A smaller budget for Parks and Recreation is anticipated for next year.

2) Update on Beach Parking Fees – Barry Williams

Barry Williams provided an Executive Summary to the Board entitled "Recommend to To approve Resolution 2009-_____ which supersedes Resolution 2007-33 to increase the annual, non-resident beach parking permit to \$50.00" prepared by Barry Williams. It was noted that the Board of Parks and Recreation approved a recommendation for an increase in the fees from \$30 to \$52, however the Office of Management and Budget provided figures that indicated the Total Cost for Beach

Permits is \$49.37. Based on these figures the Executive Summary requested an annual fee of \$50.

Ms. Geroy arrived at 2:15 PM

3) Hours of Operation, County Boat Ramps

Mr. Donohue has been requested by County Commissioner Tom Henning to have the Parks and Recreation Board consider recommending opening a County Boat Ramp for 24 hour access for persons fishing at night. Currently the facilities are open dusk to dawn with gates locked up at some locations, or parking tickets issued after sunset at other locations.

It was determined that Staff would need to review the various facilities to determine the feasibility of the hours of operation change and provide a recommendation to the Board.

VI. Old Business

1) CAPRA Update – Annie Alvarez

Annie Alvarez, Senior Manager, V provided a copy of the Section 9.4 – 9.7 “Risk Analysis and Control Approaches” of the CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation for Park and Recreation Agencies) to the Board for review. It was noted that the Safety Committee of the County will be responsible for this section. The accreditation process is on schedule.

2) Adopt a Park Assignments – Board Members

It was noted that not all Board members have submitted their request for Adopt A Park assignments. Tona Nelson, Sr. Administrative Assistant, will resend the list to any members that have not submitted the requests.

3) Updates – Gary McAlpin

Gary McAlpin, Coastal Zone Management Director appeared before the Board providing the following updates:

A) Vanderbilt Pier

- The Pier would be located at the west end of Vanderbilt Beach Road
- The proposal is intended to increase waterfront access with facilities to the public
- The design is in the preliminary stages and the project is intended to be Phased, building the Facilities structure first - followed by the Pier
- Proposed length and width – 1,000 feet by 22 feet
- The Facilities structure will contain restrooms, food services, observation deck and community space, etc.
- Projected estimated cost \$8.6M
- Traffic, Parking and Security have been a major consideration in the design
- Based on other approval of Piers within the State, the necessary permits should be obtainable
- The Pier is intended for Recreational uses with limited fishing, no fish cleaning stations are proposed

Following the presentation a discussion occurred noting the height Facilities Structure from existing grade to the top of the structure is 30 feet and may be out of scale with the existing neighborhood. Fish cleaning stations should be considered such as ones that are connected to the municipal sewer system.

Gary McAlpin noted that this a preliminary proposal with an approximate 3 year time frame to obtain final permits. He will return to the Board with an update in April.

B) Manatee Regional Park

Gary McAlpin provided the following update:

- The Master Plan has been completed and scheduled for the March 24, 2008 Board of County Commissioners meeting
- The Survey, Environmental Assessment, etc. have been completed
- Costs and the Layout are being finalized
- The inter-local agreement between the County and the School Districts for the Lake has been executed

He noted that he will return to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at the March 19, 2008 meeting seeking a recommendation for the Board of County Commissioners on how to proceed with the proposal regarding the Concept, Cost options, Phased approaches, etc.

4) Naples Girls Little League

Jeff Stepamovich of Naples Girls Little League appeared before the Board requesting that sponsorship signage on outfield fences be permitted at the Veterans Community Park, Field #1. He noted the League uses a downtown Naples field where the signage is allowed. The signs utilized at this location are temporary in nature and are 4 feet by 8 feet. They are an important revenue generator for the League.

It was noted because of aesthetic and maintenance concerns, it is policy that no signage is allowed on County athletic fields. Further it is a possible Code Enforcement issue.

A discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of the policy and that it may be time to review the policy. The various Leagues have made this request to the Board a number of times noting that revenue generation is important as costs are escalating for these youth sports participants.

Mr. Zino moved to direct staff to re-explore the issue of allowing sponsorship signage at Youth Sport Athletic Fields in Collier County. Second by Mr. Donohue. Carried unanimously 6-0.

It was noted that Staff should contact the Fleischmann Park Staff to obtain a copy of their policy as a possible example.

Capital Project Highlights – Tony Ruberto

Tony Ruberto provided a document entitled “Immokalee Capital Projects Update” which provided updates on South Park, Sports Complex, Community Center and Airport Park.

VII. Recreational Highlights – Annie Alvarez

Immokalee Youth Soccer Program

Manny Touran and Joe Boney appeared before the Board representing the Youth Soccer programs in Immokalee providing an update in the growth and achievements of the programs noting that they are interested in forming a partnership with Parks and Recreation as a co-sponsored organization.

Mel Moore, of the Fort Myers Chapter of Boy Scouts of America noted that “Soccer in Scouting” is a program targeting the Hispanic population for involvement in the Boy Scouts and has initiated a program in Immokalee in 2006. The program has been well received.

Annie Alvarez, Sr. Manager V noted that she is visiting Mexico and is going to research a possible “sister city” for Immokalee where sports teams would travel back and forth to compete.

VIII. Adopt a Park

Mr. Nyce noted that the County should consider volunteer requirements for co-sponsored organization through the agreement.

Barry Williams noted that the Co-Sponsorship League agreement is currently being revised and will be brought back in front of the Board. At this point that has not been a consideration in the agreement. The Department does have a “Volunteer Coordinator” in place for any individual or organization wishing to volunteer.

IX. Informational Items

Attendance Report

Submitted

BCC Recaps

Submitted

Recreation Activities

Submitted

Adopt a Park Assignments

Submitted

Meeting Schedule

Submitted

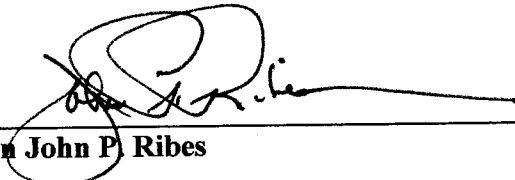
X. Public Comments

None

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the Chair at 4:04 PM.

February 20, 2008

**COLLIER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD**



Chairman John P. Ribes

These Minutes approved by the Board/Committee on 3.19.08,
as presented or as amended _____.