

County of Monroe

The Florida Keys



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Danny L. Kolhage, District 1
Mayor Pro Tem Heather Carruthers, District 3
George Neugent, District 2
David Rice, District 4
Sylvia J. Murphy, District 5

Meeting Summary Monroe County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board January 12, 2015 Harvey Government Center, Key West, FL

Board Members: Bob Mock, Steve Miller, Jim Boilini, Heather Smith

County Representatives: Mayor Danny Kolhage, Commissioner Heather Carruthers, Belle DeSantis, Trish Smith, Willie DeSantis, Johnnie Yongue

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order. He called for a motion on the 9/29/14 meeting summary. Mr. Mock moved approval. Dr. Boilini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Yongue provided an update on the Bernstein Park Renovation project. He noted that the project has not changed since he last updated the board. He stated the Project Management Department will be receiving final plans from the architect in March and that the project should be out to bid in late summer. The board asked if there would be an opportunity to see the plans before they go out to bid. Everyone agreed that Mr. Yongue and Ms. Smith will coordinate and that Ms. Smith would distribute the plans to the board prior to bidding. The board could then determine if they would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the final plans. A member of the audience asked whether Astroturf or regular sod will be used for the fields. Mr. Yongue confirmed that natural sod would be used. Mr. Mock requested that St Augustine grass not be used. Dr. Boilini requested that the construction project be phased if possible to accommodate the use of the ball fields during the construction of the community center. Mr. Yongue agreed to explore the possibility, and explained to the group that the project should be completed by next year.

Ms. Smith provided a brief update on the Higgs Beach Road Re-location project. The plans are 60% complete. The county is adding additional scope to the existing design contract to accommodate the moving of the dog park, the racquetball court, and the connections to the Martello Tower. Mr. Boilini acknowledged the hard work of the Friends of Higgs Beach in the development of the park master plan. Ms. Carruthers gave an update on the FAA tower and informed the group that all towers like it will be obsolete and removed by 2020.

No maintenance or management issues associated with Key West and Stock Island parks were raised by the board members or the guests during the meeting. Ms. H. Smith reminded the group that a Donna Kautz is concerned about the ballfield lighting at the Big Pine Community Park and how it shines in her window.

Dr. Boilini congratulated the Upper Keys Facility Maintenance staff on their recent improvements to the upper Keys ball fields. He asked that it be entered into the record that the Upper Keys Athletic Association is happy with the results. Dr. Boilini and Ms. Smith shared that the Brew on the Bay event at Rowell's Marina was a success. Ms. Smith reported that recent work at Rowell's included the trimming of mangroves, removal of exotic trees, and the demolition of some derelict concrete structures along the shoreline.

Mr. Mock made a motion to approve the 2015 meeting dates. Mr. Boilini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00pm.