

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Naples, Florida, May 21, 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 North Collier Regional Park in the Administration Building in
Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

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

ALSO PRESENT: Barry Williams, Director, Parks & Recreation
Murdo Smith, Parks and Recreation
Tona Nelson, Sr. Administrative Assist.
Sidney Kittila, Operations Coord.
Carol Buckler, Parks and Recreation
Maura Kraus, Parks and Recreation
Vicki Ahmad, Project Manager

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I. Call to Order

Chairman Ribes called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Invocation was held.

III. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Nyce moved to approve the agenda subject to the following changes:

Item V. New Business, items 2,3 and 4 to be heard first

Item VII to heard after items V. 2,3 and 4

Item V. – New Business - addition of item 8 – Chairman Commissioner Henning Letter

Item V. – New Business - addition of item 9 – Chairman Ribes review of youth group meetings

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

IV. Approval of April 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Olesky moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2008 meeting. Second by Ms. Geroy. Carried unanimously 5-0.

V. New Business

1) Directors Highlights – Barry Williams

Soggy Day at Sudgen Park – It was noted that this was the first annual event and was a tremendous success.

Vanderbilt Pier – It was noted that the construction of the Recreational Pier at the end of Vanderbilt Beach Road is no longer under consideration. There will be some additional public meetings held to obtain input on the remaining favorable aspects that came out of the proposal (construction of new or upgrading the existing bathrooms, construction of concession stands, etc.)

Manatee Park – The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved \$193,000 for design and permitting of the proposed Park. It was noted that impact fees are severely down and this may affect the timing of the construction of the Park. The BCC approved the concept of the Fitness Area and related Community Center, not the provision for a day care facility.

Budget – The current proposed budget is a decrease of 3.2% from FY 2008 to FY 2009. The final budget figures will not be available until after the release of the June 1, 2008 property value assessment from the Appraisers Office. In recognition of the budget constraints, some adjustments have been made to accommodate this issue, such as reductions in hours of operation of some facilities, elimination of certain special events such as Country Jam, etc. In addition 40 positions within the Department have been eliminated. These eliminated positions will not be subject to re-filling. The Department is exploring the possibility of co-sponsoring some special events with Private vendors or Underwriters (Country Jam, etc.)

2) Presentation of Parks and Recreation April Employee of the Month; Carol Buckler

Carol Buckler was recognized by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as employee of the month for April 2008.

3) Presentation of Parks and Recreation May Team of the Month; Sun N Fun Concession

The entire Concession team of the Sun N Fun Lagoon was recognized as “Team of the Month” for May of 2008.

**4) Presentation of Collier County Employee of the Month; Scott Holtrey
Scott Holtrey, Trade Worker for the Parks and Recreation Department** was recognized as Collier County Employee of the Month for May 2008.

5) Why Leisure Matters in a Busy World – Barry Williams

A copy of an article entitled “Why Leisure Matters in a Busy World” by Marci Alboher, published May 5, 2008 for was provided for informational purposes to the Board. Barry Williams will adopt some of the themes in the article in developing a Proclamation for the Department.

6) Extreme Volleyball Professionals Group – Ed Torrino

Ed Torrino submitted a flyer “2008 EVP Pro Am National Tour is coming to Vanderbilt Beach” to the Board. He noted that the event will be held on May 31, 2008 from 9AM – 6PM and admission is free, however there will be a parking charge for individuals choosing to Park at the Parking Garage. The event is the 1st annual event and will provide for amateur and professional competitions. It will be televised on the day of the event as well as the week following the event on Comcast Sports Network as well as other stations and will provide publicity for the region as well as economic benefits in concessions, etc. He noted that Ralph Pryor of the Sports Council assisted in allowing the County to host the event.

The Board recognized the outstanding effort by all involved in bringing this event to fruition.

7) League Sponsorships in Parks – Barry Williams

Per the previous request by the Board, the minutes for previous Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings held on February 18, 2004 and April 21, 2004 where signage on ball fields was discussed were provided to the Board. The minutes were submitted for informational purposes to clarify the status of the issue. The minutes indicated the Board voted at that time to “Allow no signs on any athletic fields”.

Mr. Olesky moved to direct Staff to re-visit the policy (Parks and Recreation Policy) on signage on County ball fields. Second by Mr. Zino. Carried unanimously 5-0.

It was noted that any proposed Policy should address the signage details (colors, size, etc), location, duration of placement of the signs, as well as consistency with other applicable County sign ordinances.

8) Chairman Henning Letter

Chairman Ribes recognized that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members received a letter from Commissioner Tom Henning, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners regarding operating guidelines for County Boards.

9) Chairman Ribes Update on Youth Sports Group meetings

Chairman Ribes stated that he has met with Various Youth Organizations regarding the issues affecting the Co-sponsored leagues. He noted that they are interested in more access to North Collier Regional Park, discussing existing fee structures, and opening general dialogue for a variety of issues.

VI. Old Business

1) Presentation on Naples Gran Prix – Brian Ohlis

Brian Ohlis, representing Naples Gran Prix appeared before the Board seeking approval of the Naples Gran Prix event to be held at Sudgen Park on November 1 –2, 2008. He noted that the organization originally appeared before the Board in the fall of 2007 and at that time was directed to move forward and investigate the feasibility of the event. Since this time, they have determined they are within the parameters of the Florida Community Trust Grant, etc. It was noted that they would need the approval from Ralph Pryor of the Sports Council before holding the event.

Mr. Zino moved to endorse the Formula one Champ Boat Series at Sudgen Park subject to the organization receiving all proper approvals. Second by Ms. Geroy. It was noted by Brian Ohlis, that the size of the venue (Sudgen Lake) meets all the necessary industry safety guidelines involved with this type of event.
Carried unanimously 5-0.

2) Co-Sponsored Youth Agreement – Sidney Kittila

Sydney Kittila provided the document “Collier County Parks and Recreation Department Youth Sports Association Co-Sponsor Facility Agreement” to the Board noting this is a revised agreement based on input from various Youth Sports Groups (Naples Youth Soccer, Little League Baseball, etc.)

Mr. Zino noted that the revised agreement does not address concerns that were raised previously at a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Specifically:

- 1) Page 5 – “All co sponsored organizations/leagues must have a total program membership of at least 51% being residents of Collier County.” That this number should be significantly higher
- 2) Page 3, #7 - more detail on the size, placement and who bears the cost of the logo
- 3) Page 4, Schedules 1 – The provision of a team only being allowed to use fields 3 times a week for activities
- 4) Page 4 Facilities/Security, #1 – A provision for a specific deadline for the “reasonable amount of time” for the cleanup of trash by the organizations using the facility.

Sidney Kittila noted the agreement is an attempt to clarify the parameters and requirements of Co-sponsored leagues; and to provide equal playing time for all leagues involved. The demand for field use is outweighing the supply of fields, so this is an effort to attempt to make it fair for all parties involved. She noted that the 51% resident requirement is reflected in the fee policy and this would need to be revised if a different percentage was reflected in this agreement.

Mr. Zino recognized the need for the agreement and noted it has many good points, but needs more specifics addressed before he could vote in favor of the document. There needs to be flexibility built into the field usage requirements.

Mr. Nyce agreed on point #1 regarding percentage of residents required within the program (there should be 90% Collier County Residents.) Further, he noted that the Travel Organizations need representation in either this agreement or a separate agreement, which addresses their needs.

Speakers

Paul Kindred, President, Youth Soccer Club addressed the Board noting the following:

- The organizations want to work with Parks and Recreation Department
- Concern over field space
- Concern over the doubling of fees with nothing in return
- Concern over the logo requirement
- Other County's do not have these types of agreements
- The Co-sponsored League provide an economic benefit to the County
- Concern over lack of flexibility in access to unused fields

Tom Wyss, Optimist Club addressed the Board noting that the Optimist's have been providing Youth Soccer Opportunities for over 40 years and expressed the following concerns:

- The lack in number of fields
- The doubling of fees with a 3 day a week use limitation
- The lack of and disrepair of equipment, noting the Optimist have had to purchase replacement nets and goals, etc. with no re-imbusement from the County
- Clarification if the County is responsible to provide and maintain equipment
- Clarification on who is to maintain a donated piece of equipment (goals, etc.)
- The existing condition of the facilities at the various sites (dis-repair of sinks, etc.)

In closing, he noted he understood the issues, but wants to create an open dialogue with the County.

Manny Touran of the Immokalee Soccer Academy addressed the Board regarding concerns over the lack of available fields and condition of existing fields in Immokalee as well as concerns over equipment that is in total disrepair. He noted the Program is growing and this is an important recreational opportunity for the children in the area.

Kimberly Retallick of Golden Gate Softball League addressed the Board noting the following concerns:

- The need for better dialogue before moving forward with the proposed agreement
- That fee increases substantially deter enrollment of potential participants
- The safety and maintenance issues addressed by previous speakers
- That travel teams and non co-sponsored organizations, not being considered in the agreement, and their allowance to practice and use fields with no fee

Barry Williams, Parks and Recreation Director noted the following:

- The Co-sponsor Facility agreement proposed does not set fees, rather outlines the expectations of the parties involved
- Fees collected for these programs do not cover the costs associated with the program (generally the fees cover only 30% of the total costs)
- The condition of goals is a concern and there is a new goal safety policy in place
- In Immokalee, recognition that the fields are overused due to a lack of fields
- The agreement is an attempt to provide equitable playing time for all Co-Sponsored leagues involved

Sydney Kittila noted that there are times when unauthorized groups utilize fields and the agreement is an attempt to provide parameters on which groups have authorized uses of the field in an attempt to prevent this use from occurring. There is a field rental permit for groups that do not fit the parameters of the agreement.

A discussion ensued between the Board members and staff regarding issues raised by the speakers including scheduling of field usage, that donated equipment becomes the property of the County with maintenance possibly being the responsibility of the donor, and how the proposed agreement should address these issues.

Barry Williams suggested placing language in the agreement that allows the Director or Parks and Recreation, at his discretion to provide for any deviations in the agreement he sees necessary as an avenue to build flexibility into the document. Further, many of the standards contained in the agreement are derived from the National Parks and Recreation Association. In addition, donated equipment is an issue, it can provide an economic burden to the Department when a group donates a piece of equipment at their expense for use, then after a period of time expects the County to replace and/or maintain it.

Kerry Runyon, Parks and Recreation stated that if equipment is used by a group solely, and removed after play, it is the group's responsibility to maintain it. If it is stationary, and other participants are allowed to use the equipment, then the maintenance would be the responsibility of Parks and Recreation.

The Board noted that these types of issues should be addressed in the agreement.

Barry Williams recommended summarizing the concerns the Board wishes to address in a motion for approval.

Mr. Zino moved to direct Staff to review the document to address the concerns expressed herein and come back with language addressing the following concerns in a more favorable light:

- 1) *The procurement and maintenance of equipment*
- 2) *Field facilities maintenance*
- 3) *Procurement and placement of required logos*
- 4) *Scheduling of field use*
- 5) *Proper notice of facility cleanup*

Mr. Nyce expressed concern in the format of the motion, as it should include specific language for the Staff to place in the document.

Chairman Ribes noted that even though this is an “Operational Type Document,” it is important that Staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board work together to ensure a comprehensive working document.

Ms. Geroy voiced concern that there are other Youth and/or Adult Athletic Groups that were not represented today and may have input in the document.

Second by Mr. Olesky. Motion carried 4-yes, 1-no. Mr. Nyce voted no.

Mr. Nyce left the meeting at 4:32PM

3) CAPRA Update – Barry Williams

An update on Section 7.0 “Facility and Land Use Management” area of the CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation for Park and Recreation Agencies) accreditation application is being prepared by Staff.

VII. Recreational Highlights – Carol Buckler and Maura Kraus

Soggy Doggy Day at Sudgen Park

Carol Buckler and Maura Kraus provided a slide show for the event held at Sudgen Park noting the event was a big success. Based on the event there will be a “Pooch Plunge” at the Park the first Saturday of every month.

VIII. Capital Project Highlights – Vicki Ahmad

Margood Project

Vicki Ahmad, provided an update on the Goodland Harbor Park located on Pear Tree Avenue in Margood.

IX. Informational Items

Attendance Report

Submitted

Chairman Ribes noted he would be absent for the June 18, 2008 meeting.

BCC Recaps

May 21, 2008

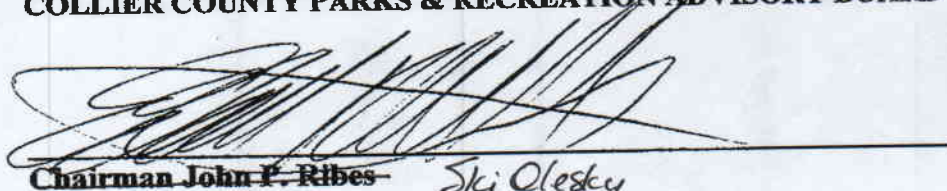
Submitted
Recreation Activities
Submitted
Adopt a Park Assignment
Submitted
Meeting Schedule
Submitted

X. **Adopt a Park – Frank Donohue**
None

XI. **Public Comments**
Ms. Geroy requested Staff review the possibility of lighting the credit card machine at the Collier Blvd. Boat Ramp. She noted that residents have mentioned to her that it is difficult to read the instructions after sunset or before sunrise.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the Chair at 4:45 PM.

COLLIER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD



Chairman John F. Ribes

*Ski Olesky
Vice-Chairman*

These Minutes approved by the Board/Committee on June 18 08,
as presented or as amended .